



Turn your pasion into a career!

Discover how you can make epic things

happen with a career in accounting.

make epic things happen





Contents

Welcome to the world of accounting	3
Why a career in accounting is the ultimate flex	4
Unlock a world of opportunities and skills	5
Discover your perfect career match	6
Cyber Defender	7
Climate Change Warrior	7
Financial Sleuth	8
Business Guru	8
Crime Fighter	9
Number Ninja	9
Community Empowerer	10
Business Trailblazer	10
Professional Influencer	11
Money Master	11
Financial Harvester	12
Public Guardian	12
Real accountants (CAs) making epic things happen	13
What's next? Uncover the steps for an epic future	14
Top tips from accounting students	15



I'm Mackenzie, and I'm currently studying accounting at uni in Queensland. It's the best thing I ever did.

Did you know that accounting could be the ultimate ticket into any industry you're passionate about? Whether it's music, gaming, fashion, the environment, or anything else, accounting can take you there.

My journey into this world started back in high school when I discovered my love for business and economics. I explored different career paths through internships, and that's when it struck me – accounting was the perfect fit!

Here's the coolest part about accounting – it's not just about maths and crunching numbers, it's about solving real-world problems, collaborating with awesome people, and leaving your mark on the world. Plus, it opens the door to endless adventures and travel opportunities. Sounds pretty cool, right?

TIP: Did you know that accounting could be the ultimate ticket into any industry you're passionate about?

Looking ahead, my dream is to work in an energy company one day, contributing to its success and driving impactful changes through strategic decision-making. I aim to be at the forefront of change in the climate action space and I'm confident that my accounting skills will be key in turning this dream into a reality.

Accounting's made my life more interesting in ways I never imagined, and I'm sure it can do the same for you. Even if you're not 100% sold on studying accounting, it'll set you up with valuable business skills that can supercharge any career you choose.

I'm excited for all the incredible places accounting can take you!

Mackenzie – Future Climate Change Warrior

Why a career in accounting is the ultimate flex

You're at the heart of every business

Behind every athlete, every business big or small, every brand you love, and every game you lose yourself in, there is a financial expert making epic things possible.

As an accountant, you're the go-to problem solver, using your money smarts and business skills to help your company or clients reach their goals. It's about putting together clues to create a plan for the business, looking at the big picture, and coming up with a clever strategy for success.

You can be whatever you want

Accounting can open the door to just about any industry your heart desires. Imagine being the mastermind behind the next big social media sensation, the genius orchestrating live events and music festivals, or a change-maker in a not-for-profit organisation.

Explore exciting fields like sports, entertainment, gaming and tech. You could even roll with big names like Disney, Nike, and YouTube.

The top 10 perks of accounting

- 1. Job security: You'll always be hot property.
- 2. Awesome earning opportunities: Live the good life earning the big bucks.
- 3. Travel the world: With skills as your passport, the world's your oyster.
- 4. Work in any industry: Pursue your passions.
- 5. Fresh opportunities: New gigs are always popping up.
- 6. Varied roles: On the roles buffet, pick your fave flavour.
- 7. Climb high: Follow the footsteps of big-shot CEOs.
- 8. Earn respect: This career's got major street cred.
- 9. Transferable skills: Pack up your skills and take them to any industry you fancy.
- 10. Life-work balance: Live your best life while enjoying an awesome career.

Unlock a world of opportunities and skills



Accounting is your ticket to freedom

In Australia and New Zealand, accounting is one of the largest professions and is where the cash is at. Grads pull in an average annual salary* of \$60,000. But CA-certified pros? They're cashing in up to \$175,000 (oh yeah!).**
The best part? You can work anywhere in the world – in your dream industry.

Less number crunching, more epic

Al's got your back. It's transforming the way modern accountants work. Now you can focus on the exciting stuff – you're a data wizard, insights detective, and strategic mastermind!

Skills that can take you anywhere!

Do you dream of growing a side hustle, becoming an entrepreneur, or a champion for social justice? Accounting skills can make it happen.

- · Be a problem-solving pro
- · Hone your decision making game
- Polish your people skills
- · Level up on logic and fairness
- · Be money wise in business and life

* Indicative average only – exact salary will depend on location, industry and role. Hays Salary Guide FY23/24 Accounting and Finance.

** Data obtained for senior qualified accountants in managerial roles in Queensland, Australia. Hays Salary Guide FY23/24 Accounting and Finance. **TIP:** Accounting skills like problem-solving, negotiation, and analytical thinking, can help you get ahead both in your career and your life.





Discover your perfect career match

Whether you're into computer games, helping the planet, uncovering mysteries, fashion, music, farming, or anything else, there's an accounting role that'll rock your world.

Start exploring the following careers and find your perfect match.

