WHAT IS ACCOUNTING?
- The design and implementation of financial and cost accounting systems, both budget and actual
- Monitoring of operations through assembling, analyzing and interpreting the essential dollars and cents information of the organization
- The maintenance and analysis of records, to provide the planning, control and evaluation necessary to improve financial operations

PREPARATION
- Success in accounting requires keen analytical abilities and a willingness to stick with a problem until a solution is found
- An accountant should like detail and working with figures, but does not need an extensive background in mathematics
- Most employers require a four-year college background with 30 semester hours of accounting
- Eligibility to sit for the CPA certification in several states including Ohio requires a minimum of 150 semester hours

CAREERS
Cost Accountants: Determine costs associated with high volume production of goods, analyze cost per unit analysis, set pricing structures, establish margins
Staff Accountants: Handle basic accounting
A/P and A/R Professionals: Manage high volume purchasing activity - incoming and outgoing payments for products/services
Auditor: Obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatements, whether caused by error or fraud; includes opportunities in public accounting or as internal auditors within a company
Tax: Specialize in application of tax rules & regulations for a company's tax processes

HIRING COMPANIES (a sampling of companies who have recruited accounting majors)
ArcelorMittal
Citigroup
Crowe
Deloitte
EY
Grant Thornton
JP Morgan Chase
KPMG
L Brands
Nationwide
Ohio Department of Taxation
Plante Moran
PwC
Scotts Miracle-Gro Company
Sherwin Williams
RSM US LLP
State of Ohio Auditor's Office
Worthington Industries

SALARY (average salaries for 2018-2019)
Full-time $55,197
Intern $19/hour
ACTION STEPS FOR STUDENTS CURRENTLY EXPLORING SPECIALIZATIONS

Review the Career Exploration by Academic Specialization PowerPoints.
Each presentation covers career areas, sample job titles, career path, companies that hire this major, salary information, professional organizations and more.
🔗 fisher.osu.edu/offices/career-management/undergraduate-students/explore-careers

Check out the “From Orientation To Graduation” blog.
The blog features student interns who post notes about their initial steps into the business world, the challenges they face as interns, and how they are applying their classroom theories and extracurricular activities to practice. “From Orientation To Graduation” is a great place to read about the experiences and contributions being made by a select group of undergraduate students. The blog also offers career related tips and advice throughout the year.
🔗 fisher.osu.edu/blogs/ug-career-mgmt

Enroll in Business Administration 2600 (offered spring semester).
This is a speaker series course with a focus on business enrichment for Fisher undergraduate students. While open to all business majors, this class is structured to benefit freshmen and sophomores who are exploring the many fields of business study. During the course a variety of business and community leaders share their personal and professional life stories with a focus on their own challenges and successes.

Talk to people!
Informational interviewing is a method of career exploration and a way of discovering jobs not publicly advertised. It is not the same as a job interview. Informational interviewing allows you to talk with people already in the industry you have targeted. By obtaining informational interviews, you have gained access to the “inside information” regarding career paths, alternate careers that will use your skills, and people to contact who may be looking for an employee like you.

Peer Career Coaches in the Office of Career Management and Peers Advisors in the Undergraduate Programs and Advising Office are students who are happy to talk with you and answer questions about their experience in selecting a specialization.

Get Involved!
Student organizations are a great way to meet new people (alumni, employers, and peers) and to learn about specializations. There are over 30 student organizations in Fisher.
🔗 fisherosu.campuslabs.com/engage/

Review job descriptions in Handshake or on company websites.
Job descriptions help you learn what skills and qualifications employers are seeking in candidates and the type of information you will be learning in a specialization.

Utilize the Occupational Outlook Handbook.
For hundreds of different types of jobs the Occupational Outlook Handbook tells you: the training and education needed, earnings, expected job prospects, what workers do on the job, and working conditions. In addition, the handbook gives you job search tips, links to information about the job market in each state, and more.