

Where will I end up?

Sectors an accountant can choose from:

- **Public practice**
From large multinationals (such as the big 4) through to medium and small firms and public practitioners who offer advice to small business and individuals for a fee. Local accounting firms include Dodgshun Medlin, GMG Accounting, Logan & Hall, PDF Accounting and Poole & Associates.
- **Corporates**
Private enterprise, large multinationals, the finance and banking sector (such as Bendigo Bank or Swan Hill Credit Union) and the mining/resources and manufacturing sector.
- **Small to medium enterprises**
Covering any organisation with less than 200 employees, horticultural businesses such as wineries, sporting clubs and the fashion industry.
- **Public sector**
Commonwealth, state and local government departments.

Specific jobs an accounting degree can lead you to include:

- **Financial accounting**
Prepare financial statements based on general ledgers for decision makers.
- **Management accounting**
Analysing the structure of organisations and providing accounting information for managers to help them make informed decisions.
- **Tax specialist**
Prepare corporate and personal income tax statements and develop tax effective strategies.
- **Forensic accountant**
Identifying and tracking fraud, may be called upon to give evidence in court.
- **Financial planner**
Provides clients with a strategy tailored specifically to meet their financial goals.
- **Stock broking**
A qualified professional that buys and sells shares and commodities through markets on behalf of investors.

Set your heart on a career in accounting.



There's plenty of job opportunities in the Swan Hill region.



ACCOUNTING BODIES



An initiative of Swan Hill Incorporated - Industrial, Trades, Professional & Services Sector in partnership with the Murray Mallee LLEN.

Why accounting?

Accounting is a fantastic career choice if you want to earn good money, have the opportunity to travel and work in many and varying areas of business. Accounting qualifications are easily transferable from one employer to another.

Studying Accounting will give you the tools to understand how and why key business decisions are made, and how to have input into those decisions.

Having a qualification in accounting will open doors to career opportunities within:

- finance and accounting
- information technology
- marketing
- human resource management
- e-commerce
- international business
- economics
- running your own business
- management

Graduates with accounting qualifications will find there is a greater range of employers than for any other business discipline. Accounting will provide you a secure job with an exciting career path.

How do I become an accountant?

DEGREE

University may seem a long way off right now but if you take a business, commerce, economics, mathematics or accounting subject during your latter years of secondary school it will make it easier if you decide that you wish to study a degree in this area.

For a secondary student planning to study accounting after you leave school the simplest pathway to becoming an accountant is by completing a three year degree course offered by a university in places like Melbourne or regional centres such as Geelong, Ballarat, Bendigo, Wagga Wagga, Albury/Wodonga or Mildura. A number of these universities also offer the option of distance learning, meaning you can stay right here at home and get your degree.

The core knowledge areas studied within degrees are:

- accounting systems and processes
- financial accounting
- management accounting
- accounting theory
- commercial law
- economics
- finance
- information systems design and development
- auditing
- taxation law
- company law
- company accounting

Degree study is most likely to take you further in your chosen business career, so if you have the ability and desire to go to university this could be your best option.

TRAINEESHIP/CADETSHIP

Several accounting firms offer traineeships or cadetships where you can study whilst you are working. At times the opportunity may arise to complete a year of training within an accounting firm before you go to university to complete your studies.

There is also the option of completing a course at TAFE whilst working here in Swan Hill. Most courses will be recognised by universities and result in recognition of prior learning, which means less time studying at university.

A career in accounting can take you anywhere – from Swan Hill to Singapore, from running your own business to running a company. Being an accountant means your business skills and accounting knowledge will allow you to move between sectors as your career develops.

