Program: Accounting MAc, Ph.D. Program
Rating: High Quality

The MAc program is a professional graduate degree program (non-thesis) whose graduates ultimately sit for the Certified Public Accountant exam and become professional accountants. The program attracts a strong applicant pool, from which the program is quite selective (~33% of applicants are admitted); the yield of admitted students typically exceeds 50-60%. National rating organizations such as USNWR rate the MAc program 15th among public institutions and 26th overall.

The Accounting PhD program is a relatively small graduate program, but has a strong national reputation, built largely on the high quality research of the graduate students and their placement. The program focuses on a small student cohort that completes the degree in a reasonable period of time (5.9 yrs) and are placed in peer research institutions. The percent of students who completed the program (33%) is well below expectations, but another 33% left the PhD program with their master’s degree due to the strong job market. The program is addressing this attrition and states that completion rates have improved over the last five years to over 80%. Other than international students, diversity is lacking, with no plan to address this point. Financial support, primarily through TAships, for graduate students is an issue, although the program has recently received a large grant and uses Graduate College SIF funds to support students for one semester. As acknowledged by the program, additional funding needs to be found in order for it to maintain its reputation and high quality rating.