Cybersecurity Analysts

Cyber Defender

Embark on the path of a fearless cyber hero and make epic things happen! Wield your skills to safeguard sensitive data, ensure systems are updated, patrol the digital frontlines, and be ready to thwart any breaches.

Is it a good match for me?

If you enjoy tackling challenges, are adaptable, and a fast thinker with good communication skills, then this career is a perfect match for you.

Where could I work?

Numerous consulting, financial services, and engineering companies like Accenture, Microsoft, Westpac, ANZ, and Siemens, or large corporations like Apple and Toyota.

Ability to work overseas*









How do I get there?

You don't need to study anything specific in high school, but business and tech-related subjects can help you get a head start.

Graduate salary**

\$68k	\$98k





Environmental Accounting

Climate Change Warrior

Embrace your inner financial eco-warrior, armed with the power of data collection and number-crunching. Your mission? Uncover the environmental impact of business decisions, share your findings, and make epic things happen for our planet.

Is it a good match for me?

If you are passionate about the environment, are on a mission to rescue our planet, or you're head over heels for science and maths, while rocking stellar communication and problem-solving skills, then you're a match.

Where could I work?

Any company who report on their environmental impact, from engineering and manufacturing firms to large corporates or government departments who manage a nation's natural resources.

Ability to work overseas*







*An indicator of the transferability of the accounting experience/skills worldwide.

How do I get there?

You don't need to study anything specific in high school, but business and science-related subjects can help you get a head start.

Graduate salary**

	\$62k	\$95k
\$40k		\$100k

**Indicative range only - exact salary will depend on location, industry, and role. Hays Salary Guide FY23/24 Accounting and Finance.

Audit

Financial Sleuth

As an auditor, you're not just a number-cruncher, you're a truth-seeker on a mission to uphold accuracy. You'll make epic things happen as a true number detective dedicated to unraveling financial mysteries.

Is it a good match for me?

If you're naturally curious, teamwork is your second nature, and excel at both communication and finding creative solutions, then you're a perfect match.

Where could I work?

Any accounting firm or most large corporates like banks, or multinational consumer companies like Xbox, YouTube, Coca-Cola, L'Oréal. Or even in a charity like Children International.

Ability to work overseas*



*An indicator of the transferability of the accounting experience/skills worldwide.

How do I get there?

You don't need to study anything specific in high school, but business-related subjects can help you get a head start.

Graduate salary**



**Indicative range only - exact salary will depend on location, industry, and role. Hays Salary Guide FY23/24 Accounting and Finance.





Management Consulting

Business Guru

Be a total business boss as a management consultant. You'll make epic things happen by using your strategic smarts to tackle challenges head-on, revolutionise processes and drive business performance to new heights.

Is it a good match for me?

Do you possess top-notch communication, impeccable time management, and sharp analytical skills? Do you work well under pressure? Then management consulting is your ideal arena.

Where could I work?

In specialist consulting firms, your clients could include: large corporations, government departments, public and private sector companies like Netflix, or Nestlé, and not-for-profits such as World Wide Fund for Nature.

Ability to work overseas*







How do I get there?

You don't need to study anything specific in high school, but business-related subjects can help you get a head start.

Graduate salary**

	\$65k	\$92k
\$40k		

Forensic Accounting

Crime

Become a financial detective who delivers truth and justice. Dive into court cases, uncover details that expose criminal activities, help prosecute lawbreakers, and make epic things happen.

Is it a good match for me?

If you're a curious person who can stay objective and loves attention to detail, then you'll love forensic accounting.

Where could I work?

Various legal firms, law enforcement and government agencies like police, justice departments, and airport security, as well as top accounting firms and insurance companies like Allianz.

Ability to work overseas*









*An indicator of the transferability of the

How do I get there?

You don't need to study anything specific in high school, but business-related subjects can help you get a head start.

Graduate salary**

	\$65k	\$92k
\$40k		





Taxation

Number Ninja

Make epic things happen working in taxation. You'll ensure businesses stay on the right side of the law, and be their tax-savvy sidekick, providing guidance on strategic business choices, asset acquisitions and operational matters.

Is it a good match for me?

If you are a master of both people and numbers, an excellent listener, and possess eagle-eyed attention to detail, then you're a seamless fit.

Where could I work?

Accounting firms of every size, whether they are big players, small teams, or you could even be the mastermind behind your very own business.

Ability to work overseas*







*An indicator of the transferability of the accounting experience/skills worldwide.

How do I get there?

You don't need to study anything specific in high school, but business-related subjects can help you get a head start.

Graduate salary**



**Indicative range only – exact salary will depend on location, industry, and role. Hays Salary Guide FY23/24 Accounting and Finance.

