Is the Master of Science in Accountancy program right for me?

Students in the Master of Science in Accountancy program gain invaluable exposure and insight into all functions of a business enterprise, yet focus their coursework on the field of accounting. The program is designed to meet the academic coursework requirements for the Certified Professional Accounting (CPA) examination and to prepare students for professional careers in accounting. This degree program is flexible based on the individual and thus is suitable both for students who have no prior accounting or business coursework as well as those with undergraduate business degrees.

Curriculum

Students complete 30–48 units of coursework depending on whether they have earned a bachelor’s degree in business from a recognized university and have completed equivalent courses in business. As part of the curriculum, students will be required to take classes in Financial Accounting I and II, Strategic Management Accounting, Legal and Professional Responsibilities, and Accounting Ethics.

Accounting elective courses may include Federal Taxation, Audit, Financial Statement Analysis, Accounting Information Systems, and Data Analytics. With advisor approval, other advanced business electives may be selected from disciplines such as accounting, finance, marketing, management, international business, information systems, and decision sciences.

Admission Criteria

The admissions committee reviews an applicant’s overall qualifications and takes the following requirements into consideration:

- Completion of a degree equivalent to a four-year U.S. bachelor’s degree in any subject from a recognized university
- 3.0 Grade Point Average or higher
- GMAT exam: verbal, quantitative, integrated reasoning and writing scores. GRE score is also accepted. Either exam must be taken within the last five years. GMAT/GRE exam may be waived.
- TOEFL, IELTS or PTE exam, taken within the past two years, is required of all applicants who earned their undergraduate degree from a country where the official language is not English.
- Statement of purpose
- Two letters of recommendation
- Résumé

Alumni

San Francisco State’s MSA alumni are currently working at firms such as:

- Chevron
- Burr Pilger Mayer/BPM
- PricewaterhouseCoopers/PwC
- Deloitte
- KPMG
- Moss Adams
- Grant Thornton
- US Department of Health & Human Services/HHS
- Office of the Inspector General/OIG
- Google
- State of California Franchise Tax Board
- Novogradac & Company
- Hood & Strong
- Stonefield Josephson
- US Department of Justice

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“The graduate accounting program at San Francisco State University was a practical enhancement and investment for my career. The program provided a fresh perspective through smaller class sizes, interaction with faculty, and intellectual and cultural exchanges with the diverse student body.”

— VICTORIA FONG
Director of Accounting,
Snowflake Computing

Location and Class Hours

Most classes are delivered in a hybrid format (a combination of in-person and online), with some courses offered fully in-person or fully online. In-person classes are held at our Downtown Campus, in the heart of San Francisco’s vibrant business and tech district.

Classes are held Monday through Friday at convenient hours for full-time and part-time students.

For more information, visit: msa.sfsu.edu
WE’RE HERE TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS

Attend an Information Session
It’s a great opportunity to find out about the Master of Science in Accountancy program requirements and application procedures. You’ll hear firsthand from professors and students, and have a chance to network with your peers.

Sign up for a live webinar or in-person information session at sfstatemba.eventbrite.com.

How to Apply
Applications are accepted for the fall and spring semesters. Please visit www.calstate.edu/apply.

Graduate Business Programs
San Francisco State University
Downtown Campus
160 Spear Street, 5th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

Office Hours
• Monday – Thursday, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
• Friday, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Phone: (415) 817-4300
Email: mba@sfsu.edu
Web: msa.sfsu.edu

Resources
• Financial Aid
• Career Services and Professional Development
• Networking events and seminars

This information is subject to change and is available in other forms upon request. For the most current information, visit our website.