

# Sample Education Plan Associate in Arts (AA) Area of Focus: Accounting



Please note that the AA degree is not awarded in a specific major or focus area.

This is a SAMPLE plan to help guide you toward courses relevant to your interests while you are deciding on a transfer institution. Suggested courses are based on requirements of several four-year institutions and recommendations by the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) Business Panel. Please note that requirements vary among four-year colleges and universities. It is important to check early with your transfer school and academic advisor to ensure you are taking appropriate courses and meeting all requirements. You will find transfer guides for specific universities on MCC's website: [www.mchenry.edu/transfer](http://www.mchenry.edu/transfer).

## AA Degree Requirements: Area of Focus—Accounting

Students are encouraged to complete an AA degree prior to transfer. A minimum of 60 credits is required for transfer as a junior into a bachelor's degree accounting program.

Please refer to MCC's AA degree planning sheet in the current academic catalog for specific degree requirements and course options.

### Suggested Courses

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT	CREDITS	OTHER COURSE REQUIREMENTS	CREDITS
<b>Communications</b>		<b>Diversity &amp; Multicultural Studies</b>	
^ENG 151 Composition I	3	Two 3-credit hour courses are required. Courses that fulfill this requirement may be used to fulfill credits in Humanities/Fine Arts, Social/Behavioral Sciences, or Electives. See current catalog for complete list of Diversity & Multicultural Studies course options and how they apply toward degree requirements.	
^ENG 152 Composition II	3	<b>Electives</b> (approximately 23 credits, will depend on credit value of your course selections)	
SPE 151 Introduction to Speech	3		
<b>Humanities and Fine Arts</b>		<b>Recommended Courses (select with your advisor):</b>	
PHI 251 Ethics	3	ACC 151 Financial Accounting	3
IAI Fine Arts	3	^ACC 152 Management Accounting	3
IAI Humanities or Fine Arts	3	^MAT 161 or 165 College Algebra or College Algebra & Trigonometry	3–5
<b>Social and Behavioral Sciences</b>		^MAT 171 or MAT 175 Calculus for Business/Social Science or Calculus w/Analytic Geometry I	4–5
ECO 251 Microeconomics	3	BUS 241 Legal Environment	3
^ECO 252 Macroeconomics	3	CDM 110 Computer Literacy	3
PSY 151 Introduction to Psychology	3	Foreign Language	0–16
<b>^Physical and Life Sciences</b> (7 credits, 1 lab course)		Examples of other courses that may satisfy requirements at your transfer school: BUS 150;	
IAI Physical Science	3–4	^MAT 170; ^MAT 245	
IAI Life Science	3–4		
<b>Mathematics</b>		<b>Total Credits Required for AA Degree</b>	
^IAI Mathematics (Recommended—MAT 220 Statistics)	3	Many 4-year schools will accept a maximum of 60–64 transfer credits.	<b>60</b>

^Course has prerequisite(s)—Please reference the current academic catalog for prerequisites.

### NOTE:

- **Mathematics course selection will depend on your transfer school requirements. Requirements vary among four-year schools.**
  - Prerequisites—MAT 161 is the prerequisite for MAT 170, 171, and 220. MAT 165 will satisfy the prerequisite for MAT 170, 171, 220, 175, and 245.
  - A two semester math sequence is required by most transfer schools: MAT 175 and MAT 245 or MAT 171 and MAT 170. Meet with an academic advisor to discuss options.
- Your transfer school may require at least 1 year of foreign language. High school foreign language may or may not count. It is always recommended that the foreign language requirement be completed prior to transfer.
- The AA degree includes the IAI General Education Core Curriculum (GECC) package. Meet with an MCC academic advisor to learn more about the IAI GECC and transfer benefits.

For more information:  
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[www.mchenry.edu/advising](http://www.mchenry.edu/advising)





### Transfer Notes

Accounting is an information science used to collect and classify financial data for organizations and individuals. Today's accountant is a key member of the management team for all private, public, non-profit, and governmental organizations. Accounting is "the language of business" since all business people use it to communicate. It provides excellent career opportunities and a strong foundation for upward, career mobility. More Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) have undergraduate or graduate degrees in accounting than in any other area of study! Set your sights for the big-time.

Accounting is instrumental within organizations as a means of determining financial stability. Accountants are responsible for determining an organization's overall wealth, profitability, and liquidity. Accounting is one of the oldest and most respected professions in the world, and accountants can be found in every industry from entertainment to medicine.

A bachelor's degree accounting program prepares students for careers in public accounting, private industry, government, or not-for-profit organizations. Some of the most exciting opportunities are in forensic accountancy—the study of fraudulent financial activity where you might review records and provide evidence for the prosecution of white-collar criminals. Career opportunities exist with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), US Government Accountability Office (GAO), or Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Other accounting careers include internal auditing, tax preparation and planning, auditing, or industrial and managerial accounting. Internships are invaluable in helping students decide which is the best fit.

Accountants must be excellent communicators and problem solvers. The degree most often granted is the Bachelor of Science (BS). In order to become a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), additional accounting credits beyond the bachelor's degree and passing the four-part CPA exam are required. All students should work closely with an MCC academic advisor and the Accounting Department for guidance toward the appropriate academic plan.

Admission and specific course requirements for baccalaureate accounting programs vary among four-year institutions. Some require foreign language. Ask about the language requirement of the schools you are considering, and complete the required foreign language courses before transfer. In some cases, two years of foreign language study in high school will substitute for two semesters in college.

MCC also offers the Associate in Applied Science (AAS) in Accounting. The AAS is designed to provide skills and knowledge in a specific field to prepare students for immediate employment or to upgrade current employment status, not for transfer to a four-year school. Though the AAS degree is designed for immediate employment, MCC has partnership agreements with specific four-year schools that provide transfer opportunities.

### Transfer Schools

Many schools have accounting majors. Following are a sample of Illinois public and private four-year institutions that offer accounting programs:

- Augustana College
- Aurora University
- Benedictine University
- Bradley University
- Concordia University
- DePaul University
- Dominican University
- Eastern Illinois University
- Elmhurst College
- Governors State University
- Illinois State University
- Illinois Wesleyan
- Judson University
- Lewis University
- Loyola University
- Millikin University
- Monmouth College
- North Central College
- North Park University
- Northeastern Illinois University
- Northern Illinois University
- Olivet Nazarene University
- Rockford University
- Roosevelt University
- Southern Illinois University at Carbondale
- Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville
- University of Illinois at Chicago
- University of Illinois at Springfield
- University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign
- Western Illinois University

### Transfer Resources

[www.itransfer.org](http://www.itransfer.org)—iTransfer is a portal for transfer assistance in the state of Illinois. Find information about the Illinois Articulation Initiative and MyCreditsTransfer (Transferology—a nationwide transfer tool).

[www.mchenry.edu/transfer](http://www.mchenry.edu/transfer)—Find transfer guides, course equivalencies, partnership agreements, and other transfer resources.

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**For more information:**  
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**www.mchenry.edu/advising**

