

## In brief

Every business, whatever its size, needs an expert to manage its finance and ensure all the figures add up. Managing cash flow and monitoring profit and loss are key areas of work for accountants. It's also their job to provide and explain financial information to the people in organisations who are in charge of strategy.

You can join an apprenticeship or other school leaver programme after your A levels or equivalent, or go to university and then join a graduate scheme. Both routes lead to qualification as a chartered accountant, which certifies that you are competent to work in accountancy at a high level.

## Salaries

**£25,500**

Typical starting salary for a graduate at a big-name employer

Source: Institute of Student Employers (ISE)

**£32,294**

Typical salary for a part-qualified accountant

Source: Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA)

**£48,100**

Typical salary upon qualification as chartered accountant

Source: Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW)

## Qualifications sought

**104-112**

Typical UCAS points sought for school leaver programmes/apprenticeships

**4**

Typical minimum grade sought in GCSE maths and English for school leaver programmes/apprenticeships

**2.1**

Typical degree grade sought for graduate schemes

**Any subject welcome!** Subjects sought at degree level or A level

## Qualifying as a chartered accountant

### 3 years

Typical time taken to qualify as a chartered accountant on a graduate scheme

### 5 years

Typical time taken to qualify as a chartered accountant on a school leaver programme/apprenticeship

## Employers you could work for

- Firms specialising in accountancy
- The finance team in any type of business
- Public sector organisations
- Charities

## Skills and interests needed

- Enjoy working with numbers
- Communication
- An interest in the business world
- Ability to learn quickly
- Teamwork
- Willing to study while working