



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	[BUS I601 and BUS A701]	50% in each course
Management Accounting	Introductory Management Accounting	BUS A650 *	
Other General Business Topics	Economics	[BUS I602, BUS F650, and BUS P700]	
	Statistics	BUS I602	
	Business Law	BUS P722	
	Information Technology	BUS A723 *	

Core Prerequisites

Subject Area	CPA Preparatory Course	Equivalent Course(s)	Minimum Grade
Financial Reporting	Intermediate Financial Reporting I	BUS A701	60% in each course & 65% average across all core courses
	Intermediate Financial Reporting II	BUS A702	
	Advanced Financial Reporting	[BUS A703 and BUS A717]	
Strategy and Governance	Performance Management	[BUS A721 * and BUS P720]	
Management Accounting	Intermediate Management Accounting	BUS A721 *	
Audit and Assurance	Audit and Assurance	[BUS A745 and BUS A723]	
Finance	Corporate Finance	[BUS I601 and BUS F650]	
Taxation	Taxation	[BUS A730 and BUS A733]	
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](#).