



**AACSB**  
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**The Benchmark of Quality for  
Business Education Worldwide**

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[www.aacsb.edu/accreditation](http://www.aacsb.edu/accreditation)



**There are more than 13,000 business programs in the world today.**

Because of this, prospective business students are faced with a tough challenge—choosing a degree program that will provide the knowledge and skills to excel in the global business world, and lead to long-term career opportunities after graduation. On the business school side, faculty and administrators also are faced with a tough challenge—differentiating their programs while continuing to provide quality.

**AACSB Accreditation is a great place to start—for both.**

Established in 1916, AACSB Accreditation is the most internationally recognized, specialized designation for business and accounting programs at the bachelors, masters, and doctoral level. As reported by surveyed schools, AACSB Accreditation helps to produce higher caliber, better educated business graduates who are more desirable to prospective employers.

AACSB-accredited schools must meet rigorous, relevant, and carefully reviewed standards of quality. In fact, 86% of surveyed schools report that the AACSB standards are the most stringent among other business accreditations. Therefore, institutions that earn AACSB Accreditation have proven their quality and are committed to the continuous improvement of their business programs—a powerful differentiator worldwide.



# The Foundation of Quality

**Mentors, Peer Review Teams, and Committees**

Critical to the AACSB Accreditation process are volunteers from the global community of AACSB-accredited schools. These volunteers, significantly experienced in business education, provide individualized mentoring, quality reviews, and make decisions concerning schools that are seeking AACSB Accreditation.

For business schools and students, the peer review and mentoring aspect of AACSB Accreditation is significant. It provides expert and consultative advice, as well as recognition and confirmation of high-quality by the business education community.

**Volunteers**

- Contribute directly to the advancement of business education
- Share their expertise by mentoring schools pursuing AACSB Accreditation
- Travel to schools pursuing AACSB Accreditation for real-time reviews
- Work with teams of volunteers to determine a school's quality
- Serve on committees to ensure the AACSB Accreditation processes are fair and consistent.

**Learn More**

To learn more or become a volunteer, visit: [www.aacsb.edu/accreditation/volunteers](http://www.aacsb.edu/accreditation/volunteers) or email [volunteers@aacsb.edu](mailto:volunteers@aacsb.edu).



# AACSB Accounting Accreditation

## A Higher Degree of Excellence for Accounting Programs

Preparing students for careers in accounting isn't easy. And with accounting being one of the fastest growing, highest demanded business professions, it is more critical than ever that business schools prepare accounting students for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. Accounting graduates today need to be ready for a fast-paced and global environment.

AACSB Accounting Accreditation is an additional specialized, professional designation for accounting programs at the bachelors, masters, and doctoral level. AACSB Accounting Accreditation is developed specifically for schools with advanced programs in accounting—those that are the best at educating tomorrow's future accountants.

To apply for AACSB Accounting Accreditation, a school must either hold AACSB Business Accreditation or be in process (a school may simultaneously apply for both accreditations). The AACSB Accounting Accreditation process follows that of the business process—and includes the development of a thorough plan to align the school with the accounting standards, an in-depth on-site accreditation review, as well as committee and board concurrence.

## Learn More

To learn more about AACSB Accounting Accreditation, visit:  
[www.aacsb.edu/accreditation/accounting](http://www.aacsb.edu/accreditation/accounting).

## Preparing the Business Leaders of Tomorrow

Preparing for a career in business requires attending a business school with engaged faculty, impactful research, relevant and challenging curricula, and the highest standards of quality. That is where AACSB steps in. Ninety-five percent of surveyed schools agree that AACSB Accreditation ultimately improves the quality of their business programs, as well as provides a platform for managing the school, tracking progress, and identifying areas for improvement.

AACSB-accredited schools are committed to delivering the best business education and preparing their graduates to excel from day one of their careers. AACSB Accreditation is a guarantee that students will receive everything they need from a business school—relevant knowledge, useful skills, access to employers, challenging courses, and a wealth of resources to help them succeed.

# BESTBIZ SCHOOLS

## AACSB-Accredited Schools Deliver High Quality

As reported by accredited schools, AACSB-accredited schools have tougher admissions requirements that lead to higher quality undergraduate and graduate students worldwide. They also have higher student retention and graduation rates, faculty that have higher levels of performance, and graduates with better overall GPAs.

## AACSB-Accredited Schools Attract Employers

As reported by accredited schools, employers are more interested in their graduates now than before they obtained AACSB Accreditation. And, their students are being offered higher, more competitive salaries.

## Learn More

Search AACSB-accredited schools and learn more about degree programs in business.

[www.BestBizSchools.com](http://www.BestBizSchools.com)





# The Path to AACSB Accreditation

## AACSB Accreditation is a comprehensive, demanding process

that requires commitment from administrators, faculty, and entire departments at a business school. The process helps focus strategic direction, improves program and faculty quality, and provides an organized framework for tracking and supporting day-to-day operations. In the end, business schools join an elite group of institutions known worldwide for their high quality.

## Determining a School's Eligibility

The AACSB Accreditation process begins with an Eligibility Application—to determine if a school is eligible to start the accreditation process. The application process is managed by AACSB Accreditation staff and a committee of accomplished peer business school administrators and faculty.



## The PreAccreditation Process

Once a school has been determined eligible, it enters the PreAccreditation phase of the process. This beginning phase involves rigorous reviews by high-quality peer schools, assigns mentors from other AACSB-accredited institutions, and involves AACSB Accreditation staff. This process also includes the development of an in-depth plan that outlines how a school will align itself with the AACSB Accreditation Standards—all in all producing a complete road map for a school to achieve its own strategic objectives and AACSB Accreditation.

## The Initial Accreditation Process

The Initial Accreditation process involves a comprehensive review of a school's progress toward alignment with the accreditation standards. If the committee, mentor, and peer schools find that the institution is in alignment with the standards, an on-site visit will be conducted and a recommendation for initial accreditation will be made to the AACSB Board of Directors (a board of business school leaders and corporations) for approval.

## An Ongoing Commitment to Quality

Once a school has earned AACSB Accreditation, it is placed on a five-year maintenance cycle. The Maintenance of Accreditation process involves peer visits and committee involvement. The objective of the maintenance process is to ensure that AACSB-accredited schools continually improve and maintain their level of quality.

## Learn More

To learn more about the AACSB Accreditation process, visit: [www.aacsb.edu/accreditation](http://www.aacsb.edu/accreditation).

