

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

Technical Diploma

Program Code: 31-101-1

Total Credits: 28

The Accounting Assistant program at Mid-State is ideal for students with strong logic and attention to detail. The program develops financial and managerial accounting skills and an understanding of financial reporting. Students also learn critical aspects of budgeting and technology as well as communication skills to be successful in their role. Students in the program will develop the skills needed to record, post, and reconcile accounting data in the areas of accounts payable, accounts receivable, sales, purchasing, budgeting, and payroll. They will also learn to summarize and report financial information, and provide support within the financial functions of an organization. Students also gain basic tax preparation skills. Includes cooperative learning activities that provide real-world experiences, both inside and outside the classroom.

To learn more about this program, visit mstc.edu/programs.

ACADEMIC ADVISOR

To schedule an appointment with an academic advisor, call 715-422-5300. Academic advisors will travel to other campuses as necessary to accommodate student needs. For more information about advising, visit mstc.edu/advising.

NEW STUDENT CHECKLIST

Complete the following steps to prepare for your New Student Advising appointment with your academic advisor:

- Submit a Mid-State application at mstc.edu/apply.
- Send official transcripts to:
Mid-State Technical College
Student Services
500 32nd Street North
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.gov. Mid-State's Financial Aid team is available to assist with your FAFSA application and to answer your financial aid questions. Contact Financial Aid or schedule an appointment at mstc.edu/financial-aid.
- Set up student MyCampus account at mstc.edu/mycampus-assistance.
- Schedule a New Student Advising appointment at mstc.edu/advising.

mstc.edu • 888-575-6782 • TTY: 711



Adams Campus • Marshfield Campus • Stevens Point Downtown Campus • Wisconsin Rapids Campus • Virtual Campus • AMETA® Center

Mid-State does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its program, activity, or employment. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Vice President - Human Resources; 500 32nd Street North, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494; 715-422-5325 • AAEO@mstc.edu. 3/2026-AC

CAREER PATHWAY



Career pathways help you build your education step by step. Each stage offers one or more credentials that are recognized by employers and lead to real jobs—and you can keep building toward your career goals as you go.

Begin at any point.

Prior Learning

Credit for Prior Learning

- Certifications and Licenses
- Military Experience
- National/Standardized Exams
- Transfer Credit
- Work and Life Experience

Learn about Credit for Prior Learning at mstc.edu/cpl.

High School Credit

- High School Dual Credit
- Mid-State Fast Track

Learn about High School Credit at mstc.edu/dc.

Certificate

- Payroll Foundations (6 Credits)
- Tax Preparation (6 Credits)
- QuickBooks & Office Essentials (6 Credits)

Technical Diploma

- Accounting Assistant (28 Credits)
Start Your Career: Accounting Assistant, Accounting Technician, Accounts Payable Clerk, Payroll Assistant, Tax Assistant

Associate Degree

- Accounting (61 Credits)
Start Your Career: Accounts Receivable/Payable Specialist, Financial Accounting Assistant, Junior Staff Accountant, Payroll Accountant, Tax Accountant

Bachelor's Degree

For those interested in continuing their education, Mid-State offers transfer guides with various four-year colleges and universities. For more information, visit mstc.edu/transfer.

OUTCOMES

Employers will expect you, as an Accounting Assistant graduate, to be able to:

- Process financial transactions throughout the accounting cycle.
- Evaluate financial information to support decision making.
- Process payroll.

TECHNICAL SKILLS ATTAINMENT

The Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) has implemented a requirement that all technical colleges measure outcomes attained by students. This requirement is called Technical Skills Attainment (TSA). The main objective of TSA is to ensure graduates have the technical skills needed by employers. Faculty will let students know when and how the TSA is being assessed in the program.

