New England College
School of Graduate and Professional Studies

amazeyourself transformyourworld

Master of Science in Accounting Online
President of New England College
Michele Perkins, Ed.D.
sparks at graduation
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Congratulations on taking the first step toward earning your Master of Science in Accounting. This program has been designed for seasoned accountants as well as those aspiring to enter the field.

Today’s business environment and continued development within the field of accounting have increased the need for graduate-level education. Accounting is in high demand. The need for accountants in public accounting firms, industry, and government has been increased by the expanding size and complexity of organizations, additional tax laws, and more stringent regulations.

New England College has responded to this complex, challenging, and competitive environment with a Master of Science in Accounting program that can help prepare you for careers such as auditing and risk management, corporate accounting, management consulting, banking and financial services, governmental and nonprofit organizations, and taxation practices.

I encourage you to speak to one of our Enrollment Advisors to learn more about this unique opportunity.

I look forward to welcoming you to New England College.

Sincerely,

Nelly Lejter, Ph.D.
Dean of Graduate and Professional Studies
New England College
School of Graduate and Professional Studies
Whether you are a seasoned or aspiring accountant, prepare for your CPA exam and earn your master’s degree online at New England College.

The Master of Science in Accounting (MSA) online program is designed for bookkeeping, accounting and financial management professionals as well as those ready to move into accounting. The program’s appropriate mix of theory and professional practice is structured to help you prepare for the CPA exam and contributes to the 150-hour requirement of most states, paving the way for you to enter or remain in the accounting field. Accurate and correct application of the principles and standards of accounting is taught by accountants who hold multiple professional designations and attorneys who teach business law and ethics.

“While pursuing my master's degree in accounting at NEC, I have enjoyed the convenience of online learning. The advanced topics that I have been exposed to, particularly in financial reporting, taxation, and corporate finance, have allowed me to solve real-world business problems.”

Ryan A. Briouig,
MSA Online Student

Online, Convenient, Flexible

The MSA online program consists of 10 courses for a total of 40 credit hours. To complete the program in less than two years, you will take two online, seven-week courses per semester, focusing on one course at a time. This course delivery method is specifically designed for working professionals like you to make the most efficient use of your time and to optimize your learning experience.

You can start the program six times per year in spring, summer, or fall.
Learning Outcomes

Find out for yourself how New England College’s quality curriculum can enrich your career.

New England College’s Master of Science in Accounting (MSA) online 40 credit hour program is designed to help expand your breadth and depth of knowledge in taxation, financial reporting, cost accounting, auditing, and mergers and acquisitions. This program lays the foundation for careers in auditing and risk management, corporate accounting, management consulting, banking and financial services, government and not-for-profit organizations, and taxation practices.

This program was developed based on the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) core competencies for entry into the accounting profession. The aim is to provide the tools that can help you achieve a successful career in accounting.

The program addresses these core competencies:

1. Personal: professional demeanor, problem solving, decision making, interaction, leadership, communication, and project management.
2. Functional: risk analysis, measurement, reporting, and research.
3. Broad Business: strategic/critical thinking, industry/sector perspective, international/global perspective, marketing/client focus, legal/regulatory perspective, and resource management.

Based on these competencies, the MSA online program contributes to the 150-hour requirement for the CPA examination in most states. The program can also be helpful in preparing for other professional certification programs such as:

- Certified Management Accountant (CMA)
- Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE)
- Certified Internal Auditor (CIA)
NEC’s curriculum provides a way for students to achieve their cherished lifelong learning goals.

The Master of Science in Accounting online program at New England College (NEC) consists of 10 courses for a total of 40 credit hours. It is possible to complete the program in less than two years. You will take two online, seven-week courses per semester, focusing on one course at a time. Depending on your undergraduate course of study, you may be required to take prerequisite courses.

Below is a list of the prerequisite and core courses.

**Prerequisite Courses**

**Business Statistics**
This course is designed to familiarize students with the basic concepts of business statistics and provides a comprehensive overview of its scope and limitations. Students perform statistical analysis of samples, compute the measures of location and dispersion, and interpret them for descriptive statistics. Linear regression, multiple regression, and correlation analysis are performed, as is model building, model diagnosis, and time series regression using various models. Basic concepts of probability are described, and the discrete and continuous distributions of probability are applied. Other topics include constructing a hypothesis on one and two samples, performing one-way and two-way analysis of variance, and applying nonparametric methods of statistical analysis. Making decisions under risk and under uncertainty are also examined.

