

A Beginner's Guide to ACCOUNTING Career Options

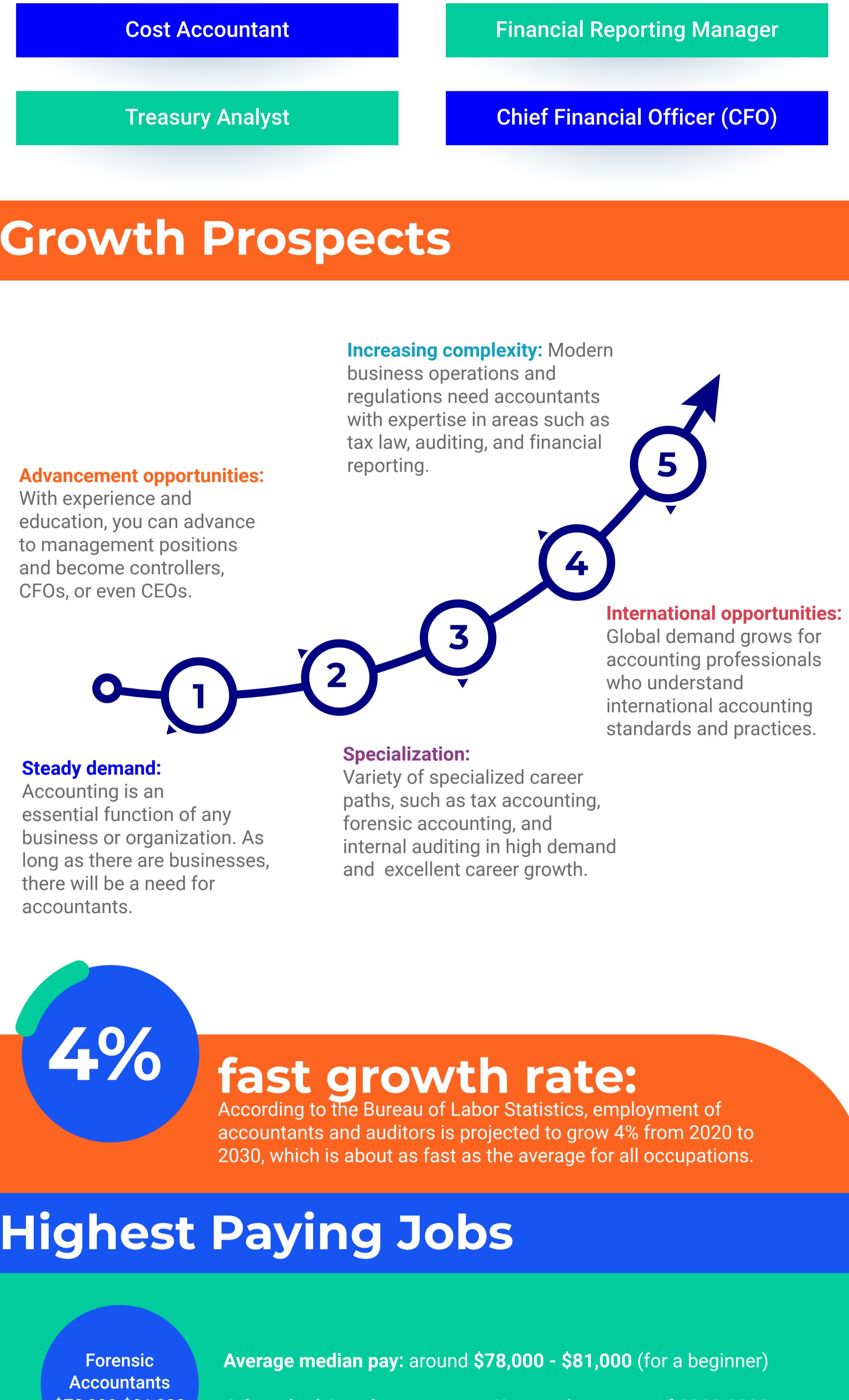
Getting started with a career in accounting is no longer a mystery as we dive deep into the different paths you can take to succeed in it. In this infographic you'll learn the kind of skill sets you'll need, where to get them, and why it's highly rewarding to pursue a career as an accountant, or a finance professional.

