Graduate Certificate in Forensic Accounting

The Graduate Certificate in Forensic Accounting provides an opportunity to acquire education in this emerging field, especially for:

- Accounting professionals who want to complement their disciplinary skills
- Students who want to start with this certificate and apply these credits toward the MS in Accounting

HIGHLIGHTS

- Courses are offered at the Fairfax campus or online
- Students must complete 12 credits
- Courses taken in the Graduate Certificate in Forensic Accounting can be applied toward the 10-course MS in Accounting
- Undergraduate accounting graduates can use the Graduate Certificate in Forensic Accounting as a means of obtaining the necessary 150 hours of academic credit to qualify for a CPA license
- In-state tuition rates for VA, MD, and DC residents

Contact
School of Business
Office of Graduate Programs
703.993.8006
sbusgrad@gmu.edu

business.gmu.edu
**ELIGIBILITY**

In order to apply for the Graduate Certificate in Forensic Accounting, applicants are required to have, at a minimum, a U.S. equivalent bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university. The program is open to individuals holding degrees in any major although degrees in accounting are preferred.

**APPLICATION**

**Internal Candidates**
- Students already enrolled in the MS in Accounting at George Mason University School of Business must submit a graduate secondary certificate program application

**External Candidates**
- Online application and application fee
  
  See: admissions.gmu.edu
- Transcripts from all colleges or universities attended. Each transcript needs to include course names, all grades received, cumulative GPA, and degree conferral information
- Goals statement: In no more than 750 words, tell us why you believe that the Graduate Certificate in Forensic Accounting program is the best fit for you. Include information about your personal qualities, academic background, professional experience, and career goals
- C.V. or resume indicating relevant work experience
- Proof of English proficiency for students who have earned their degree outside of the United States (either TOEFL or IELTS)
  - Internet Based TOEFL (IBT) - 93 with no less than a 20 in any of the four sections
  - IELTS - minimum overall score of 7.0 with no less than a 7.0 in each section: listening, reading, writing, and speaking

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Students must complete 12 credits.

**Required courses** | 9 credits
- ACCT 636 . Fraud Detection or CFRS 770 . Fraud and Forensic Accounting
- ACCT 737 . Fraud and the Law
- ACCT 738 . Advanced Topics in Fraud

**Elective courses** | 3 credits
- ACCT 770 . Business Valuation
- ACCT 742 . Corporate Governance and Ethics
- CFRS 500 . Intro to Technologies of Value to Forensics
- CFRS 510 . Digital Forensics Analysis

**PATHWAY TO CPA**

Undergraduate accounting graduates can apply Graduate Certificate in Forensic Accounting courses toward the required 150 hours to sit for the CPA exam.

For more information about Virginia’s Uniform CPA Exam, contact the Virginia State Board of Accountancy. We encourage all students interested in sitting for the CPA to submit their academic transcripts to the BOA to determine how many accounting and business credits are needed to be eligible to sit for the Uniform CPA Exam.

**PATHWAY TO MSA**

Courses taken in the Graduate Certificate in Forensic Accounting can be applied toward the 10-course MS in Accounting upon acceptance into the degree program.

**TUITION**

Graduate tuition rates apply for the Graduate Certificate in Forensic Accounting. Learn more about current tuition and fee rates at: studentaccounts.gmu.edu.

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**Application Deadlines**

- **July 1**
  - Fall
- **December 1**
  - Spring