

Accounting Combined Degree Program Podcast

Hello, my name is Kassie and I am a staff member in The Graduate School at Grand Valley State University. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about Grand Valley's Accounting combined degree program. A combined degree program allows students to complete their bachelor's and master's degree in as few as 5 years, thus saving both time and money. Today we're going to cover the admissions process, program requirements, and the qualities that distinguish this program.

Let's start by explaining to you what this program entails. Undergraduate students at GVSU who are interested in pursuing a master's degree in accounting at Grand Valley may be admitted into a combined Bachelor's/Master's program and obtain both degrees within an accelerated time frame. The Accounting combined degree is designed for GVSU students pursuing Certified Public Accountant certification and other accounting careers. While a traditional student would require 6 or more years to complete both a Bachelor's and Master's degree, students in Grand Valley's Accounting combined degree program are able to complete both degrees in as few as 5 years.

Employment of accountants and auditors is projected to grow 11% by 2024, faster than average for all occupations. In general, employment growth of accountants and auditors is expected to be closely tied to the health of the overall economy.

Combined degree program admission requirements include 75 credits completed or in progress with at least 30 credits at GVSU, a cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher with the expectation to maintain that throughout the current semester, and the completion of the following courses with a grade of B or better by the end of the semester: Economics 210 and 211; Business 201; Management 268; Accounting 212, 213, 240, and 310; and at least one other Accounting 300 or 400 level course.

More program details as well as the online application can be found on the combined degree programs webpage, www.gvsu.edu/gs/combineddegreeprograms, or on the Seidman College of Business webpage, www.gvsu.edu/seidmangrad.

The great news about Grand Valley's graduate programs is that tuition rates for Michigan resident and non-resident students are the same. In other words, there are no extra costs for being an out of state student. Current tuition costs and information about scholarships and financial aid can be found at www.gvsu.edu/financialaid or by calling 616-331-3234. For information on graduate assistantships, please contact The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu.

Students admitted to a combined degree program can dually count up to 12 credit hours of graduate work in partial satisfaction of the requirements for both the undergraduate and graduate degrees. After completing 120 credit hours and all requirements for the bachelor's degree, students are awarded their bachelor's degree. A minimum of 21 graduate credit hours must be completed after the 120 credit hours of the bachelor's degree. All other master's degree requirements must also be met. 21 credit hours of the master's degree are selected from graduate accounting and business

courses, depending on the student's career interests and previous course work. Students interested in additional study in auditing or taxation may earn an emphasis by completing a series of courses in a respective area. In addition, students often use 3 of their graduate credit hours as a paid internship that can serve as a steppingstone to a full-time job offer.

The Seidman College of Business at GVSU has strong connections to the local and regional accounting community and students benefit greatly from these relationships. Quality faculty, connection to the accounting community, and a strong Certified Public Accountant pass rate help to set our accounting program apart from others. Small class size and state-of-the-art facilities help our students to achieve success. Additionally, The Seidman College of Business' graduate programs are accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business—the premier business accrediting body.

That is just a snapshot of the Accounting combined degree program at Grand Valley State University. Any questions can be directed to the Graduate Program Director, Dr. Sonia Dalmia, at dalmias@gvsu.edu or to The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu. Thank you for your time and we hope you have enjoyed this podcast.