**FINANCIAL AID**

Financial aid is available from three major sources:

- Paid internships
- Teaching assistant appointments
- Scholarships

Internships are an excellent path to full-time employment. In fact, some firms hire entry level staff exclusively from the internship program. Students can use the Career Center to apply for internship positions in their third year. Internships are usually completed in a student’s fourth year and may be used to earn college credit. Companies hiring UTA interns have included:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AT&amp;T</th>
<th>Grant Thornton</th>
<th>J. Taylor and Assoc.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KPMG</td>
<td>Auldrige Griffin</td>
<td>BDO Seidman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deloitte</td>
<td>J.P. Morgan Chase</td>
<td>Cash America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ernst &amp; Young</td>
<td>Justin Brands, Inc.</td>
<td>Lockheed Martin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TPG Capital</td>
<td>Range Resources</td>
<td>Siemens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weaver &amp; Tidwell</td>
<td>The Kroger Co.</td>
<td>Pricewaterhouse Coopers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information about available internships contact the Department of Accounting Internship Coordinator Terra Brown McGhee at the following address tcbrown@uta.edu.

A limited number of graduate teaching assistantships are available. Applications and requirements can be obtained in the Department of Accounting office. Please contact Ms. Bitenc at bitenc@uta.edu.

Scholarships are also available:

- Fifth Year Accounting Student scholarships – Texas residents demonstrating financial need and with an intention to take the CPA exam can receive up to $10,000. Please contact Ms. Woodyard at woodyard@uta.edu.
- Endowed Graduate Scholarship in Accounting – awarded to PPIA applicants with high academic achievement
- Department of Accounting Scholarships – any accounting major can apply.

**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING**

**PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM IN ACCOUNTING (PPIA)**

The PPIA is an integrated five-year program that allows students to concurrently earn a bachelor's degree (either BBA- Accounting or BS- Accounting) and a master's degree (either MS- Accounting or MS-Taxation). The advantage of this program is that it permits students to earn both accounting degrees with six fewer semester hours (and at a lower cost) than would be necessary if both degrees were pursued separately.

The PPIA prepares students for professional careers in the public, private, or governmental sector. As part of this objective the program is designed to provide the educational background to become a Certified Public Accountant or to attain other professional certifications.

**WHY PURSUE A FORMAL MASTER’S DEGREE?**

Sitting for the CPA exam in Texas requires a bachelor’s degree and a total of 150 hours of coursework taken (with a minimum of 30 upper division semester hours in accounting above the principles level). Although enrolling in a master’s program is not required to sit for the exam, data from prior candidates’ performance strongly suggest that students enrolled in a formal program are much more likely to pass the exam. Enrolling in the PPIA is the fastest (and least expensive) route to exam eligibility.

**PLACEMENT OF GRADUATES**

Organizations recruiting PPIA graduates include the Big 4 as well as regional and local accounting firms and many industries and the government. These firms are looking for students with strong technical and intellectual ability, interpersonal skills, critical and creative thinking skills, with effective oral and communication skills. They also want students showing initiative and leadership skills with a strong work ethic. This program is designed with those needs in mind.
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PPIA

The Department of Accounting's admission criteria for its PPIA have been developed to conform to State of Texas requirements and are based on the general admission requirements of the Graduate School. Applicants are encouraged to include a resume that highlights professional and personal accomplishments with their application.

All applications for admission to the PPIA are reviewed individually. Admission decisions are based on factors associated with academic success in graduate study and may include any of the following criteria: (1) undergraduate grade point average, (2) performance in accounting courses at UTA, (3) GMAT scores, (4) professional work experience, (5) personal accomplishments, (6) letters of reference, and (7) the applicant's personal statement. Standardized test scores are not used as the sole criterion for admitting applicants or denying admission to applicants.

Option #1 Unconditional Admission without Committee Review:

Individuals who meet each of the following eight conditions are given unconditional admission:

- Overall undergraduate GPA is at least 3.0;
- UTA undergraduate GPA is at least 3.0;
- UTA accounting GPA is at least 3.0;
- Have completed at least 9 semester hours of accounting study (beyond principles) at UTA;
- Have completed at least 45 semester hours of coursework at UTA;
- GMAT total score is at least 500;
- GMAT verbal score at the 30th percentile or higher; and
- GMAT quantitative score at the 30th percentile or higher.

Option #2: Unconditional Admission with GMAT Waiver

This unconditional admission option #2 focuses on the applicant’s performance in UTA’s undergraduate accounting program. Individuals who meet all of the following six conditions are given unconditional admission.

- Majoring in accounting at UTA;
- Have completed at least 9 semester hours of accounting study (beyond principles) at UTA;
- Overall UTA undergraduate GPA is at least 3.25;
- UTA accounting GPA is at least 3.25;
- Have completed a minimum of 60 semester hours at UTA;
- Have a GPA of at least 3.25 in the most recent 60 semester hours of courses completed at UTA.

Those interested students not qualifying under the criteria above should contact the graduate adviser for more information.

TIMETABLE FOR ADMISSIONS AND ACCEPTANCE

Entry into the PPIA takes place before completion of the bachelor’s degree, so a student needs to coordinate the application process to take advantage of the time and course savings of the program. A potential PPIA student should contact either the undergraduate or graduate accounting advisor when they have completed Financial Accounting I (ACCT 3311) to get information about the program. The advisor will give the potential applicant information about the application process.

The PPIA applicant should submit their application to the Graduate Advisor in the Department of Accounting. The advisor accumulates the application materials (application form, recommendations, and transcripts) for purposes of making the admission decision.

When a student is accepted into the PPIA program, the student will need to meet with the graduate advisor to set up a program of work. This is the outline of courses necessary for the student to complete the degree. The advisor will also provide information about the timing and sequence of courses.

Application deadlines for each semester are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>October 15th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>April 1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>June 1st</td>
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For more information about the PPIA contact the Department of Accounting Graduate Advisor Carly Andrews at the following address: candrews@uta.edu.

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING

The University of Texas at Arlington Department of Accounting is a nationally recognized program and one of only a few accredited by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business. The program was founded in 1963 and is the second largest accounting program in the University of Texas System with more than 6,000 alumni.

Our exceptional faculty and rigorous program curricula have established a continued high level of demand for UT Arlington Accounting graduates. The department has a reputation for producing excellent graduates and is a recruiting source for international, national and locally-based firms in public accounting, industry and government. UT Arlington alumni are working in top companies including Pricewaterhouse Coopers, Deloitte, Ernst & Young, KPMG, Grant Thornton, BNSF, Bank of America, Carter Blood Care, IRS, and many others.