



Higher Diploma in Professional Accounting School of Business

EU Tuition Fees (2024/25)
€7,000 (full-time)

International Tuition Fees (2024/25)
€14,000 (full-time)

Fees may be liable to change. See www.maynoothuniversity.ie/student-fees-grants

Why study Professional Accounting?

If you are interested in Accounting, but your undergraduate degree is not accounting related then this programme will fast track you to becoming a professional accountant.

Why this programme?

This is a 1 year intensive conversion course designed so as to mirror in terms of standard and complexity the critical areas of the accounting syllabi of a 3 year undergraduate accounting programme. Graduates will, on successful completion of the programme, have entitlement to CAP1 exemptions from Chartered Accountants Ireland. Successful graduates also have exemption from BT, MA, FA, LW, PM, TX, FR and FM of the ACCA professional examinations, and equivalent exemptions from other Accounting Bodies. Graduates are very well placed to enter the work force as a trainee accountant with just two sets of professional exams required to complete to qualify as a chartered accountant. Successful graduates from the programme will have an option of enrolling for the 1 year Masters in Accounting at Maynooth University, the successful completion of which, will enable them to qualify for exemption from a further level of examinations (CAP 2) of Chartered Accountants Ireland.

How will this help my career?

Graduates will, on successful completion of the programme, have entitlement to the exam exemptions mentioned above. In addition, students are guided in developing the key competencies required by a professional accountant in an ever changing business and ethical environment.

What are my career options?

While graduates are likely to be primarily focused on a professional accountancy qualification, our accounting programmes prepare students for a variety of careers both in the private and public sectors in every industry. Graduates are typically employed by the leading accounting firms. Career options also include accountant in industry, management consultant, regulatory agencies, NGO's and Government services.



What do our graduates say?

“Completing the Higher Diploma in Accounting at MU was pivotal to my career. I applied for a training contract in each of the top 4 accountancy firms prior to completing the HDip. in MU, however I was unsuccessful in even getting an interview. Fast forward one year and not only was I asked to interview but I received offers from the same firms. The only difference was completing this course. The course content along with the support of staff gave me the knowledge and confidence to take the next step in my career. I would recommend anyone contemplating a career in accounting or finance to consider this course.”

Karen Murray, Senior Financial Analyst, Horizon Therapeutics plc.
Higher Diploma in Professional Accounting

What are the entry requirements?

Open to students with a 2.2 undergraduate degree in any subject. No prior knowledge of accounting is required. Applicants must have a recognised primary degree which is considered equivalent to Irish university primary degree level.

Course Structure

On completion of the programme graduates will be able to:

- Understand the principles of financial accounting and the main business and accounting structures
- Understand the principles of management accounting as a basis for developing the tools and knowledge required to meet management information needs
- Understand and apply the principles of double entry book-keeping and be competent in the preparation of Financial Statements
- Understand the principles of financial management
- Have the knowledge and skills to deal with most routine issues in personal income tax and VAT
- Have an understanding of the impact of law on business

Module Themes



How to apply?

Apply online at www.pac.ie, choose Maynooth University
PAC Code: MH32D Full-time (1 Year)

Where can I find more information?

For more information on the Higher Diploma in Professional Accounting, please contact Programme Director, Dr. Bridget McNally, at Bridget.McNally@mu.ie or business@mu.ie Website: www.maynoothuniversity.ie/school-business.