

# ACCOUNTANCY, MS

for the degree of Master of Science in Accountancy (on campus & online)

**The Master of Science in Accountancy can be completed either on campus or online.**

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has consistently ranked among the top accountancy schools in the United States. The Public Accounting Report and Accounting Degree Review have rated the Illinois graduate accounting program as one of the top accountancy masters programs in the United States.

The MS in Accountancy (MSA) program (<https://giesbusiness.illinois.edu/msa/>) is a one year (STEM Designated) accounting degree. Our students include those with limited prior accounting education as well as students with an undergraduate degree in accounting. The MSA core curriculum applies to all of our students. However, for those students who have previously taken significantly equivalent courses to any of those in our core curriculum, we will work with our students to find a suitable replacement to recognize the sufficiency of their prior accounting education.

The online Master of Science in Accountancy (<https://onlinemsa.illinois.edu/>) (iMSA) is a fully online program that can be completed in 18 to 36 months. The highly-engaging delivery format and our world-renowned faculty provide students with a hands-on and practice-oriented learning experience. The iMSA is designed for those already working in the accounting field looking to refresh their skill set and for those who intend to use the degree to enter the field for the first time. A mirror of the on-campus Master of Science in Accountancy (MSA) curriculum, the online MSA (iMSA) uses a flexible program format. It allows students to balance academic life with other obligations.

The MSA program (<https://giesbusiness.illinois.edu/msa/>) begins in June each year with Summer Session II.

The iMSA program (<https://onlinemsa.illinois.edu/>) begins in August and in January each year.

## Graduate Degree Programs in Accountancy

Accountancy, MAS (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus/accountancy-mas/>)

**with optional concentrations:**

Business & Public Policy (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus/concentration/finance/business-public-policy/>) | Corporate Governance & International Business (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus/concentration/badm/corporate-governance-international-business/>) | Data Analytics in Accountancy (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus/concentration/accy/data-analytics-accountancy/>) | Finance (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus/concentration/finance/finance/>) | Financial Reporting & Assurance (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus/accountancy-mas/financial-reporting-assurance/>) | Information Technology & Control (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus/concentration/badm/information-technology-control/>) | Real Estate (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus/concentration/finance/real-estate/>) | Supply Chain Management (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus/concentration/badm/supply-chain-management/>) | Taxation (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus/concentration/accy/taxation/>)

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**on campus concentrations:**

Business & Public Policy (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus/concentration/finance/business-public-policy/>) | Corporate Governance & International Business (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus/concentration/badm/corporate-governance-international-business/>) | Data Analytics in Accountancy (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus/concentration/accy/data-analytics-accountancy/>) | Finance (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus/concentration/finance/finance/>) | Information Technology & Control (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus/concentration/badm/information-technology-control/>) | Supply Chain Management (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus/concentration/badm/supply-chain-management/>) | Taxation (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus/concentration/accy/taxation/>)

**online concentrations:**

Accountancy Analytics (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus/accountancy-ms/accountancy-analytics/>)

Accountancy, PhD (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus/accountancy-phd/>)

**Minor:**

Accountancy (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus/minors/accy/accountancy/>)

**Certificate:**

Accounting Data Analytics, CERT (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus/accy/accounting-data-analytics-cert/>)

## Admission

All applicants to the Master of Science in Accountancy program should refer to the MSA program (<https://giesbusiness.illinois.edu/msa/admissions/>) or the iMSA program (<https://onlinemsa.illinois.edu/overview/>) for the online program.

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For additional details and requirements refer to the department's program information online (<https://giesbusiness.illinois.edu/accountancy/>) and the Graduate College Handbook (<http://www.grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook/>).

### This degree program can be completed either on campus or online; the requirements are listed below:

Code	Title	Hours
ACCY 501	Accounting Analysis I	4
ACCY 502	Accounting Analysis II	4
ACCY 503	Managerial Accounting	4
ACCY 504	Auditing	4
ACCY 505	Federal Taxation	4
or substitute graduate accountancy courses approved by a program advisor		
Graduate electives with at least 4 hours credit in a non-accountancy graduate course		12
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>32</b>

### Other Requirements

Requirement	Description
Other requirements may overlap	
Minimum 500-level Hours Required	
Overall: 20 (of the total 32 required)	
Students shall earn at least 24 of the 32 total graduate hours while enrolled in the Graduate College at Urbana-Champaign.	
Electives shall form a coherent program of study approved by a program advisor.	
Minimum MSA program coursework 3.0 cumulative GPA, both by semester and program overall	
Minimum MSA accountancy coursework cumulative GPA, both by semester and program overall	3.0

An optional CPA Review course (ACCY 398) is available. The credit hours for the CPA Review Course do not count towards the 32 credit hours required to graduate.

International students with TOEFL scores below 613 (paper-based), 257 (computer-based), or 103 (internet-based), or IELTS score below 7.0, are required to take the English Placement Test (EPT) when they arrive on campus. After taking the EPT, most students are required to take a Business English course sequence. For these students, completion of the ESL course sequence is **mandatory** but does not count towards the 32 hour degree requirement.

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### Learning Objective #1: Discipline-based competency

One goal of the MSA degree is to impart competency in traditional accountancy topics (financial reporting, cost accounting, federal income tax, and auditing), with an expectation of performance at a level higher than undergraduates. Besides providing a technical foundation for career success, a secondary goal of this learning objective is to prepare students to pass the AICPA Uniform CPA examination.

### Learning Objective #2: Social and Communication Skills

Students should be able to communicate with others regarding technical accounting topics.

### Learning Objective #3: Teamwork

Students should demonstrate the ability to collaborate as an effective team member in varying roles in a diverse group in and in diverse tasks.

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**chair of department: Michael Donohoe**

**director of graduate studies: Rachel Schwartz (MSA); Oktay Urcan (iMSA)**

**college website:** <https://giesbusiness.illinois.edu/>

**department website:** <https://giesbusiness.illinois.edu/accountancy> (<https://giesbusiness.illinois.edu/accountancy/>)

**MSA website:** <https://giesbusiness.illinois.edu/msa> (<https://giesbusiness.illinois.edu/msa/>)

**iMSA website:** <https://onlinemsa.illinois.edu/>

**overview of graduate college admissions & requirements:** Graduate Admissions (<https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/>)

**overview of college admissions & requirements:** Gies Catalog (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/schools/gies-business/academic-units/>)

**department office: 360 Wohlers Hall, 1206 South Sixth, Champaign, IL 61820**

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**email: [accy@illinois.edu](mailto:accy@illinois.edu)**