

# Steps to Build Accounting Experience

## 1. Intern

Find internships for accounting majors. They are the new “entry-level” positions when many others require prior experience. Gaining work experience as an intern may not come with a cushy compensation package, but it can pay off in the long run.



## 2. Network

Join a professional network. Knowing the right people can often have a significant impact on your career. From local to regional to national accounting societies and even non-accounting professional groups, networking within a business-related organization helps you learn about job openings.

## 3. Certify

Become a certified accountant who specializes in specific areas. Gaining additional education in areas (like taxes, technology, or public accounting) shows your commitment to the industry and makes you more appealing to employers.



## 4. Recognize Opportunities Everywhere

Accounting-related opportunities can come in all shapes and sizes. Don't let them pass you by because you only want to work at a large firm. Entry-level positions can help you side-step your way to an accounting firm. Don't be afraid to start at the bottom and work your way up.

## 5. Volunteer

Can't seem to find internship opportunities or entry-level positions? Donate your skills to a good cause. Many nonprofit organizations could use the skills of a budding or knowledgeable accountant but may not be able to afford one.



## 6. Start a Side Business

Start your own accounting freelance side business by offering your services to friends, family, entrepreneurs, and small businesses. Use platforms designed for freelancers to build a website and online presence, helping others discover your services.

## 7. Enlist a Temp Agency

A temp agency might have information about openings and accounting opportunities undisclosed to the public. Furthermore, they can help ensure you and the business or position are a good fit for each other.

