The Graduate Certificate in Corporate Accounting Foundations (CORAC) is a 12-credit program for those seeking a solid foundation in accounting. Accounting systems collect and organize data about business transactions and activities. These systems also measure performance, communicate business plans and outcomes, and support decision-making. Topics covered include: (1) structure and content of financial reports, tax returns, and regulatory filings, (2) use of internal controls to protect an organization’s resources and the integrity of its records, (3) purposes and procedures of auditing, (4) assembly and use of accounting information to plan and coordinate operations, and to make decisions.

Prior knowledge of accounting is not required. Because the program covers the core topics of a baccalaureate accounting program and is delivered at a pace and depth appropriate to graduate students, the program is intensive. The program is not suitable for those having accounting as their baccalaureate major.

**Effective Semester:** Spring 2019  
**Expiration Semester:** Spring 2024

**Admission Requirements**

Applicants apply for admission to the program via the Graduate School application for admission (http://gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply). Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-300 Admissions (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies). International applicants may be required to satisfy an English proficiency requirement; see GCAC-305 Admission Requirements for International Students (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-300/gcac-305-admission-requirements-international-students) for more information.

Applicants are generally expected to have a minimum combined junior/senior grade-point average of 3.0 (B) on a 4.0 scale.

- Vita or Résumé — Submit a one- to two-page listing of your professional experience and education.
- Statement of Purpose — Describe how your professional experience and goals align with the Certificate in Corporate Accounting Foundations. Please do not exceed 500 words.

GRE or GMAT test scores are NOT required.

**Certificate Requirements**

Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements listed in Graduate Council policy GCAC-212 Postbaccalaureate Credit Certificate Programs (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-212-postbaccalaureate-credit-certificate-programs).

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**Courses**

Graduate courses carry numbers from 500 to 699 and 800 to 899. Advanced undergraduate courses numbered between 400 and 499 may be used to meet some graduate degree requirements when taken by graduate students. Courses below the 400 level may not. A graduate student may register for or audit these courses in order to make up deficiencies or to fill in gaps in previous education but not to meet requirements for an advanced degree.

**Contact**

**Certificate Program Head:** Steven Huddart  
**Primary Program Contact:** Michelle Rockower  
**Email:** CORAC@psu.edu  
**Telephone:** (814) 863-0474  
**Program Website:** Corporate Accounting Foundations (https://www.smeal.psu.edu/corac)