

## **Georgia Southwestern State University Accounting BBA**

### **Career Opportunities**

GSW's accounting program prepares students for a wide range of accounting careers in private, public, or governmental organizations. Public accountants in CPA firms provide services to clients in the areas of independent auditing, accounting, consulting, and tax. Private accountants in business and industry work as financial, tax, systems accountants, managerial accountants, or internal auditors. Other accounting graduates enter the specialized fields of not-for-profit or governmental accounting. Accounting also serves as a solid background for advancement to top-level management positions and graduate work in any business area or law.

### **CPA exam**

Individuals who work in public accounting will be required to take the Certified Public Accountant Examination (CPA Exam). Requirements vary by state. In Georgia, the CPA license is a multi-step process with education, experience, and CPA exam requirements:

Exam - To qualify to sit for the exam in Georgia, candidates must have earned an undergraduate degree with at least 20 hours in accounting beyond the introductory principles courses.

Note: Exam and certification requirements for each state can be found at the NASBA link below.

### **CPA certification requirements**

Certification - To qualify for the CPA license in Georgia, candidates must have:

- Exam - Passed all four parts of the CPA Exam
- Experience - Satisfied the one year of work experience requirement as determined by the State Board of Accountancy
- Education - Provide proof of a total of 150 semester hours of credit, including a minimum of 30 hours of accounting beyond the introductory/principle courses and 24 semester hours in business-related subjects (i.e., economics, marketing, management, statistics, business law, finance, business information systems, etc).

GSW accounting graduates will have completed at least 24 hours of accounting classes beyond principles and will be qualified to sit for the exam in Georgia upon graduation. To become certified, GSW accounting majors will need to complete at a total of 150 semester hours including at least 30 hours of accounting. A 30-hour graduate degree (such as an MBA or MAcc) is one option for obtaining the required 150 hours.

Individuals with a non-accounting degree can take the CPA exam and become certified provided they complete a program that is substantially equivalent to an accounting degree. To take the CPA exam non-accounting majors will need to earn an undergrad degree and at least 20 hours in accounting beyond the introductory/principles courses. To become certified, non-accounting majors will need to complete at least 30 total hours of accounting and 24 semester hours in business-related subjects as listed above.

### **Additional info**

National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA)

- <https://nasba.org/licensure/nasbalicensing/georgia-2/>

The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)

- <https://www.thiswaytocpa.com/exam-licensure/cpa-exam-licensure-center/>

Georgia State Board of Accountancy

- <https://gsba.georgia.gov>