

## A New CPA Professional Program: What Does It Mean for You?

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A brand-new professional program is on the horizon – modern, bold, forward-looking, and aligned with today’s rapidly changing professional landscape. The new program blends essential technical expertise in accounting and a firm grounding in ethics with real-world experience and future-focused skills.

New degree checklists for the DAN Department of Management & Organizational Studies are now available and have been updated to align your studies with the changes in the new CPA Professional Program (CPP). Please refer to the [Western Academic Calendar](#) for details.

When planning your course selections for 2026/2027:

- Students entering MOS in **Year 1** must follow the new degree checklists.
- Students entering or progressing in **Year 2** must follow the new degree checklists.
- Students entering or progressing in **Year 3** or **Year 4** of an accounting degree may choose to follow either the existing degree checklists **or** the new degree checklists.

For students intending to pursue a CPA designation, it is recommended to follow the **new** degree checklists.

### New Accounting Degrees at a Glance

#### Honours Specialization in Accounting:

- Satisfies the undergraduate course requirements for entry into the new CPP.
- Satisfies the undergraduate course requirements for admission to the Western Graduate Diploma in Accounting
- Students planning to pursue the CPA designation are encouraged to select *MOS 3311A/B, Advanced Finance*, as an elective

#### Specialization in Accounting:

- Satisfies the minimum undergraduate course requirements for entry into the new CPP.
- Students planning to pursue the CPA designation should consider selecting the following undergraduate courses as electives to ensure they have the prerequisite knowledge needed for success: *MOS 4463B Advanced Assurance*, *MOS 4462B Advanced Taxation*, *MOS 4471A/B Management Control Systems*, and *MOS 3311A/B*.

Details regarding the minimum GPA required for admission to the new CPP are expected to be released by **CPA Ontario** in 2026. Admission requirements for the Western Graduate Diploma in Accounting will be released in 2026.

The new CPA Professional Program will consist of four modules and four examinations. Future CPAs will work through the program one module at a time, completing each module and passing the associated exam before moving on to the next module.

## The CPA Professional Program at a Glance



Future CPAs may choose to complete the first 3 modules online on a part-time basis. Alternatively, students who prefer in-person learning and wish to accelerate their studies can pursue Western University's full-time **Graduate Diploma in Accounting**.

In addition to academic requirements, the new CPA Professional Program will include a 24-month practical experience requirement, net of leave. This will consist of eight months of foundational experience and 16 months of professional-level experience, with expectations for proficiency increasing in line with the CPA competency map.

With these exciting changes, students have the opportunity to gain the knowledge, skills, and practical experience needed to lead our economy. The new CPA Professional Program is a launchpad to a dynamic and exciting career!

For more information and questions about the new CPP contact Betsy Exley, Manager Student Recruitment at CPA Ontario: [BExley@cpaontario.ca](mailto:BExley@cpaontario.ca) or attend the CPA Ontario Virtual Bi-Weekly Information Sessions <https://www.cpaontario.ca/become-a-cpa/post-secondary-student/events>