

BUSINESS: ACCOUNTING, BBA

CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE

CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT (CPA)

The state of Wisconsin, and most other states, mandate that candidates for the CPA license must have earned a bachelor's or higher degree and 150 credit hours. There are several degree options for completing these requirements at the University of Wisconsin – Madison, including:

1. **Master of Science in Business: Accounting and Business Analysis** (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/accounting-information-systems/business-accounting-business-analysis-ms/>) (MSABA): Students who earn the MS in Business: Accounting and Business Analysis degree will meet the CPA requirements in most states. The MSABA is designed for students with an undergraduate major in accounting.
 - a. **Integrated:** Students enrolled in and pursuing an undergraduate accounting major at UW-Madison can declare their candidacy for the integrated MSABA program at any time. The integrated program is designed as a 4+1 program whereby students will earn both a BBA degree with a major in accounting and a Masters of Science in Business: Accounting and Business Analysis. Students with sufficient credits may be able to complete the full program in as little as four years.
 - b. **Stand-alone:** Students with, or currently pursuing, a four-year undergraduate business degree with a major in accounting, or equivalent, from an accredited university may pursue the stand-alone MSABA degree. Students should apply for the stand-alone program during their final year of undergraduate studies.
2. **Undergraduate Business Degree with Accounting Major (this program):** Students can meet the eligibility requirements for the CPA exam by completing a 120-credit BBA degree with a major in accounting along with 30-additional credits to meet the 150-credit requirement. Students pursuing this option should carefully consider the CPA eligibility requirements in the state in which they intend to get certified as many states will require additional accounting credits beyond what is included in the BBA accounting major. Students can earn the additional 30-credits as follows:
 - a. **Advanced Credits from High School:** College credits earned in high school that are reflected on a student's UW-Madison transcript may count towards the 30-additional credits for CPA eligibility.
 - b. **Double Major:** Students may pursue an additional undergraduate major to achieve the additional 30-credits for CPA eligibility.
 - c. **Non-accounting Advanced Degree:** Students who earn an undergraduate degree with a major in accounting and any other advanced degree (specialized masters, MBA, Law School, etc.) may be eligible for the CPA exam as long as they have 150-total credits.
 - d. **Undergraduate Credits:** Students may earn the additional 30-credits by taking any undergraduate courses at a degree-granting institution.

Please consult the Department of Accounting and Information Systems for additional information.

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE DISCLOSURE (NC-SARA)

The United States Department of Education (via 34 CFR Part 668 (<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-34/subtitle-B/chapter-VI/part-668/toc=1>)) requires institutions that provide distance education to disclose information for programs leading to professional certification or licensure. The expectation is that institutions will determine whether each applicable academic program meets state professional licensure requirements and provide a general disclosure of such on an official university website.

Professional licensure requirements vary from state-to-state and can change year-to-year; they are established in a variety of state statutes, regulations, rules, and policies; and they center on a range of educational requirements, including degree type, specialized accreditation, total credits, specific courses, and examinations.

UW-Madison has taken reasonable efforts to determine whether this program satisfies the educational requirements for certification/licensure in states where prospective and enrolled students are located and is disclosing that information as follows.

Disclaimer: This information is based on the most recent annual review of state agency certification/licensure data and is subject to change. All students are strongly encouraged to consult with the individual/office listed in the Contact Information box on this page and with the applicable state agency for specific information.

The requirements of this program meet certification/ licensure in the following states:

Wisconsin

The requirements of this program do not meet certification/licensure in the following states:

Not applicable

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