



Accountant/CPA/Enrolled Agent

People take different pathways through their careers, but no one starts at the top. This is an example of how the earnings, education and experience requirements, and responsibilities might progress for someone in these occupations.

Title	Entry-Level Accountant	
Average Starting Salary (New Graduates)	\$51,882	Pay Scale.com-Accountant Salary (Unites States) http://www.payscale.com/research/US/Job=Accountant/Salary
Requirements	• Bachelor's degree	
Responsibilities	Learning to prepare tax returns; assisting in auditing and accounting jobs; working under the supervision of a more senior level accountant.	

Title	Certified Public Accountant	
Average Starting Salary (New Graduates)	\$68,491	Pay Scale.com-Certified Public Accountant Salary (Unites States) http://www.payscale.com/research/US/Job=Certified_Public_Accountant_(CPA)/Salary
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BA new curriculum info: https://aaahq.org/Meetings/2021/CPA-Evolution-Model-Curriculum-Launch • New Model for Licensure, New CPA Exam Expected to Launch: https://www.evolutionofcpa.org/ • Professional work experience signed off by an active CPA 	
Responsibilities	Preparing financial statements and tax returns; conducting audits; designing accounting data processing systems.	

Title	Enrolled Agent	
Average Starting Salary (New Graduates)	\$48,199	Pay Scale.com-Enrolled Agent Salary (United States) http://www.payscale.com/research/US/Job=Enrolled_Agent/Salary
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the Special Enrollment Exam (above-70% passing rate) and a background check • Work for the IRS for five years in a position requiring the interpretation of the tax code 	
Responsibilities	Act as an intermediary for citizens and private businesses when interacting with the IRS on tax matters, questions, and disputes. Preparing financial statements and tax returns; conducting audits; designing accounting data processing systems.	

Online Resources:

Additional Resources:

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)

This is the professional organization for all CPAs. Be sure to click on Become A CPA for educational and career information.

<http://www.aicpa.org>

National Association of Enrolled Agents (NAEA)

This is the professional organization for all EAs. Be sure to click on Become A EA for educational and career information.

<http://www.naea.org/educating-america/students-and-colleges>

National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA)

NASBA promotes the development and standards of state boards of accountancy. Scroll over Education and click on Becoming A CPA to learn more about this career.

<http://www.nasba.org>

Occupational Outlook Handbook – Business and Financial Occupations

Career information from the US Department of Labor.

<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/business-and-financial/home.htm>

Occupational Outlook Handbook – Accountants and Auditors

Career information from the US Department of Labor.

<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/Business-and-Financial/Accountants-and-auditors.htm>

Occupational Outlook Handbook – Tax Examiners and Collectors, and Revenue Agents

Career information from the US Department of Labor.

<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/business-and-financial/tax-examiners-and-collectors-and-revenue-agents.htm>

<https://www.cstcsociety.org/>

<https://www.calcpa.org/>

<https://www.natptax.com/Pages/default.aspx>