



In addition to good character, students seeking admission into the CPA Professional Education Program (CPA PEP) must meet all the following requirements:

- Conferral of a degree from a recognized academic institution;
- 120 credit hours (or equivalent) of education from a recognized academic institution; and,
- The successful completion of the entry prerequisite courses in each CPA competency area (i.e. financial reporting, strategy and governance, management accounting, audit and assurance, finance, and taxation). Successful completion is defined as meeting the minimum grade requirement, the grade point average, and the currency of education requirement.

Students who have not met the admission requirements for the CPA PEP must complete additional degree-credit courses at a post-secondary institution (PSI) or [CPA preparatory courses](#) to top up their degree credit hours and/or prerequisite education.

NOTE: Students applying for a transcript assessment with CPA Ontario are subject to all relevant policies and regulations related to transcript assessments. This includes, but is not limited to, the [CPA Ontario Academic Prerequisite Assessment Guidelines](#), [CPA Ontario Regulation 9-1: Student Registration, Obligations, and Standing](#) and the [CPA National Recognition and Accreditation Standards for Post-Secondary Institutions](#).

The following courses can be taken at **McMaster University** in order to meet the prerequisite course requirement for admission into the CPA PEP. Unless otherwise noted, all the required courses for each subject area **must** be completed in order to meet the admission requirements for the CPA PEP. A single course may appear against more than one subject area in cases where it covers competencies across multiple content areas. Students are strongly encouraged to complete **all** courses within a subject area at one PSI. If an equivalent course is not listed as offered in the table below it must be completed at another PSI or through the [CPA preparatory courses](#) to meet the requirement.

Non-Core Prerequisites

Subject Area	CPA Preparatory Course	Equivalent Course(s)	Minimum Grade
Financial Reporting	Introductory Financial Accounting	COM 1AA3 or COM 2AA3	50% in each course
Management Accounting	Introductory Management Accounting	COM 2AB3	
Other General Business Topics	Economics	[ECON 1B03 and ECON 1BB3]	
	Statistics	COM 2QA3 *	
	Business Law	COM 4SD3	
	Information Technology	COM 2KA3	

Core Prerequisites

Subject Area	CPA Preparatory Course	Equivalent Course(s)	Minimum Grade
Financial Reporting	Intermediate Financial Reporting I	COM 3AB3	60% in each course
	Intermediate Financial Reporting II	COM 3AC3	
	Advanced Financial Reporting	[COM 4AC3 and COM 4AF3]	
Strategy and Governance	Performance Management	[COM 4AA3 * and COM 4PA3]	&
Management Accounting	Intermediate Management Accounting	COM 4AA3 *	
Audit and Assurance	Audit and Assurance	[COM 4AD3 and COM 2KA3]	65% average across all core courses
Finance	Corporate Finance	[COM 2FA3 and COM 3FA3]	
Taxation	Taxation	[COM 4SB3 and COM 4SC3]	
DAIS	Data Analytics and Information Systems	{Integrated through prerequisite courses marked with "*"}	

Currency of Education Policy: For admission into the CPA PEP, students must complete at least one applicable core prerequisite course in each of the CPA technical competency areas of Financial Reporting, Strategy and Governance, Management Accounting, Audit and Assurance, Finance, and Taxation within 10 years of a student's PEP commencement date. The PEP commencement date is defined in [Regulation 9-1 s. 1.12](#).



The information on this course chart applies to the **2020-2021** Academic Year. This document was last updated on **January 27, 2021**.

Contact us

For questions related to the recognition of CPA prerequisite courses for admission into the CPA PEP, please [contact us](#).