

# FINANCIAL CONTROLLERSHIP, CERTIFICATE

Requirements for an undergraduate certificate may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the certificate.

## Program Description

This certificate is designed to provide you with the skill sets to succeed in becoming a corporate accounting and financial management professional. Required coursework is aligned with topics covered by the Certified Management Accountant (CMA) examination. CMA certification demonstrates expertise in financial planning, analysis, control, decision support, and professional ethics.

## What is Financial Controllorship?

The financial controller holds a leadership position within an organization. The controller's responsibilities include protecting and preserving the organization's assets; making financial reports to executive leadership, the board of directors, stockholders, and taxing bodies; and involvement in financial decision-making.

## You Might Like This Program If...

You are an Accounting or Finance major who aspires to a financial leadership position.

## Program Requirements

To earn an undergraduate certificate in Financial Controllership, a minimum of 15 credits is required.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Prescribed Courses</b>		
ACCTG 340	Cost Accounting	3
ACCTG 422	Accounting Systems	3
ACCTG 426	Financial Statement Analysis	3
FIN 420	Investment and Portfolio Analysis	3
FIN 461	Portfolio Management and Analysis	3

## Prerequisites

14 credits of prerequisites are required.

Code	Title	Credits
ACCTG 211	Financial and Managerial Accounting for Decision Making	4
ACCTG 305 or ACCTG 371	Financial Statements and Management Decisions Intermediate Accounting I	4
ACCTG 312	Accounting Technology Lab	3
FIN 301	Corporation Finance	3

## Certificate Learning Objectives

- **Critical Thinking and Problem Solving:** Think critically, solve problems, and make decisions. Graduates are able to objectively identify and prioritize accounting problems. Graduates are able to develop alternative solutions to an accounting problem. Graduates demonstrate sufficient skills to read, reason logically, and draw relevant conclusions.

- **Technical Competency - Cost Accounting:** Graduates will demonstrate technical competency in accounting skills in Cost Accounting.
- **Technical Competency - Portfolio Management and Analysis:** Graduates will demonstrate technical competency in Portfolio Management and Analysis.
- **Technical Competency - Accounting Information Systems:** Graduates will demonstrate technical competency in accounting skills in Accounting Information Systems.

## Academic Advising

The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/>)

## Erie

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## Career Paths

The certificate in Financial Controllership can be pursued by students in most Black School of Business undergraduate degree programs. Penn State Behrend has a comprehensive support system to help you identify and achieve your goals for college and beyond. Meet with your academic adviser often and take advantage of the services offered by the Academic and Career Planning Center beginning in your first semester.

## Careers

Course work in the certificate for Financial Controllership is aligned with topics covered by the Certified Management Accountant (CMA) examination. CMA certification demonstrates expertise in financial planning, analysis, control, decision support, and professional ethics.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES WITH A CERTIFICATE IN FINANCIAL CONTROLLERSHIP (<https://behrend.psu.edu/school-of-business/academic-programs/certificate-programs/financial-controllership/>)

## Opportunities for Graduate Studies

Adding a certificate to your major degree program demonstrates to graduate school admissions committees your commitment to interdisciplinary thinking.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES  
(<https://behrend.psu.edu/school-of-business/academic-programs/certificate-programs/financial-controllership/>)

## Professional Resources

- AACSB International (<https://www.aacsb.edu/>)
- Institute of Management Accountants (<https://www.imanet.org>)

## Contact

### Erie

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<https://behrend.psu.edu/school-of-business> (<https://behrend.psu.edu/school-of-business/>)