Indigenous Tax and Advisory

Community Empowerer

Tell the story behind the numbers and drive transformation within the local community, supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander as well as Māori enterprises and local neighbourhoods. Make epic things happen, empowering the expansion of businesses, communities, and cultural richness.

Is it a good match for me?

If you're passionate about building family connections, creating a positive impact in your community, and have a knack for using your analytical and storytelling talents to support the growth of small businesses, this role offers an exciting chance to make a difference.

Where could I work?

Your own accounting firm, start-ups, community centres, government departments, banks supporting local communities, and not-for-profit organisations.

Ability to work overseas*









*An indicator of the transferability of the accounting experience/skills worldwide.

How do I get there?

You don't need to study anything specific in high school, but business-related subjects can help you get a head start.

Graduate salary**

	\$60k	\$85k	
\$40k			\$100k

*Indicative range only - exact salary will depend on location, industry, and role. Hays Salary Guide FY23/24 Accounting and Finance.





Business Trailblazer

Step into the exciting world of corporate accounting and become a financial guru! Make epic things happen by always having your finger on the pulse, helping managers allocate funds, and ensuring the company's financial success.

Is it a good match for me?

If you like order, detail and structure, are organised and you have strong analytical and communication skills, then this career is a good fit for you.

Where could I work?

Heaps of private and public companies like Airbnb, Nike, or Amazon, as well as not-for-profits like the Red Cross and World Vision International.

Ability to work overseas'







*An indicator of the transferability of the accounting experience/skills worldwide.

How do I get there?

You don't need to study anything specific in high school, but business-related subjects can help you get a head start.

Graduate salary**

	\$60k	\$85k	
\$40k			\$100k

Indicative range only - exact salary will depend on location, industry, and role. Hays Salary Guide FY23/24 Accounting and Finance.



Business Advisory

Professional Influencer

Become a business advisor and unleash your inner influencer! You'll make epic things happen with the latest tech, boost efficiency, and set trends in problem-solving and assessing risks for businesses.

Is it a good match for me?

If you're the kind of person who loves taking the lead, with strong problem-solving and communication skills, then you are totally set for an epic adventure in the realm of business advisory.

Where could I work?

Accounting firms of any size, technology organisations, and health services such as Google, Samsung, and Johnson & Johnson, plus not-for-profits like Oxfam and Doctors Without Borders.

Ability to work overseas*





*An indicator of the transferability of the accounting experience/skills worldwide.

How do I get there?

You don't need to study anything specific in high school, but business-related subjects can help you get a head start.

Graduate salary**

\$60k	\$90k

**Indicative range only – exact salary will depend on location, industry, and role. Hays Salary





Corporate Finance

Money Master

Make epic things happen as you rock the cash flow. You'll elevate, distribute, and skilfully manage business finances, all while being primed to seize investment opportunities that pop up.

Is it a good match for me?

If you have people skills, communication finesse, empathetic vibes, teamwork mojo, ability to problem-solve, and a love of understanding how businesses work – you're a tailor-made superstar for this career.

Where could I work?

Loads of large corporations like Disney, PlayStation, PepsiCo, and Kellogg's as well as financial services like HSBC and the biggest accounting firms.

Ability to work overseas*







*An indicator of the transferability of th accounting experience/skills worldwide

How do I get there?

You don't need to study anything specific in high school, but business-related subjects can help you get a head start.

Graduate salary**

	\$60k	\$87k	
\$40k			\$100k

**Indicative range only – exact salary will depend on location, industry, and role. Hays Salary Guide EV23/24 Accounting and Finance

Agricultural Accounting

Financial Harvester

Make epic things happen in the farming world. You'll be the financial captain, steering through the financial landscape and offering strategic advice to harvest growth and prosperity for agricultural businesses.

Is it a good match for me?

If your heart belongs to agriculture, your mind thrives on business, and you have a thing for numbers, then agricultural accounting is the perfect puzzle piece that completes your career match.

Where could I work?

Any agricultural business like a dairy farm, organic farm, horticulture, beekeer or fruit producer, as well as commercial banks or consultancy agencies.

Ability to work overseas*









*An indicator of the transferability of the accounting experience/skills worldwide.

How do I get there?

You don't need to study anything specific in high school, but business-related subjects can help you get a head start.

Graduate salary**



**Indicative range only - exact salary will depend on location, industry, and role. Hays Salary Guide FY23/24 Accounting and Finance.



Government Accounting

Public Guardian

Be the financial superhero who wears the government cape managing the money of public organisations. Use your powers to shape decisions that impact us all, and ensure taxpayers' funds are used wisely and ethically, all while advancing the greater good and making epic things happen.

Is it a good match for me?

If you're a common good fighter, a curious and impartial explorer, a team collaborator with a strong moral compass, and a master communicator, negotiator, and problem solver, then you're a perfect fit.

