MASTER THE LANGUAGE OF BUSINESS
About the Program

Accounting is the language of business. The Master of Accounting (MAcc) program is designed to provide you with the skills and knowledge needed to master that language. An accountant’s job is to translate the facts and financials of a company or organization into a coherent story.

The MAcc degree at the Shidler College of Business will help you learn how to turn the numbers into a story that everyone can understand.

Why Pursue a MAcc?

- Prepare for the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) exam and earn a master's degree.
- Meet the 150 credit-hour CPA licensing requirement.
- Learn from internationally recognized faculty.
- Access excellent career services and industry networking opportunities.
- Join more than 30,000 Shidler alumni worldwide.
The MAcc program admits students in both the fall and spring semesters and can be completed on a part-time or full-time basis. Typically, a full-time student who has completed all the undergraduate deficiencies can complete the program in 12-18 months, while non-accounting majors usually take two years to complete the program. Classes are mostly taught on weekday evenings, allowing students to work or participate in internships during the day.

Employer Approved: The Shidler College works with industry leaders to design curriculum that produces graduates with the skills, knowledge and competencies necessary to succeed in their firms.

Strong Alumni Network: Over half of the CPAs in Hawaii are Shidler alumni, and many more hold leading positions on the U.S. mainland and in Asia.

Recognized Leadership: We are still the first and only AACSB International accredited graduate program in the State of Hawaii.

Visionary Gift: Jay Shidler’s $100 million commitment to the college will ensure that programs continue to thrive.
MARY CHAI
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ACCOUNTING, UNIVERSITY OF MACAU
BBA '92, MACC '93

The MAcc program offered interdisciplinary training that awakened my interest in conducting both analytical and empirical research. The learning experience was enriching and inspiring!

GORDON TOM
ASSURANCE & ADVISORY MANAGER, KMH LLP
BBA '99, MACC '00

The MAcc program provided opportunities to learn strategic thinking and advanced critical thinking skills that I didn’t get exposure to in the undergraduate program.

KELLAN BRIONES
CFO, ISLAND HAULING, INC.
MACC '05

I chose the MAcc program specifically because I liked how specialized and sought after MAcc graduates are. It is a unique program that puts you on track to pursue big accounting firm positions and also financial positions with almost any company or institution. Personally, it gave me the confidence to help run my family business and added credibility when I decided to start my career at a financial institution.

TERRI FUJI
AUDIT PARTNER, CW ASSOCIATES, CPAS
BBA '84, MACC '85

Having a MAcc degree helped me differentiate myself from the many accounting graduates being pursued by the accounting firms. In addition, the three semesters provided the time to study for the CPA exam, continue to learn more about the profession, and interact with professionals from accounting firms. I truly believe that the additional courses, and ultimately a MAcc degree, helped me to pass the CPA exam and obtain a position with Ernst & Young. Finally, because I have a MAcc degree, I am able to serve as an instructor at the School of Accountancy. To this day, I still emphasize the fact that I have a MAcc degree from the School of Accountancy.

PAUL HIGO
MANAGING PARTNER, DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP, HAWAII
BBA '82, MACC '83, EMBA '90

I chose the MAcc program because it provided me with a smooth transition from my bachelor’s degree into an exceptional program with outstanding faculty who were respected internationally and had real-world, practical experience. With the accounting profession becoming increasingly competitive and with the growing complexity of the body of knowledge required to work in the profession, I believe the MAcc program provided me with a competitive advantage needed to excel in the profession and opened a lot of doors for me at Deloitte that may not have been available.

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Your career is a journey and the MAcc degree will help you navigate it. Our Office of Internships and Career Development works diligently to establish, maintain, and strengthen relationships between students and companies.

The Shidler College of Business has long-standing relationships with the accounting industry in Hawai‘i and many firms prefer to hire Shidler alumni. The college continually reaches out to the accounting industry to find out what their needs are and how we can better equip our students to be successful.

- MAcc students are highly encouraged to participate in internships — many of which lead to full-time positions.
- Most major accounting firms conduct on-campus interviews for either internships or full-time positions.

Student clubs at Shidler play an important role in your life as a MAcc student. There are two different clubs dedicated to accounting — Accounting Club and Beta Alpha Psi.

Accounting Club – Established in 1964, the Accounting Club is a proud Student Chapter of the Institute of Management Accountants whose main goal is to promote the professional and personal development of its members.

Beta Alpha Psi - Founded in 1973, the University of Hawai‘i’s (Delta Theta Chapter) is part of a national scholastic and professional accounting fraternity. The chapter prides itself on being recognized nationally, earning the designation of “superior chapter” and provides many opportunities for students to meet and interact with professionals.
OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXCELLENCE

The Shidler College of Business understands that scholarships and financial aid are a major part of any higher education decision. Over $1.2 million in scholarships are available for qualified accounting students. For more information visit: shidler.hawaii.edu/scholarships or star.hawaii.edu/scholarships

ACCOUNTING–SPECIFIC SCHOLARSHIPS

There are numerous scholarships designated specifically for MAcc students. Below are a few examples:

- Hawaii Association of Public Accountants O’ahu Chapter Endowed Scholarship
- Institute of Internal Auditors – Hawai’i Chapter Scholarship
- Master of Accounting Endowed Scholarship Fund
- N&K CPAs, Inc. Endowed Scholarship for Accounting Excellence

Edison Lau (BBA ’12, MAcc ’13)
Recipient of the Elijah Watt Sells Award for those who obtain a cumulative average score above 95.50 across all sections of the CPA exam.
ADMISSIONS

RECOMMENDED MINIMUM ADMISSIONS GUIDELINES

- GPA 3.0
- GMAT 500
- TOEFL or IELTS (International applicants)
- ACC 201: Introduction to Financial Accounting
- ACC 202: Introduction to Managerial Accounting

Students who do not hold an undergraduate degree in accounting must complete the following deficiency courses while enrolled in the MAcc program:

- ACC 323: Intermediate Financial Accounting II

- ACC 401: Individual Federal Income Taxation
- ACC 409: Accounting Information Systems
- ACC 418: Auditing

Students with an accounting degree must complete any missing courses prior to graduation from the MAcc program.

DEADLINES

U.S. DOMESTIC STUDENTS
- MAY 1 (Fall)
- NOVEMBER 1 (Spring)

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
- MARCH 1 (Fall)
- OCTOBER 1 (Spring)

TAKE THE NEXT STEP

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