

Accounting Opportunities Week

Volunteer Talking Points

These talking points are designed to frame your discussion with high school students. Remember, many students will not have a clear understanding of what CPAs do, but they will have misconceptions. Use this opportunity to disprove stereotypes while sharing how exciting and worthwhile the accounting profession is.

Career Path
When did you decide to you wanted to become an accountant / CPA?
Where did you attend college? What was your major?
Did you have any internships?
What was your first job out of college?
What was the biggest lesson you learned early in your career?
What was your CPA exam experience?
What is your position now?
Typical Day
What is a typical workday like for you?
How did the pandemic impact your organization?
Are you able to work from home?
Accounting Overview
What is the difference between an accountant and a CPA? Earning your CPA requires 150 college credits, passing, the CPA exam and 1 year of work experience.
Accounting Competencies and Skills
Choose two or three of the following success skills and talk about how you used these in your career. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Decision making 2. Communication skills 3. Collaboration and networking 4. Leadership 5. Critical thinking 6. Technology and analytics
Perks
There are many perks that come with being a CPA! Explain that accounting is more than taxes. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Travel: Many accountants are able to travel. 2. High salary: Accountants frequently earn a competitive salary. Interns even get paid. 3. Job security: Even in uncertain times and a down economy, accountants are in demand. 4. Teamwork: Accountants often work in teams.
Flexibility
Share a few examples of the flexibility that accountants have. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work anywhere: Accountants are needed in all types of business. Give examples 2. Open doors: The CPA license earns a CPA instant credibility.