

Accounting Profession

With an appreciation of what accounting is, you can now begin to understand what an accountant does.

The profession of accounting covers four major areas: (1) private accounting, (2) public accounting, (3) governmental accounting, and (4) teaching.

Private accounting. Simply stated, accountant in private accounting works with the accounting system of a specific entity, usually a business firm. The chief accounting officer of a business is usually called the controller, in recognition of the use of accounting data to control business operations. The controller manages the work of the accounting staff. He or she is also a part of the top management team charged with the task of running the business setting its objectives, and seeing that these objectives are met. In a large business, accountant's work may be divided into such areas as financial accounting, internal auditing, tax accounting, cost accounting, forecasting, and management accounting.

Public accounting. The certified public accounting- usually referred to by the initials CPA- offers a variety of accounting services to the public, in much the same way as a lawyer, an architect or a physician does. CPA firms vary in size from one person practices to large, international organizations with several thousand professional accountants. The CPA certificate is a license to practice granted by the state on the basis of an examination and evidence of practical experience. The principal function of CPAs is auditing. Persons outside the business, such as bankers and inventors attach great importance

to the annual audit report by the CPA firm. Many CPA firms offer their clients a wide range management consulting services like studying the feasibility of installing a computer-based accounting system, of introducing a new product line, or of merging with another company.

Governmental Accounting. Government officials rely on accounting information to help them direct the affairs of their agencies just as do the executives of corporations. However, accounting for governmental activities require a somewhat different approach because the objective of earning a profit is absent from government agencies. Every agency of government at every level must have accountants in order to carry out its responsibilities. Universities, hospitals, and other not-for-profit institutions also follow a pattern of accounting that is similar to governmental accounting.

Teaching. For some reason, almost any discussion regarding the role of the accounting excludes the teaching profession. Nevertheless, if it were not for the accounting professor, there would never be enough accountants to fulfill the needs of society for financial information. The teaching profession provides an opportunity to guide individuals toward a satisfying career.

● با توجه به لغات داده شده متن را ترجمه کنید.

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