**Financial Accounting**
Students in this course explore basic accounting concepts and procedures and the interpretation of financial statements. The principles of accrual and deferral accounting are presented, including proper use of debits, credits, and fiscal year-end procedures. Students also examine merchandising transactions, inventory costing and valuation, cash management, and accounts receivable. The reporting of long-term assets, liabilities, and bonds are also discussed.

**Managerial Accounting**
This course focuses on the identification, gathering, and interpretation of information for planning, controlling, and evaluating the performance of a business. This course studies the measurement of the costs of producing goods or services and how to analyze and control these costs. This course analyzes managerial accounting principles and systems through both process and job order costing. Additional managerial accounting topics include the following: cost behavior, cost-volume-profit analysis, budgeting and standard cost systems, decentralized operations, and product pricing.

**Core Courses**

**AC 6310 International Accounting – 4 credits**
Under the current business environment all businesses, directly or indirectly, compete in the global marketplace. Understanding international issues, therefore, is critical to the education of a well rounded, competent business student. The International Accounting course provides an overview of and a platform for understanding and discussion of comparative accounting issues and practices posed by the global environment through introduction and examination of accounting issues unique to international business activities. Course topics will encompass presentation and probe of issues faced by international firms around the world in areas of auditing, external financial reporting and standards, ethical, social, legal, cultural, control, taxes, foreign exchange, and accounting systems.

**AC 5620 Government and Non-Profit Reporting – 4 credits**
This course covers the environment of government/non-profit accounting and financial analysis, budgeting control, revenues and expenditures, accounting for capital projects, related account groups and endowment management to include investments, accounting for business type and trustee activities, issues of reporting, disclosure, and non-profit organizations.
Course Curriculum

AC 5640 Auditing and Attestation – 4 credits
This course introduces the student to the audit process, with an emphasis on the perspective of management in a CPA firm, while keeping internal processes in consideration. Topics include implementing control procedures and assessments using both the compliance and management methods. Audit planning, staffing and training are considered. Special topics include enterprise risk management and auditing non-profit and public organizations.

AC 5230 Intermediate Accounting – 4 credits
This course provides a comprehensive view of financial statements including balance sheets, income statements, ratio analysis, and cash flow statements. Some discussion of reporting of financial activities such as bonds and corporate debt will be covered, all with consideration for generally accepted accounting practices.

AC 5240 Cost Accounting – 4 credits
A study of the concepts, procedures, and tools associated with reporting performance data to decision/makers. Emphasis is on the tools associated with planning, directing, and controlling an organization's activities, all with the goal of performance improvement. Topics include activity-based costing, earned value management, and budgeting activities.

AC 5550 Federal Taxation – 4 credits
This course explores corporate and personal income tax laws and their effects on private, public, and non-profit organizations. Emphasis on business strategy and tax considerations.

AC 6430 Performance and Ethical Standards of the Audit Professional – 4 credits
This applied ethics course focuses on the obligations of accountants based on ethical mandates in the business environment. Topics include ethics from the perspective of accounting and auditing, taxation, and consultation; a review of the content and function of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Code of Ethics; consideration of the environment in which ethical practices are judged; and expectations of accountants with respect to corporate responsibility. Students will have opportunities to consider notable cases as well as the evolving role of Sarbanes-Oxley, pressures for voluntary compliance, and how accountants exercise leadership within their organization with respect to ethical behavior.

AC 5730 Accounting for Mergers and Acquisitions – 4 credits
This course focuses attention on all key stages of the M&A lifecycle including conception, planning, the first 100 days post merger/acquisition, due diligence of Intellectual Property, and ongoing evaluation and improvement.

MG 5640 Business Finance – 4 credits
Introduction to tools of financial analysis and problems of financial management, including cash, profitability, and capital budgeting. Various sources of corporate funds are considered including short-term, intermediate, and long-term arrangements.

