Students enrolling in the University’s accounting programs may be interested in becoming a Certified Public Accountant (CPA).

Educational requirements for the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) license/certification vary by state. In addition, candidates for licensure/certification generally need to satisfy additional requirements, including but not limited to completing an application, paying a fee, passing licensure exams, and work experience.

Most states educational requirements for obtaining the CPA license/certification are 150 semester hours of education within a prescribed accounting coursework curriculum.

The University's Master of Accountancy (MAcc) program meets the educational requirements for professional CPA licensure/certification in Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey for students with prior accounting and related coursework. The University of Scranton has not yet made a determination for any other state. Students should check the educational requirements for any other state in which they plan to become a Certified Public Accountant.

Completion of the undergraduate program in accounting does not by itself meet these educational requirements, as it does not confer the credit hours necessary to meet the 150 credit hour requirement. Students enrolled in the MAcc program should carefully plan their coursework to ensure that they complete the required courses to meet the 150 credit hour requirement.

In addition to these educational requirements, students seeking professional licensure with a state must also pass the CPA examination, a uniform test with its own course and credit requirements. Both the undergraduate program in accounting and the MAcc program will help prepare students to meet the eligibility requirements to sit for this exam.

Students interested in pursuing professional CPA licensure/certification should refer to their individual states requirements. The National Association of State Boards of Accounting (NASBA) maintains a comprehensive listing of state licensing board information. Additional information is available on the University’s Consumer Information web site.