Overview

DeVry University and its Keller Graduate School of Management are committed to providing students with accurate information to help students make informed decisions about their education.

The educational and non-educational prerequisites for Certified Public Accountant (CPA) licensure can vary significantly from state to state and U.S. territory. These variations encompass the number of accounting and business course hours, experience, exam success, background checks\(^1\), and ethical compliance. Understanding these differences is key to determining a student's eligibility to sit for the Uniform CPA exam and apply for licensure in different jurisdictions. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs regulations mandate institutions to transparently disclose any additional non-educational requirements necessary to obtain the license or certification for which the program of education is designed to provide preparation.

\(^1\)Results of a background check may disqualify an individual from obtaining licensure. As such, it is your responsibility to determine if your circumstances pose any barriers.

Education Requirements

For CPA licensure, candidates in Vermont must obtain a bachelor’s degree and at least 150 semester hours, 42 of which must be in accounting, auditing, and business subjects.

Studies in accounting, auditing and business shall include accounting, auditing, and business subjects at the college level, of not less than six semester hours in financial accounting (which shall not include introductory financial accounting courses), three semester hours in auditing, three semester hours in United States income tax, and three semester hours in United States business law. Accounting, auditing, business, and other college level courses may be counted toward the total semester hours required. The Board may allow substitution of courses when an applicant can demonstrate that the course of study undertaken is fully equal to the course of study described above.
Experience Requirements

CPA candidates in Vermont are required to complete 1 year (2,080 hours) of work experience in public accounting under the supervision of a CPA. The experience must include work in specific areas to be considered valid, such as:

1. The application of U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), as well as generally accepted auditing standards (GAAS), statements on standards for accounting and review services (SSARS), and other services subject to generally accepted professional standards.

2. The review and preparation of tax provisions and reserves.

3. Financial statement preparation from the books of account without audit and related tax returns or the performance of other related services.

4. Design and installation of accounting, cost, or other systems when not related to an extension of auditing assignments and other management advisory services.

5. A combination of experience determined substantially equivalent by the State Board.

A full outline of accepted forms of public accounting experience and substantially equivalent forms of work experience can be reviewed within the State Board’s administrative rules. Upon satisfying the requirements, your supervisor must submit a Report of Supervised Experience form to the State Board.

Ethics Requirements

All candidates must complete a course of study in professional ethics for accountant’s equivalent to eight hours of continuing professional education that shall include the AICPA Code of Conduct or Vermont accountancy statutes and rules.

Other Requirements

- Pass all four sections of the CPA Exam with a score of at least 75 in each section within an 18-month window.
- Be at least 18 years of age.
- Be of good moral character.
- Must have a Social Security number.

DVU Licensure Programs

The following DVU programs meet the educational requirements for CPA licensure in the state of Vermont:

- Master of Science in Accounting - Certified Public Accountant (CPA) Exam Preparation Emphasis
- Master of Accounting and Financial Management – Certified Public Accountant (CPA) Exam Preparation Emphasis

It is important to note that these determinations apply to individuals holding a bachelor’s degree in accounting or a business degree with a focus on accounting or finance. DeVry’s bachelor’s degrees in accounting and business were used as a baseline for these determinations, and checking with your state board of accountancy is recommended to ensure that all specific educational requirements for licensure are satisfied.

CPA Review Courses

Credits obtained from CPA exam review courses cannot be used to fulfil the mandatory concentration in accounting coursework in the following states: FL, KS, NJ, NY, TX, and VT.

Accreditation

DeVry University is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission (HLC), [www.hlcommission.org](http://www.hlcommission.org). The University’s Keller Graduate School of Management is included in this accreditation.
Our Accounting Degrees are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) [www.acbsp.org](http://www.acbsp.org). Please refer to the academic catalog for details.

**Student Relocation**

Students who intend to relocate should notify the DeVry University of their location change and review the professional licensure requirements of that state’s professional licensing board. Visit the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy to find the contact information, as well as a listing of statutes for the State Board of Accountancy in each of the 55 jurisdictions. For additional information about student relocation, please refer to the student relocation notice within the academic catalog.

**Other Accounting Related Programs**

The programs listed below are not specifically designed to prepare students for licensure. However, they offer valuable knowledge and resources that can provide a foundation in accounting and business concepts as well as practical skills.

The undergraduate programs are classified as pre-licensure programs. For example, every state and territory require a minimum of 150 semester credits of specific coursework for CPA licensure eligibility. Generally, undergraduate programs do not provide enough credits to meet this requirement. Nevertheless, students can leverage the credits earned in these undergraduate programs toward the licensure requirements.

The Graduate Certificate in Accounting Certification Preparation program, with a Certified Public Accountant Exam Preparation option is designed to help students prepare to sit for the CPA exam by offering practical resources and focused exam preparation. Additionally, the program may offer a few extra credits in certain states to help students qualify for CPA licensure.

The remaining programs provide advanced knowledge and skills in accounting and finance to equip students for various non-licensure accounting and finance roles, such as financial analyst, management accountant, internal auditor, budget analyst, and financial manager.

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<tr>
<th>DeVry University</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Accounting</td>
<td>Graduate Certificate in Accounting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Business Administration — Concentration: Accounting</td>
<td>Graduate Certificate in Accounting Certification Preparation - Certified Public Accountant (CPA) Exam Preparation</td>
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<td>Bachelor of Science in Technical Management — Concentration: Accounting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Management — Concentration: Accounting</td>
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<td>Master of Accounting and Financial Management — Certified Management Accountant (CMA) Exam Preparation Emphasis</td>
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<td>Master of Accounting and Financial Management – General Accounting Emphasis</td>
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Notes and Conditions:

This disclosure does not assure that any state licensure or certification authority will either approve or reject your application for licensure.

This disclosure does not consider any updates or changes in state requirements that may have occurred after publication. Students considering a program leading to licensure are strongly encouraged to contact the appropriate licensing agency directly for the most current requirements. Visit the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy to find the contact information, as well as a listing of statutes, for the State Board of Accountancy in each of the 55 jurisdictions.

What if I need help understanding this?

DeVry University is happy to help guide you. If you have questions or need assistance in navigating the disclosure, please contact Student Support.

Call (800) 734-4272  
Schedule an Appointment  
Create an Academic Case

Useful Links

Vermont Board of Public Accountancy