MG 5660 Business Law – 4 credits
Application of law to managerial decisions and the relationship between legal and business strategy examining the role of the courts; litigation and alternative dispute resolutions; fundamentals of contract, tort, and criminal law; government regulation of business; legal forms of business organizations; ethical considerations in business; and international business transactions.

“I have enjoyed the discussions more than the actual homework problems. I can learn more from my fellow graduate students when we respond to each other’s discussion threads than I could learn in a formal graduate school setting.”

Nora Brown,
MSA Online Student
Students have an opportunity to excel academically.

New England College (NEC) has a rich tradition of academic excellence. Our online programs are designed for professionals who have already achieved success in their careers and who want to enrich their knowledge with advanced study.

We understand how important it is to be able to pursue a graduate degree without disrupting your career or uprooting your family. NEC’s programs satisfy those needs, while delivering a highly respected online degree that is as demanding and rewarding as our traditional on-campus programs.

The Convenience of Learning Online

Online learning can be even more satisfying than traditional classroom learning because it focuses on you. You learn from the convenience of your home or office, at the time of day that suits you, while maintaining communication with faculty and fellow students. Here are some examples of the many benefits of e-learning.

Flexible scheduling
E-learning is designed for busy professionals like you. You plan your study time around your schedule and work at your own pace. The program is based on an innovative, asynchronous model, so there is no need to disrupt your work and family life. Your instructor lays out the course in a detailed schedule, so you know what to expect and how to prepare.

Accessible resources
All printed materials and textbooks are conveniently delivered to you before the start of each seminar. Our extensive online library and resource center is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, all year long. Many students report that using the online library is easier and more convenient than visiting a traditional “brick-and-mortar” library.

Immediate responses
With just a click, you can send questions or requests to professors, fellow students, and student services advisors. Our faculty and staff will respond within 24 hours.

Intimate classes
You will progress through the program with a small group of 12 to 15 fellow students. This cohort system ensures that you are part of a community of your peers, a community that provides support, challenges your abilities, and encourages discussion.

Individual attention
Because the virtual class size is so small, you will receive individual attention from your professors. They are experienced professionals who are also highly trained in online instruction. Your instructor also serves as a group instructor who encourages you and your classmates to develop into a learning community eager to engage in discussions of current issues and realistic scenarios.
The NEC community is committed to offering personal support and attention to each student.

Helping our master’s degree candidates is the goal of each member of the New England College (NEC) online learning team. We are here to help you every step of the way by providing you with:

1. Your own personal Enrollment Advisor.
2. Your own personal Student Services Advisor.
3. Your own personal Instructor.
4. NEC’s most highly regarded Faculty.
5. Helpful live technical support. You will be able to talk with a highly qualified professional technician whose goal is to provide you with helpful, friendly advice on resolving your hardware and software issues.

This program has been structured for those seeking both challenging graduate studies and the tools needed by legal and financial services professionals. Integral to this degree is the online collaboration among you, your small group and instructor, and the outstanding NEC faculty members, all in the privacy and convenience of your home or office.
New England College gives you the opportunity to fulfill your goals.

★ Domestic Students
- Applicants should have a bachelor’s degree from a college or university in the United States, accredited by one of the six regional accrediting bodies.

★ International Students
- Applicants should have the equivalent of a U.S. bachelor’s degree.
- Students are required to use a credentialing organization such as WES.org, ECE, or ACCRO.
- Students for whom English is not their first language may require a TOEFL score of 550 (pbt), 213 (cbt), 80 (ibt) or IELTS 6.5.

★ All Students
- Depending on your undergraduate course of study, prerequisite courses may be required.
- Applicants should have an undergraduate GPA of 2.75 or higher based on a 4.0 grading scale; applicants with a score lower than 2.75 will be considered for admission on a case-by-case basis depending on professional accomplishments and work experience.

“I find the program challenging, yet rewarding. I have not been in school for 20 years, and I find that I am really enjoying the experience of learning and moving forward with my own career goals.”

Stephen Cohen,
MSA Online Student
New England College gives you the opportunity to advance with relevant, practical, and affordable education.