STUDENT HANDBOOK

Visit mstc.edu/studenthandbook to view Mid-State's student handbook, which contains information about admissions, enrollment, appeals processes, services for people with disabilities, financial aid, graduation, privacy, Mid-State's Student Code of Conduct, and technology.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

The GPS for Student Success course is required for all Mid-State program students and is recommended to be completed before obtaining 12 credits. Some students are exempt from this requirement. Please see your academic advisor for more information.

ADDITIONAL COURSES AS NEEDED

The following courses may be recommended or required if the student does not achieve minimum placement scores.

College Reading and Writing 1

10831104

3 credits

Provides learners with opportunities to develop and expand reading and writing skills to prepare for college-level academic work. Students will employ critical reading strategies to improve comprehension, analysis, and retention of texts. Students will apply the writing process to produce well-developed, coherent, and unified written work.

Pre-Algebra

10834109

3 credits

Provides an introduction to algebra. Includes operations on real numbers, solving linear equations, percent and proportion, and an introduction to polynomials and statistics. Prepares students for elementary algebra and subsequent algebra-related courses.

MULTIPLE MEASURES

Students can place into courses using high school GPA and completed classes. Placement can be determined in the following ways:

- **Multiple Measures Writing (MMW)**
High school GPA of 2.6 & successful completion of 2.0 credits of high school writing courses with a "C" or better
- **Multiple Measures Reading (MMR)**
High school GPA of 2.6 & successful completion of 2.0 credits of high school literature courses with a "C" or better
- **Multiple Measures Math 1 (MMM_1)**
High school GPA of 2.6 & successful completion of 1.0 credit of high school math (Algebra 1 or equivalent) with a "C" or better
- **Multiple Measures Math 2 (MMM_2)**
High school GPA of 2.6 & successful completion of 2.0 credits of high school math including Algebra 1 and Algebra 2 with a "C" or better
- **Multiple Measures Science 1 (MMS_1)**
High school GPA of 2.6 & successful completion of 1.0 credit of high school lab science course with a "C" or better
- **Multiple Measures Science 2 (MMS_2)**
High school GPA of 2.6 & successful completion of 1.0 credit of high school chemistry with a "C" or better

Past high school and college transcripts are used in making course placement decisions.

SAMPLE FULL-TIME CURRICULUM OPTION

Accounting Assistant • 28 Total Credits

Term 13 Credits	Course Number	Course Name	CPL	Credits
	10101120	Payroll Accounting	Yes	3
	10101140	Accounting 1	Yes	3
	10103106	Microsoft Office-Introduction	Yes	3
	10804107	College Mathematics	Yes	3
	10890102	GPS for Student Success	Yes	1

Term 15 Credits	Course Number	Course Name	CPL	Credits
	10101106	Excel for Accounting	No	3
	10101123	Income Tax Accounting	Yes	3
	10101129	QuickBooks Applications	No	3
	10101142	Accounting 2	Yes	3
	10801195	Written Communication	Yes	3

Please Note

- Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) options are available for some courses. You can visit mstc.edu/cpl or contact your academic advisor for details.
- This curriculum sequence is only for student planning. Actual student schedules will vary depending on course availability.
- This program is offered online and classes are in an 8-week format.
- Program completion time may vary based on student scheduling and course availability. For details, go to mstc.edu/schedule.
- Get the latest updates online at mstc.edu.

SAMPLE PART-TIME CURRICULUM OPTION

Accounting Assistant • 28 Total Credits

Term 7 Credits	Course Number	Course Name	CPL	Credits
	10101140	Accounting 1	Yes	3
	10103106	Microsoft Office-Introduction	Yes	3
	10890102	GPS for Student Success	Yes	1

Term 6 Credits	Course Number	Course Name	CPL	Credits
	10101129	QuickBooks Applications	No	3
	10101142	Accounting 2	Yes	3

Term 6 Credits	Course Number	Course Name	CPL	Credits
	10101120	Payroll Accounting	Yes	3
	10804107	College Mathematics	Yes	3

Term 9 Credits	Course Number	Course Name	CPL	Credits
	10101106	Excel for Accounting	No	3
	10101123	Income Tax Accounting	Yes	3
	10801195	Written Communication	Yes	3

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Accounting 1

10101140

3 credits

A beginning course designed especially for majors or those who need a strong foundation in accounting principles. Develops the accounting cycle of journaling, posting, adjusting, closing, and reporting. Also emphasizes service and merchandising sole proprietorships in developing the accounting cycle. Explores issues for accounting for cash, accounts and notes receivable, inventories, and fixed assets.

