

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

\$79,000 annually

- Staff Accountant
- Accounting Specialist/Technician
- Auditor/Audit Analyst
- Internal Auditor
- Budget/ Fiscal Analyst
- Financial Examiner
- Tax Specialist/Auditor

Mid-Level

\$100,000 annually

- Senior Accountant
- Senior Budget Analyst
- Accounting Supervisor
- Senior Internal Auditor
- Financial Examiner

Senior-Level

\$159,000 annually

- Accounting Director
- Financial/ Deputy Controller
- Chief Financial Officer
- Budget/Fiscal Services Director

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
- Fraud Accounting
- Government Accounting
- Non-profit Accounting

Roles:

- Accountant
- Auditor
- Bookkeeper
- Budget Analyst

- Skills/Experience Suggested:**
 - Financial Management software (SAP, Oracle, Quickbooks)
 - Proficiency in Microsoft Excel
 - Knowledge of generally accepted accounting principles, laws and regulations such as GASB
 - 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

Industry Research & Tools:

- calcpa.org
- dca.ca.gov/cba
- gasb.org
- fasab.gov
- anafp.org/
- Acfe.com
- Nonprofitready.org
- www.agacfm.org

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 \(CGFM\)](#)
- [Certified Non-Profit Accounting Professional \(CNAP\)](#)

Professional Associations:

- [Association of Government Accountants \(AGA\)](#)
- [Government Finance Officers Association \(GFOA\)](#)
- [Association of Nonprofit Accountants and Finance Professionals \(AN AFP\)](#)

Campus Resources:

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

Job & Internship Search Sites:

- usajobs.gov
- Jobs.irs.gov
- calcareers.ca.gov
- governmentjobs.com
- fbijobs.gov
- linkedin.com
- indeed.com
- <https://gogovernment.org>

Employers Hiring CSUF Business Graduates:



The City of
Santa Ana



The California
State University