



Graduate Programs in Taxation



PennState
World Campus

A world of possibilities.
Online.

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“Recent changes to the tax law have brought about unprecedented demand for qualified tax professionals. Our online Master’s in Taxation program can prepare students to meet this demand by providing in-depth knowledge of the tax law as well as the research and communication skills necessary to capitalize on it.

Our online program offers working professionals the opportunity to earn a respected Penn State graduate degree in less than two years, while maintaining their current professional responsibilities. Completion of the tax program may qualify the graduate for Big 4 accounting firm positions and many other career opportunities in the tax field.”

—Dr. Lawrence J. Friedken



PennState
Smeal College
of Business

Earn a Master's Degree or Certificate in Taxation—Online

Agile companies who want to optimize their operations need tax specialists to help navigate the ever-changing landscape of tax law. Prepare yourself with a taxation program offered online through Penn State World Campus. As a graduate, you can emerge as a tax authority with the expertise to design sound strategies to help organizations maximize profits while meeting their legal tax obligations.

This respected program is built on the experience and excellence of our graduate programs from the internationally ranked Penn State Smeal College of Business. You will receive a world-class educational experience with access to the same accomplished faculty who teach on campus.

Earn a credential you'll be proud to add to your résumé.



Master's in Taxation

Set yourself apart with a Master's in Taxation. This 30-credit graduate program helps you to build in-depth knowledge of the tax codes, regulations, and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) pronouncements, allowing you to advise individual and corporate clients on a wide range of tax topics. This graduate program can prepare you to:

- › help organizations and individuals file taxes and maintain legal compliance
- › develop tax planning strategies that will lower client tax burden and increase profit
- › conduct research, analyze complex tax laws, and make recommendations
- › gain insight into how the IRS interprets and applies tax law
- › take a probability-driven approach to problem-solving
- › improve your ability to communicate complex tax-related subjects
- › advocate for your clients and resolve conflicts with the IRS
- › practice with the highest of ethical and professional standards

This comprehensive program integrates case analyses using real-life examples so you can learn to solve the very same problems your clients may encounter.

The program's tightly focused taxation curriculum will be supplemented with business-related course work to help make you a more well-rounded adviser.

“My degree gave me an advantage over other candidates applying for my current job because it helped me to become very well-rounded. My professors were extremely supportive in quickly responding to all my questions, and the group work with other students was one of my favorite aspects of the program.”

—Stacy M., World Campus Graduate

30-credit Master's in Taxation Curriculum—100% Online

Core Courses (21 credits)	Electives (Select 9 credits)*
<ul style="list-style-type: none">› Individual Taxation› Corporate Taxation› Pass-Through Taxation› Tax Law Policy› International Taxes› State and Local Taxes› Advanced Topics in Corporate Tax and Estate Taxation› Tax Research and Analysis (Capstone Course)	Select from a variety of business courses in business management, accounting, business analytics, supply chain management, and more.

**Depending on course selection, students may be eligible to earn a graduate certificate in another business-related discipline. Contact the program office at mtax@smeal.psu.edu for more details.*

You can complete the Master's in Taxation on a part-time basis in as little as 21 months—from anywhere in the world.

Career Opportunities

Graduating with a specialized master's degree in taxation may significantly improve your career trajectory and/or salary potential. You can graduate with the expertise that a more general accounting degree doesn't provide, allowing you to move into a variety of positions, including:

- › Tax Manager or Director
- › Tax Accountant
- › Tax Consultant
- › Chief Financial Officer

Additionally, students who are not yet CPA-certified may be able to apply credits from graduate-level taxation courses toward the 150-credit requirement to sit for the CPA licensure exam.

Graduate Certificate in Taxation

Develop a working understanding of the tax laws and regulations with the 9-credit Graduate Certificate in Taxation.

Course work covers the foundational elements of taxation, research and analysis, corporate and international taxation, and ethical responsibility—all of which are embedded into the curriculum of the master’s program. This integrated structure gives you the flexibility to create an educational path that’s right for you. You can:

- › begin your education by pursuing the certificate and then step up to a master’s degree
- › start with the master’s degree and add the certificate along the way

Either way, you’ll receive more value from your educational investment.

Master’s in Taxation

(30 credits)

Graduate Certificate in Taxation*

(9 credits)

**Credits from the certificate may transfer up to the master’s degree.
A separate application is required for each credential.*

“I saw a great deal of value in gaining more aptitude in my field. By the end of the certificate program, I found myself salivating for more, so I decided to apply my certificate credits and step up to the degree. Best decision I ever made!”

—Craig A., World Campus Student



Why Penn State World Campus?

› Strong partnership

The graduate taxation programs are a collaboration between Penn State World Campus and the Penn State Smeal College of Business. The partnership connects you with faculty who have diverse backgrounds and industry knowledge. In order to help you develop an advanced understanding of taxation codes, policies, and law, you will work with and learn from a variety of experts in the field.

