

Accounting - Nonprofit/Government



Nonprofit accounting positions participate in responsible financial management of nonprofit organizations following specialized financial rules. Nonprofit accountants work with donors, vendors, agency staff, management, and board members as well as oversee incoming donations, asset management and depreciation, and grant management and reporting tasks. Their responsibilities include monthly reconciliations like accounts payable and receivable, bank and investment accounts, and expense accounts.

Government accounting positions work with federal and state and local governments, examining and auditing financial records to ensure compliance with policies and regulations. At the federal level, accountants review tax information and perform financial investigations on behalf of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), the U.S. Department of Defense, and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), among other agencies. At the state level, accountants may perform tax audits or manage budgets to ensure that fiscal policies are met. Locally, the city controller's office may hire accountants to review and prepare financial reports or interpret accounting policies.

Source: Study.com

Average Salary & Trajectory*

Entry-Level

\$72,000 annually

- Staff Accountant
- Internal Auditor
- Budget Analyst
- Forensic Accountant
- Bank Examiner
- Tax Specialist

Mid-Level

\$97,000 annually

- Senior Accountant
- Senior Budget Analyst
- Senior Tax Analyst
- Senior Internal Auditor
- Bank Examiner

Senior-Level

\$128,000 annually

- Accounting Audit Director
- Financial Controller
- Regulatory Affairs Specialist
- Supervisory Financial Analyst
- Supervisory National Bank Examiner

Learn More With O*Net

Visit O*Net OnLine to explore the sample roles in nonprofit accounting. The database provides career exploration tools to the public at no cost and is continually updated by surveying a broad range of workers from each occupation. Learn about the knowledge, skills, tasks, and activities required for each occupation, as well as median wages and employment trends reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and other federal agencies.

01

Visit O*Net Online at www.onetonline.org

02

Refer to the sample job titles listed in the "O*Net Keywords" section below

03

Enter phrase into O*Net's "Occupation Search" to explore sample roles

O*Net Keywords:

- Budget
- Government Accounting
- Fraud Accounting
- Non-profit Accounting

Roles:

- Accountant
- Auditor
- Bookkeeper
- Budget Analyst

*Note: Salaries are highly dependent on location, company type, and candidate experience/education. For the purposes of this guide we are providing average starting salaries as determined by the U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), as well as supplemental information found from various industry-specific sources.

Skills/Experience Suggested:

- Accounting Software (*Intuit QuickBooks, Sage 50 Accounting, SAS Software*)
- Superior MS Excel skills
- Knowledge of generally accepted accounting principles, laws and regulations
- Cost Accounting Standards (CAS) and Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) knowledge is a plus
- Ability to work independently with minimal supervision
- Extremely detail oriented
- Ability to effectively interpret and communicate results
- Problem Solving
- Communication skills
- Teamwork/collaboration

Advanced Degrees:

- Master of Science in Accountancy
- Master of Science in Accounting and Finance
- MBA with an Accounting Concentration
- Master of Science in Taxation

Professional Certifications:

- Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
 - Includes meeting education and experience requirements in addition to passing an exam
 - Visit the [School of Accountancy](#) in SGMH 4313 for more information
- Certified Management Accountant (CMA)
- Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE)
- [Certified Government Financial Manager](#) (CGFM)

Professional Associations:

- [American Institute of CPA's \(AICPA\)](#)
- [National Society of Accountants](#)

Campus Resources:

- [Accounting Society](#)
- [Beta Alpha Psi](#)
- [CSUF VITA \(IRS-based volunteer program\)](#)

Industry Research & Tools:

- calcpa.org
- dca.ca.gov/cba
- gasb.org
- fasab.gov
- sec.gov
- fullerton.firsthand.co
- mastersinaccounting.info
- acfe.com

Job & Internship Search Sites:

- usajobs.gov
- irs.gov
- calcareers.ca.gov
- governmentjobs.com/careers/oc
- fbijobs.gov
- linkedin.com
- indeed.com
- glassdoor.com

Employers Hiring CSUF Business Graduates:

