

## Accounting – Private & Corporate



**Private accountants** are individuals who work in the accounting department of a company as staff accountants, cost accountants, or internal auditors. While public accountants who provide services for individual clients, private accountants conduct the accounting services for an entire company.

**Staff accountants** setup systems and record business transactions that are combined into financial statements. They also set budgets, manage assets, track payroll, make accounts payable and receivable, and manage other financial matters.

**Internal auditors** provide objective assurance and consulting activity that adds value and improves an organization's operations. Internal auditors ensure a company's compliance with policies, procedures, and laws by monitoring, assessing, and analyzing organizational risk and controls by reviewing and confirming information.

**Cost accountants** collect, analyze, summarize and evaluate alternative courses of action. Their goal is to advise management on the most appropriate course of action based on cost efficiency and capability. Cost accountants provide the detailed cost information that management needs control current operations, solve problems, and plan for the future. Source: Wiki

### Average Salary & Trajectory\*

#### Entry-Level

**\$73,000** annually

- Staff Accountant
- Internal Auditor
- Cost Accountant
- Bookkeeper
- AR/AP Clerk
- Tax Accountant
- Accountant

#### Mid-Level

**\$108,000** annually

- Senior Accountant
- Senior Internal Auditor
- Senior Cost Accountant
- Senior Tax Accountant
- Tax Manager

#### Senior-Level

**\$146,000** annually

- Accounting Director/Manager
- Compliance Manager
- Senior Tax Manager
- Financial/Assistant Controller
- Budget Manager
- Assistant Controller
- Tax Director
- Director of Internal Audit

### Learn More With O\*Net

Visit O\*Net Online to explore the sample roles in private 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](http://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:

- Auditing
- Accounting
- Tax Accounting
- Management Accounting

#### Roles:

- Staff Accountant
- Internal Auditor
- Cost Accountant
- Tax Accountant

**Skills/Experience Suggested:**

- Strong knowledge of Excel
- Accounting Software (Intuit QuickBooks, Sage 50, Xero)
- Strong quantitative analytic skills
- Leadership
- Teamwork/collaboration
- Written and verbal communication
- Decision-making
- Problem Solving
- Attention to detail
- Organization
- Interpersonal skills

**Advanced Degrees:**

- Master of Science in Accountancy
- Master of Business Administration

**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 Internal Auditor (CIA)

**Professional Associations:**

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

**Campus Resources:**

- [Accounting Society](#)
- [Beta Alpha Psi](#)

**Industry Research & Tools:**

- [calcpa.org](http://calcpa.org)
- [dca.ca.gov/cba](http://dca.ca.gov/cba)
- [aicpa.org](http://aicpa.org)
- [fasab.gov](http://fasab.gov)
- [lmanet.org](http://lmanet.org)
- [fullerton.vault.com](http://fullerton.vault.com)
- [mastersinaccounting.info](http://mastersinaccounting.info)

**Job & Internship Search Sites:**

- [fullerton.vault.com](http://fullerton.vault.com)
- [fullerton.joinhandshake.com](http://fullerton.joinhandshake.com)
- [indeed.com](http://indeed.com)
- [linkedin.com](http://linkedin.com)
- [glassdoor.com](http://glassdoor.com)
- [Titan Connection](http://Titan Connection)
- <https://www.roberthalf.com/us/en>

**Employers Hiring CSUF Business Graduates:**