› Flexibility and convenience

Penn State knows that adults need flexible and convenient learning options in order to continue meeting their professional and personal commitments. You can study when and where you please, earning your credential at your pace.

› Reputation

Putting a Penn State degree or certificate on your résumé is a great way to broaden your career options and prove to employers that you are a well-educated professional.

› Student support services

As a Penn State World Campus student, you will be supported by a team of knowledgeable and caring staff who understand the unique challenges of balancing work and personal responsibilities while learning online. You will have access to the traditional student support services, such as 24/7 technical support, career services, and a dedicated student affairs team, along with access to the University Libraries system and the opportunity to join clubs and organizations.

› Military and veteran students

We have aligned our online programs, student support services, policies, and procedures to support military personnel, veterans, and military family members. Applicants who are in the military may qualify for an application fee waiver. Contact us at mtax@smeal.psu.edu to request a waiver.

The Penn State Smeal Advantage

More options, greater flexibility, and a commitment to lifelong learning

In partnership with Penn State World Campus, the Smeal College of Business makes it easy to customize a learning plan to your unique career aspirations and busy schedule. We provide numerous concentrations and one of the most integrated and flexible offerings of all online and residential programs in the United States. As a Penn Stater in a Smeal-led program, you will experience:

Personal advising

Experts will explain the many options that Smeal offers and help you refine your career strategy and craft the educational experience best suited to your interests. It all starts with a simple, but critical, question: "What are your goals?"

Career coaching

Our Alumni Career Services team will support you across all career stages with professional advancement opportunities and coaching to help you stay focused on achieving your goals.*



The Penn State Smeal College of Business, University Park, PA

Industry professionals in a virtual classroom

Many of Smeal's courses feature industry professionals who have been in the trenches and work hard to make an impact every day. These individuals, most of whom hold a Smeal graduate degree, may serve as Teaching Support Specialists (TSS) and partner with our renowned faculty to provide a rich academic context with real-world application.

Enhanced learning outside the classroom

Smeal encourages students studying online to participate in college-wide events, even when face-to-face opportunities are not possible. You have the option to pursue global immersion trips, leadership immersions, executive workshops, and more.

Discover more benefits at:
**[worldcampus.psu.edu/
mtaxsmealadvantage](https://worldcampus.psu.edu/mtaxsmealadvantage)**

** Services are available only to students and alumni of Penn State Smeal College of Business degree programs and online degree programs led by Smeal and delivered through Penn State World Campus. Students and alumni of online graduate certificates are not eligible to receive these benefits unless they are also enrolled in a degree program.*





Frequently Asked Questions

Is this the real Penn State?

Yes. Penn State World Campus was launched in 1998 as Penn State's virtual campus administered online. It has since grown into one of the most highly regarded online campuses—extending Penn State's long-standing reputation as a leader in higher education to students around the world.

How much is tuition?

Tuition is based on cost-per-credit and is associated with your program of study. Tuition rates are assessed every semester of enrollment, giving you the flexibility to pay as you move through the program. Please visit our website for the most up-to-date tuition rate.

Does Penn State World Campus offer financial aid?

Penn State World Campus makes many options available to help you pay for your education. Full- and part-time degree-seeking students are eligible for federal student aid. We also have other options to help you, such as deferred payment plans, third-party payments for employed professionals, and military payment options.

What does the online classroom look like?

Our philosophy for designing online courses: use the latest technology to best deliver the content in the most flexible way while keeping the technology transparent to you. We use one centralized platform where you can log in to your classroom. There you can get assignments, interact with faculty and peers, reply to message boards, and more.

Begin Your Application Today

To be considered for admission, prospective students should submit an online application form and a complete application portfolio. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

For the graduate certificate program, you will need to submit:

- › application and fee
- › GPA
- › statement of purpose
- › résumé

For the master's degree program, your application portfolio must include all requirements for the graduate certificate in addition to the following:

- › official transcripts from all institutions attended

For application deadlines and up-to-date details about the programs and admissions process, visit:

worldcampus.psu.edu/mtaxapply (master's degree) or
worldcampus.psu.edu/gctaxapply (graduate certificate).

Did You Know?

- › Penn State World Campus is consistently ranked as a top provider of online education by *U.S. News & World Report*.
- › Penn State World Campus has enrolled students from all 50 states and all 7 continents.
- › Penn State Smeal College of Business carries the elite AACSB accreditation, an international honor reserved for the top 5% of business schools worldwide.

Contact Us

Admissions Questions

worldcampus@psu.edu
814 863 5386
worldcampus.psu.edu/admissions

Program Questions

mtax@smeal.psu.edu



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