



Subject Area Coverage for Entry into the CPA PEP

McMaster University - Centre for Continuing Education
Continuing Education



In addition to good character, students seeking admission into the CPA Professional Education Program (CPA PEP) must meet all the following requirements:

- Conferral of a degree from a recognized academic institution;
- 120 credit hours (or equivalent) of education from a recognized academic institution; and,
- The successful completion of the entry prerequisite courses in each CPA competency area (i.e. financial reporting, strategy and governance, management accounting, audit and assurance, finance, and taxation). Successful completion is defined as meeting the minimum grade requirement, the grade point average, and the currency of education requirement.

Students who have not met the admission requirements for the CPA PEP must complete additional degree-credit courses at a post-secondary institution (PSI) or [CPA preparatory courses](#) to top up their degree credit hours and/or prerequisite education.

NOTE: Students applying for a transcript assessment with CPA Ontario are subject to all relevant policies and regulations related to transcript assessments. This includes, but is not limited to, the [CPA Ontario Academic Prerequisite Assessment Guidelines](#), [CPA Ontario Regulation 9-1: Student Registration, Obligations, and Standing](#) and the [CPA National Recognition and Accreditation Standards for Post-Secondary Institutions](#).

The following courses can be taken at **McMaster University - Centre for Continuing Education** in order to meet the prerequisite course requirement for admission into the CPA PEP. Unless otherwise noted, all the required courses for each subject area **must** be completed in order to meet the admission requirements for the CPA PEP. A single course may appear against more than one subject area in cases where it covers competencies across multiple content areas. Students are strongly encouraged to complete **all** courses within a subject area at one PSI. If an equivalent course is not listed as offered in the table below it must be completed at another PSI or through the [CPA preparatory courses](#) to meet the requirement.

Non-Core Prerequisites

| Subject Area | CPA Preparatory Course | Equivalent Course(s) | Minimum Grade |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Financial Reporting | Introductory Financial Accounting | ACC 925 | 50% in each course |
| Management Accounting | Introductory Management Accounting | ACC 928 * | |
| Other General Business Topics | Economics | ACC 818 | |
| | Statistics | ACC 855 | |
| | Business Law | BUS 436 | |

Core Prerequisites

| Subject Area | CPA Preparatory Course | Equivalent Course(s) | Minimum Grade |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|
| Financial Reporting | Intermediate Financial Reporting I | ACC 926 * | 60% in each course & 65% average across all core courses |
| | Intermediate Financial Reporting II | ACC 927 * | |
| | Advanced Financial Reporting | ACC 934 | |
| Strategy and Governance | Performance Management | BUS 852 * | |
| Management Accounting | Intermediate Management Accounting | [ACC 929 and ACC 930] * | |
| Audit and Assurance | Audit and Assurance | ACC 931 * | |
| Finance | Corporate Finance | ACC 933 * | |
| Taxation | Taxation | [ACC 937 * and ACC 938] | |
| Information Technology | Information Technology | ACC 932 * | |
| DAIS | Data Analytics and Information Systems | {Integrated through prerequisite courses marked with "**"} | |

Currency of Education Policy: For admission into the CPA PEP, students must complete at least one applicable core prerequisite course in each of the CPA technical competency areas of Financial Reporting, Strategy and Governance, Management Accounting, Audit and Assurance, Finance, and Taxation within 10 years of a student's PEP commencement date. The PEP commencement date is defined in [Regulation 9-1 s. 1.12](#).



The information on this course chart applies to the **2022-2023** Academic Year. This document was last updated on **October 21, 2022**.

Contact us

For questions related to the recognition of CPA prerequisite courses for admission into the CPA PEP, please [contact us](#).