

College of DuPage Accounting Program

Evaluating Potential Transfer Institutions

The following four headings contain questions that are intended to assist students in evaluating their selection of colleges for transfer purposes:

- **Academic**
- **Accounting**
- **Social/Activities**
- **Career**

ACADEMIC

- How many transfer students do you admit each year and what is the criteria used in the selection process?
- If I get my associate's degree from C.O.D., am I in compliance with IAI and will I automatically receive junior-year status?
- Upon admission as a transfer student, do I need to declare a major field of study? If I am undecided, what kind of counseling is available to help me decide?
- At the junior-year level, what is the average class size – large lecture hall (100 - 200) or smaller classroom (20 - 35) students?
- How many of the classes are taught by professors vs. graduate assistants? Do instructors have office hours outside of class time to assist students?
- What kind of tutoring or assistance is available if I am having trouble in a particular course?
- Do most students graduate within a four-year time frame? If not, what is causing students to require additional time to graduate?

ACCOUNTING

- Can you provide me with statistics on the number of students who take the CPA exam after graduating from your school? What is the success rate of the candidates?
- Now that a candidate for the CPA certificate needs 150 semester credit hours to sit for the exam, does your program have a fifth-year component structured for these additional 30 credits?
- What is the difference between your five-year and four-year programs? What is the focus of the fifth year of study in that program?
- Does your Accounting program have a separate track for public accounting, private accounting and not-for-profit careers?
- I understand that there are currently two philosophies on how to teach students accounting – the "preparer" focus and the "user" focus. Which of these methods does your college employ and why?
- Why I should choose your Accounting program over another school's program?
- What is the size of your Accounting program in relation to other business programs?

SOCIAL/ACTIVITIES

- What types of transition/orientation programs are in place to help me adjust to the environment at your school?
- Do you have any type of "Connections Group" or survival skills program available where I can take the same classes, live with and form study groups with other students who share my interests?
- As an accounting major, I am interested in getting into business after graduation. Do you have on-campus organizations that help students develop contacts and network toward that end?
- Do you have relationships with business organizations in the area? Do these companies or businesses offer any student-based activities on campus? Are the professors included as part of these programs?
- As a new student, how can I find out about activities that would help me to meet people and establish friendships?
- Would it be possible to meet with and discuss the college life with some of your existing students?
- Do you have a mentoring program here on campus? Is this program student-based, professor-based, or both?

CAREER

- Do you have jobs available on campus or in the area for students? What types of jobs?
- One of my main objectives is employment after graduation. What percentage of students receive job offers in the accounting field prior to or soon after graduation from your school?
- Do you have on-campus recruiter visits scheduled during the year? Do these visits include interviews for potential jobs?
- In your program, how do you prepare students for the interviewing process? Do you offer formal courses that include mock interviews and other information on interviewing success?
- In order to connect the classroom and the business environment, do you offer student internships? What types of internships, and how are they integrated with coursework? How long does the typical internship last?
- How many of the students participating in an internship receive offers from those firms after graduation?
- Do you provide any international programs where I can experience cultural differences in the business world before I graduate?
- How many of your accounting professors have work experience in the field as well as teaching experience?
- What types of courses do you offer to help students develop non-technical work related skills, such as written communications, working with people, and analytical and critical thinking skills?