The tuition fee includes:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Application Fee</td>
<td>$100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Tuition: (40 credit hours)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduation Application Fee</td>
<td>$150</td>
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<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
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Cost per credit hour = $680  Course Tuition = $2,720  Estimated textbook cost per course = $225

Course tuition is due on a course by course basis and must be paid at the start of each class. Students using financial aid should have all requirements complete prior to the start of class.

*Approximate book cost. This is based on the purchase of new copies from the NEC Bookstore.

All prices are subject to change without prior notice. The prices provided by the Admissions Department are for the current academic year and may be changed for future academic years.

Financial Aid

The ability to pay for your education is an important consideration. Our Admissions Office can assist you in exploring alternative financing options. If you are a resident of the United States and want to apply for financial aid, please complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which can be obtained from the FAFSA website at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). Students may be eligible for a range of loans available specifically for graduate study and are encouraged to apply. Financial aid eligibility is renewed each year, and revisions or adjustments are made to ensure that aid is proportionate with each family’s financial circumstances.

Employer Tuition Assistance

Many organizations offer employee tuition assistance and, in some cases, cover 100 percent of tuition costs. Programs and policies vary among employers. Consult your human resources department to learn more about employer tuition assistance at your organization.
Frequently Asked Questions

We are here to support you and answer your questions from enrollment to graduation.

How is New England College (NEC) accredited?
NEC is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. For more information, visit www.neasc.org.

Is the online graduate degree any different from degrees earned on campus?
No, you will receive the same degree and your diploma is the same as the on-campus student diploma.

How many credits and courses do I take each term?
There are six terms per year with one course offered per term. Each course is worth four credit hours. In total, you must complete 10 terms to earn your degree.

How much does the online graduate program cost?
The online graduate program is competitively priced. See tuition and fees on page 9. For more information, please contact our Enrollment Advisors.

How much time is required for the online graduate programs?
The online graduate programs are designed for working professionals with demands of work and home. Most students study 15 to 20 hours per week. Your instructor will help keep you on track, and your cohort will be a tremendous source of support.

Do I need to take the GRE, GMAT, or other standardized tests?
No, standardized tests are not required for entry into the online graduate programs. Admission is based on your experience and professional accomplishments.

Do you accept transfer credits?
We will assess transfer credits that may reduce the total number of credits required to complete the program, up to eight credits. This will be done on a case-by-case basis. NEC does not grant credit for work experience.
Since 1946, New England College has been providing learners with the opportunity for a quality and rigorous education.

New England College (NEC) was created in 1946 to serve the educational needs of servicemen and women after the Second World War. It pioneered the three-year baccalaureate degree that combined critical thinking skills from the arts and sciences with practical and professional education in business and engineering.

NEC has retained its mission to be a pragmatic liberal arts and professional college, committed to understanding the needs of all humanity in an interconnected world. It seeks to develop self-confident, informed individuals able to find their way to a rewarding life with professional success and personal service. Students drawn from a range of social and cultural backgrounds choose among academic and professional disciplines, and enhance their learning through a broad range of internships.

In the coming decade, NEC will build on its strengths and the values of its founders while embracing the social, technological, and ethical challenges of contemporary civilization. NEC will provide a liberal arts education for the twenty-first century. Human rights and social responsibility will remain crucial to our learning and living community, where students will make reasoned academic choices and explore imaginative career options, with a maximum use of alumni connections. Recently the College has grown from 700 to 1,000 undergraduates and from 75 to 1,100 graduate students, while adhering to the philosophy of our founders by providing curricular and co-curricular programs for integrated learning with respect for diversity of thought and expression.

Accreditation

NEC is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges through its Commission on Institutions of Higher Education.

Statement of Fair Practices

NEC prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed or religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, pregnancy, veteran's status, or disability in regard to treatment, access to, or employment in its programs and activities, in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals with disabilities needing accommodation should contact the ADA compliance officer.

“I took some time off from college after I obtained my bachelor’s degree in accounting. When I was contacted by NEC enrollment, they made the process to apply and start the program as smooth as possible. The NEC staff really helped ease me back into college life again.”

Christine Portnoy-Killen, MSA Online Student
Master of Science in Accounting Online

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