Accounting 2

10101142

3 credits

Studies accounting procedures for partnerships and corporations. Issues involving incorporation are reviewed. Accounting procedures for corporate stock, dividends, retained earnings, bonds, and long-term investments are presented. Analysis of financial statements is introduced and statements of cash flows are prepared.

Prerequisite: Accounting 1 10101140

College Mathematics

10804107

3 credits

This course is designed to review and develop fundamental concepts of mathematics in the areas of algebra, geometry, trigonometry, measurement and data. Algebra topics emphasize simplifying algebraic expressions, solving linear equations and inequalities with one variable, solving proportions and percent applications. Geometry and trigonometry topics include; finding areas and volumes of geometric figures, applying similar and congruent triangles, applying Pythagorean Theorem, and solving right triangles using trigonometric ratios. Measurement topics emphasize the application of measurement concepts and conversion techniques within and between U.S. customary and metric system to solve problems. Data topics emphasize data organization and summarization skills, including: frequency distributions, central tendency, relative position and measures of dispersion. Special emphasis is placed on problem solving, critical thinking and logical reasoning, making connections, and using calculators.

Prerequisite: High School GPA of 2.6 and MMM_1 or Accuplacer Arithmetic of 250 and QAS 234 or ACT Math score of 17 or

Pre-Algebra 10834109 with a "C" or better

Excel for Accounting

10101106

3 credits

Microsoft Excel is a vital tool for many accounting tasks. This course covers basic and advanced features within Excel and relates them to various accounting tasks. Using Excel, students will perform accounting tasks and will experience the gathering, analysis, and reporting of accounting data.

Prerequisites: Accounting 1 10101140 and Microsoft Office-Introduction 10103106 or Excel-Beginning 10103123

GPS for Student Success

10890102

1 credit

Integrate necessary skills for student success by developing an academic plan, identifying interpersonal attributes for success, adopting efficient and effective learning strategies, and utilizing Mid-State resources, policies, and processes. This course is recommended to be completed prior to obtaining 12 credits and is a graduation requirement unless you receive an exemption from your program advisor.

Income Tax Accounting

10101123

3 credits

Applies current tax laws in preparing individual tax returns and supporting forms and schedules.

Microsoft Office-Introduction

10103106

3 credits

Develops introductory skills in the Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, and Outlook) while reinforcing the students' knowledge of computer concepts, Windows Explorer, and web usage. This course prepares students for the Associate level MOS Certification exams for Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Outlook. Students should possess basic keyboarding, mouse, and Windows 11 skills. Students may develop these skills in the Academic Learning Center while concurrently enrolled in this course.

Payroll Accounting

10101120

3 credits

Develops a working knowledge of payroll legislation, payroll records, and payroll accounting. Payroll accounting is accomplished through manual methods and automated methods.

Corequisite: Microsoft Office-Introduction 10103106

QuickBooks Applications

10101129

3 credits

Uses the computer as a tool to reinforce and build on accounting concepts. Students prepare financial statements and managerial reports, produce business documents, and account for service and merchandising business entities.

Written Communication

10801195

3 credits

Develops writing skills which include prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing. A variety of writing assignments are designed to help the learner analyze audience and purpose, research and organize ideas, and format and design documents based on subject matter and content. Also develops critical reading and thinking skills through the analysis of a variety of written documents.

Prerequisite: High School GPA of 2.6 and MMW or Accuplacer Writing of 262 or ACT English score of 20 or completion of College Reading and Writing 1 10831104 with a "C" or better