Career Path

There are many different career paths within the field of accounting, and some accountants choose to specialize in areas such as tax, auditing, or financial management. With experience and continued education, accountants can advance to higher-level positions, such as financial manager, controller, or chief financial officer (CFO).

Job Responsibilities

The specific responsibilities of an accountant can vary depending on their level of experience and the type of organization they work for. However, common tasks include:



Job Titles

Accountant	Accounts Payable Specialist
Auditor	Accounts Receivable Specialist
Tax Accountant	Forensic Accountant
Financial Analyst	Internal Auditor
Controller	External Auditor
Bookkeeper	Government Accountant
Budget Analyst	Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
Payroll Accountant	Accounting Manager
Cost Accountant	Financial Reporting Manager
Treasury Analyst	Chief Financial Officer (CFO)

Growth Prospects



4% fast growth rate: According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of accountants and auditors is projected to grow 4% from 2020 to 2030, which is about as fast as the average for all occupations.

Highest Paying Jobs

Forensic Accountants \$78,000-\$81,000	Average median pay: around \$78,000 - \$81,000 (for a beginner) Job outlook/employment rate: 4% over the course of 2020-2030
Financial Managers \$95,000-\$186,000	Average median pay: around \$95,000 - \$186,000 (from least to most experienced) Job outlook/employment rate: 7% over the course of 2020-2030
CPA Auditors \$60,000-\$86,000	Average median pay: around \$60,000 - \$86,000 Job outlook/employment rate: 7% over the course of 2020-2030
Senior/ Executive Accountant \$86,000-\$91,000	Average median pay: around \$86,000 - \$91,000 Job outlook/employment rate: 6% over the course of 2020-2030
Financial Analyst \$83,000-\$85,000	Average median pay: the average median pay ranges from \$83,000-85,000, with the top 75% earning above \$112,000+.
Corporate Accountant/ Bookkeeper \$60,000-\$80,000	Average median pay: around \$60,000 - \$80,000 Job outlook/employment rate: 6.9% over the course of 2020-2030
Credit Supervisor \$58,000-\$79,000	Average median pay: around \$58,000 - \$79,000 Job outlook/employment rate: 16% over the course of 2018-2028
Certified General Accountant(GA) \$74,000-\$107,000	Average median pay: around \$74,000 - 107,000 (depending on experience) Job outlook/employment rate: 4% over the course of 2019-2029
Certified Management Accountant (CMA) \$86,000-\$107,000	Average median pay: around \$86,000 - 107,000 (depending on experience) Job outlook/employment rate: 4% over the course of 2019-2029
Financial Controller \$89,000-\$129,000	Average median pay: around \$89,000 - 129,000 (depending on experience) Job outlook/employment rate: 17% over the course of 2021-2031

Education

- 01 Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE)
- 02 Certified Management Accountant (CMA)
- 03 Certified Public Accountant (CPA) license
- 04 Master's Degree in Accounting
- 05 Bachelor's Degree in Accounting



Work Environment
Accountants typically work in office settings, either for a company, a government agency, or a public accounting firm. They may work full-time or part-time, and may have to work long hours, especially during tax season or when important deadlines are approaching.

Job Satisfaction
Accounting can be a challenging and rewarding career, offering a good balance of technical work and interaction with others. Many accountants find satisfaction in helping organizations achieve their financial goals and in making a tangible contribution to the success of the business.

Growth Opportunities
In addition to the potential for advancement within their organization, accountants can also expand their career opportunities by obtaining additional certifications or specializing in a particular area of accounting such as a Certified Management Accountant (CMA) or a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE).

Industry Trends
The accounting industry is constantly evolving, with new technologies and regulations impacting the way that accountants work. For example, the increasing use of automation and artificial intelligence is changing the nature of many accounting tasks, and cloud-based accounting software is making it easier for accountants to work remotely and collaborate with their clients and colleagues.

Sources
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