

# Accountants & Auditors



## WHAT THEY DO

Analyzes financial information and prepares financial reports to determine or maintain record of assets, liabilities, profit and loss, tax liability, or other financial activities within an organization. Belongs to the Business, Management and Administration cluster and Business Information Technology pathway.

## IS THIS FOR YOU?

**Work Interests** are described in the following categories (compatible with Holland's Model) by people who tend to succeed in this career:

- **Conventional** – You are an "organizer". Keeping things neat and organized is important to you. You like working with charts and reports, and work well with power and authority.
- **Enterprising** – You are a "persuader". You like to sell things or ideas. Prestige and power are important to you. You like to use your language skills to convince other people of your ideas.

**Work Values** are aspects of work that are satisfying to you. The following work values are generally associated with this career.

- **Achievement** – It's very important to you that your work allows you to use your best abilities. You want to see the results of your work and get a feeling of accomplishment.
- **Working Conditions** – It's very important to you that your work satisfies your needs in areas like salary, job security and your working style preferences, such as working alone, staying busy all the time or having variety in your work tasks.

**Aptitudes** reflect a person's ability to acquire skills and knowledge. The following aptitudes are important for success in the career:

- **General Learning Ability**
- **Verbal Aptitude**
- **Numerical Aptitude**
- **Clerical Perception**

## SKILLS YOU NEED

### Basic Skills:

- Reading Comprehension
- Active Listening
- Writing
- Speaking
- Mathematics
- Critical Thinking
- Active Learning
- Monitoring

### Transferable Skills (applicable in other careers): High level

- Examining and evaluating financial records
- Explaining banking, loan, and financial services
- Giving advice on financial matters
- Preparing and organizing numerical records
- Preparing financial reports

### Medium level

- Planning financial reports

### Workplace Skills:

#### High level

- Judgment and Decision Making
- Time Management

#### Medium level

- Complex Problem Solving
- Coordination
- Management of Financial Resources
- Operations Analysis
- Social Perceptiveness
- Systems Analysis
- Systems Evaluation

Additional skills for this occupation may be found at <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/career-exploration-resources>

Source: <https://secure.ihaveaplaniowa.gov/>

## ESTIMATED & PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT

Occupational Title	2012 Estimated Employment	2022 Projected Employment	2012-22 Employment Change	Annual Growth Rate (%)	Total Annual Openings
Total, All Occupations	1,758,205	1,955,480	197,275	1.1	61,665
Business & Financial Operations Occupations	76,000	87,095	11,095	1.5	2,625
Accountants & Auditors	13,325	15,540	2,215	1.7	615

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0>

## 2015 WAGE & SALARY (\$)

Occupational Title	Average Wage	Average Salary	Entry Wage	Entry Salary	Experienced Wage	Experienced Salary
Total, All Occupations	19.77	41,122	9.55	19,858	24.88	51,755
Business & Financial Operations Occupations	29.32	60,979	17.62	36,642	35.17	73,147
Accountants & Auditors	30.01	62,417	19.24	40,020	35.39	73,616

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0>

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

Education	Work Experience	Job Training
Bachelor's Degree	None	None

Most accountant positions require at least a bachelor's degree in accounting or a related field. Some employers prefer applicants with a master's degree in accounting or with a master's degree in business administration with a concentration in accounting. Accountants are required to be licensed in each state as Certified Public Accountants (CPA). The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) provides information regarding state licensing requirements. Iowa's Accountancy Examining Board at [http://access.bridges.com/ext/cp/custom\\_state\\_data/iowa\\_licensed\\_occupations/13-2011.htm](http://access.bridges.com/ext/cp/custom_state_data/iowa_licensed_occupations/13-2011.htm) provides additional information. Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0> & <https://secure.ihaveaplaniowa.gov/>

## NATIONAL CAREER READINESS CERTIFICATE (NCRC)

Skill	Median Skill Level
Applied Mathematics	6
Locating Information	5
Reading for Information	5

This ACT-developed credential demonstrates achievement and a certain level of workplace employability skills. The greater the score, the greater the skill level (Bronze = 3, Silver = 4, Gold = 5, Platinum = 6).

Source: <http://www.act.org/workkeys/analysis/occup.html>

## PRIMARY INDUSTRY SECTORS

### (Where are Accountants & Auditors Employed?)

Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services  
 Insurance Carriers  
 Animal Production  
 Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional  
 Self Employed  
 Crop Production  
 Credit Intermediation and Related  
 Administrative and Support  
 Management of Companies  
 Educational Services  
 State Government  
 Local Government  
 Machinery Manufacturing  
 Merchant Wholesalers

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0>

## ADDITIONAL SOURCES:

This workforce product was funded by a grant by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the recipient and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner.

This publication was produced by the Labor Market and Workforce Information Division of Iowa Workforce Development. Revisions and/or corrections made when necessary. Inquiries may be directed to Brent Paulson at 515.281.3439 or [Brent.Paulson@iwd.iowa.gov](mailto:Brent.Paulson@iwd.iowa.gov). Visit [www.iowalmi.gov](http://www.iowalmi.gov) to obtain the latest workforce data and trends including this document. Published 12/2015.