STEM-designated
Master of Science in 
ACCOUNTING
Accelerate your career in one year.
RANKINGS

#12 Best Master’s Program
Source: Public Accounting Report in the 22+ Full-time Faculty Category

EMPLOYMENT

92%
Placement Rate 2017-2019

Targeted Recruiting School
for Big 4 accounting firms as well as other national and regional companies.

CPA CERTIFICATION

80%
CPA Exam pass rate on first attempt

- Pass rate for the State of Michigan: 60.6%
- Pass rate for the United States: 54.4%
Source: NASBA Report 2016

Top Performers
Since 2006, six graduates have won the prestigious Elijah Watt Sells Award for highest performance on the CPA exam.
Accountants have a long history of helping stakeholders make sound business decisions. As technology evolves, markets globalize, and businesses rely on data analytics in decision-making, the best accounting minds are equipped with a variety of skills to approach business differently.

Our STEM-designated Master of Science in Accounting (MSA) program is nationally accredited and teaches students to address real-world challenges and deliver actionable solutions.

By the time our students graduate they are:

- Advanced accounting professionals
- Business and data analysts
- Confident, collaborative communicators
- Critical thinkers
- Strategic problem solvers

In addition, the MSA program satisfies the 150 credit hour requirement for CPA certification, and many of our students complete the CPA, CMA, or CISA Exams while earning their graduate degree.

“My favorite part of the program was the professors who kept the experience personal even in a virtual environment. I was encouraged and challenged throughout the program to learn and practice new skills. The constant support helped me build confidence in my communication and technical skills.”

MICHAEL MARTIN
M.S. Accounting ’21
Create career possibilities

The MSA program can be completed in just one year. Afterward, career possibilities for our graduates are endless. Our graduates work around the world in organizations of all types and sizes as consultants, partners, executives, entrepreneurs, and educators.

International students who graduate from our STEM-designated program can apply for a 24-month extension to their 12 months of Optional Practical Training (OPT), giving students the opportunity to have three years of work experience in the United States.

In the past ten years, eleven of our students have been selected for the prestigious GASB/FASB post technical assistantship program. An MSA degree from MSU creates endless opportunities for upward career mobility.

Boost your earning potential

A graduate degree is a valuable credential to add to your resume. When raises and promotions are on the line, the degree could be the differentiator.

Study what interests you

Students can learn to lead in one or more of the following specialty areas:

- Information Systems
- Public and Corporate Accounting
- Taxation
- Transaction Services

No matter what specialty option you choose, you will learn from top minds in the field. Our award-winning, nationally-recognized faculty infuse expertise and enthusiasm into each course you take. Our respected alumni, established as industry leaders, often speak to classes about emerging trends and how to apply best practices in the field. As a result, you will gain practical knowledge and skills from our community of talent.
Drive business decisions with data

Our STEM-designated program develops students’ skills in data mining, modeling, forecasting, statistics, analysis, and more. Our graduates can use data analytics to create business solutions, positioning them for success in the business world and beyond.

This training is complemented with skill-development in collaboration and communication. Students learn best practices for data visualization, creating a compelling narrative with data, and presenting recommendations with coherence, clarity, and concision. Moreover, students develop skills in teamwork through real-world case simulations, teamwork training, and discussion-based learning.

Our unique experiential learning program includes opportunities such as the following:

- Data Visualization Workshops
- Advanced Excel Workshops
- Team Case Studies
- Discussion-based Learning
- Communication Consultations
- Escape Room Visits
- Improv Training

“The most important skill I gained in the MSA program was effective communication. Class is more discussion-based than what I experienced in the undergraduate program, and professors expect a higher level of participation. I enjoyed this aspect of my classes as I felt more involved in the learning process.”

MALLORY WOODS
M.S. Accounting ’18