

# Accountant

Accountants plan and provide accounting systems and services relating to taxation and the financial dealings of organisations and individuals, and advise on associated record-keeping and compliance requirements.

## Job title examples

- Accountant
- Management Accountant/Cost Accountant / Financial Accountant
- Taxation Accountant/Taxation Agent/Taxation Consultant
- Auditor
- Budget Accountant
- Bursar (in education institutions)
- Finance Manager

## Other jobs in this field of work

## What accountants do

- assist in formulating budgetary and accounting policies
- prepare financial statements for presentation to boards of directors, management, shareholders, and governing and statutory bodies
- conduct financial investigations, prepare reports, undertake audits and advise on matters such as the purchase and sale of businesses, mergers, capital financing, suspected fraud, insolvency and taxation
- examine operating costs and organisations' income and expenditure
- provide assurance about the accuracy of information contained in financial reports and their compliance with statutory requirements
- provide financial and taxation advice on business structures, plans and operations
- prepare taxation returns for individuals and organisations
- liaise with financial institutions and brokers to establish funds management arrangements
- introduce and maintain accounting systems, and advise on the selection and application of computer-based accounting systems
- maintain internal control systems
- may appraise cash flow and financial risk of capital investment projects

## Main employing industries



- Professional, Scientific and Technical Services e.g. law firms and consultancies
- Financial and Insurance Services
- Public Administration and Safety e.g. Commonwealth and state government, councils

## Qualifications



The following government subsidised qualifications are available in NSW:

**Diploma of Accounting** available as a qualification

**Advanced Diploma of Accounting** available as a qualification

**Course fees:** You may be eligible for government subsidised training under Smart and Skilled. Go to the [Course Finder](#) to find training in your area, estimate your fee and find a training provider.

## Job prospects and pay



- There are around 68,766 accountants working in NSW.
- Over the next four years, employment in this occupation is expected to grow in NSW.
- Employers have reported difficulty in filling vacancies for taxation accountants.

### Average weekly full time earnings (before tax):

- Accountants: \$1,404
- All occupations: \$1,200

## Related jobs



- Bookkeeper
- Credit and Loans Officer
- Financial Broker
- Financial Investment Adviser and Manager
- Insurance, Money Market and Statistical Clerk

To find out more regarding these related jobs, visit the [Job Guides Homepage](#).

### Information sources

Occupations: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, 1220.0

Employment: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly, 6291.0.55.003

Skills shortages: Department of Employment, Skill Shortage List NSW 2015-16

Job prospects: Centre of Policy Studies (CoPS), Victoria University, Employment Forecast Data for NSW 2015/16 to 2022/23

Earnings: Department of Employment, [joboutlook.gov.au](http://joboutlook.gov.au), based on ABS Characteristics of Employment Survey, August 2014