Where could I work?

At all levels of government - federal, state, and local and at numerous departments such as education, health and human services, agriculture, transport and defence. Or at the United Nations managing funds for international humanitarian and development projects.

Ability to work overseas*









How do I get there?

You don't need to study anything specific in high school, but business-related subjects can help you get a head start.

Graduate salary**

	\$62k	\$92k
\$40k		



Real accountants (CAs) making epic things happen



Meet Amanda Gore CA

Crime Fighter

Founder and Director of The Centre for Global Advancement (C4GA).

- She's a real-life crime fighter based in Kenya.
- Combats wildlife and environmental crime by following money trails.
- Travels globally training authorities to detect and investigate financial crimes.
- Is passionate about helping the planet.



Meet Rishabh Tandon CA

Business Trailblazer

Music Licensing Expert at YouTube.

- He's Aussie-born, and now lives and works in New York City.
- Collaborates with music artists, songwriters, and creators.
- Ensures musicians get rewarded for their creativity.
- Has turned his passion for music and travel into a career.



Meet Rebecca Glover CA

Community Empowerer

Senior Finance Director at World Vision.

- She works for the world's biggest humanitarian organisation.
- Ensures World Vision's resources are put to their best use.
- Finds working in a not-for-profit to be incredibly fulfilling.
- Is driven by her passion to create a brighter, better world.

What's next? Uncover the steps for an epic future



Get a head start

There are no prerequisites you need to study in high school. But diving into subjects like business, enterprise studies, accounting, agriculture, maths, technology, economics, and science, can help you get ahead of the game!



Explore your interests

Discover the ins and outs of the businesses, brands and causes you're passionate about.



Gain practical experience

Ask to do some interning at a local business. Some places take high school students as 'cadets', so you could kick-start your career right from high school.



Complete high school

Do your HSC (AU) or NCEA (NZ).

Study accounting

Apply for and complete an undergraduate qualification, such as a Bachelor of Accounting. Bachelor of Business or Commerce with a major in accounting. Or consider an accounting or business diploma from a Polytech or TAFE, or other government-registered higher education provider.





Start your career

Make epic things happen in an industry you love.

Boost your career

In today's fast-paced world, professionals need an edge, and the CA Program's globally recognised qualification provides exactly that.



TIP: Look into programs like the Year13's Virtual Work Experiences to get a taste of the business world and the skills that'll help you succeed.

Top tips from accounting students



Mitchell



"It's remarkable how many CEOs and directors of large companies are Chartered Accountants. Studying accounting can lead you to incredible opportunities."

Bachelor of Business and Accounting student at Monash University, Australia.

"I understand the pressure of making a career choice in high school. Gather as much information as possible to make an informed decision. Attend information nights or networking events. Now's the best time to explore all your options."

Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting and Finance) student at the University of Auckland, New Zealand.





"With accounting skills you could work in London in a big corporate firm, or stay local and support small businesses. Clarify your goals, dreams and ambitions, then pursue your degree and work hard. When you look up, you'll find you have all you want and more."

Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting and Taxation) student at the University of Canterbury, New Zealand.



TIP: Have questions? Ask us anything or request a school visit from our awesome speaker squad (CAs and accounting students) to share their real-world stories and insights.





Let us help you achieve your career goals

Discover what CEOs, founders and entrepreneurs have in common, how innovative thinking can change the world, and how the accounting profession can lead to your dream industry. Explore resources and tips for your epic career journey – including the Business Class e-learning Academy to help you create a life you're passionate about!

caanz.com/epic-future



Disclaimer: This document is intended to provide general information and is not legal, financial, or professional advice. This document does not take into account your particular circumstances or needs. You should not act or rely solely on any statement, view, or opinion expressed in this document and should make your own inquiries and seek further professional guidance before making any decisions.

No warranty is given as to the correctness of the information contained in this document, or of its suitability for use by you. To the fullest extent permitted by law, Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CA ANZ) is not liable for any statement or opinion, or for any error or omission contained in this document and disclaims all warranties with regard to the information contained in it, including, without limitation, all implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. References to views, recommendations or information made by third parties in this document do not necessarily represent the views of CA ANZ and CA ANZ does not take responsibility for the content of those views, recommendations, or information. CA ANZ is not liable for any direct, indirect, special or consequential losses or damages of any kind, or loss of profit, loss or corruption of data, business interruption or indirect costs, arising out of or in connection with the use of this document or the information contained in it, whether such loss or damage arises in contract, negligence, tort, under statute, or otherwise.

Copyright Notice: © 2024 Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand ABN 50 084 642 571. Formed in Australia. Members of CA ANZ are not liable for the debts and liabilities of CA ANZ.