

A.S. in Fraud Examination & Financial Forensics

Description of the Fraud Examination & Financial Forensics Program:

Eugenio María de Hostos Community College (HCC) and John Jay College of Criminal Justice propose to offer an Associate in Science (A.S.) degree in Science for Fraud Examination and Financial Forensics as a jointly registered, dual admission program with the existing Bachelor of Science in Fraud Examination (B.S.) at John Jay College of Criminal Justice (John Jay). The proposed program will provide HCC students with a similar curriculum as the first two years of the forensic science program required at John Jay. Upon successful completion of the lower division at HCC, students will have a seamless transition to the upper division of the baccalaureate program at John Jay.

For more information, see link below

<http://www.hostos.cuny.edu/Hostos/media/Pathways/Fraud-Examination-Financial-Forensics-Program.pdf>

Summary:

Some public accountants specialize in forensic accounting, investigating financial crimes such as securities fraud and embezzlement, bankruptcies and contract disputes, and other complex and possibly criminal financial transactions. Forensic accountants combine their knowledge of accounting and finance with law and investigative techniques to determine if an activity is illegal. Many forensic accountants work closely with law enforcement personnel and lawyers during investigations and often appear as expert witnesses during trials.

Skills:

Analytical skills: Accountants must be able to identify issues in documentation and suggest solutions. For example, public accountants use analytical skills in their work to minimize tax liability, and internal auditors do so when identifying fraudulent use of funds.

Communication skills: Accountants must be able to listen carefully to facts and concerns from clients, managers, and others. They must also be able to discuss the results of their work in both meetings and written reports.

Detail oriented: Accountants must pay attention to detail when compiling and examining documentation.

Math skills: Accountants must be able to analyze, compare, and interpret facts and figures, although complex math skills are not necessary.

Organizational skills: Strong organizational skills are important for accountants and auditors who often work with a range of financial documents for a variety of clients.

Sample Job Titles:

Some related job titles include: Investigator, Certified Fraud Examiner; Examining Officer, Principal Examiner, Senior Capital Markets Specialist, Senior Examiner, Supervisory Examiner

Employment Outlook:

The job outlook for forensic accountants is favorable. Accounting in general is a growing profession.

Career Path:

The median annual wage for an accountant with a bachelor's degree was \$68,150 in May 2016. Starting salary for a forensic accountant is typically higher than the average accounting position. A bachelor's degree is the minimum requirement to become a forensic accountant. Many forensic accountants hold masters degrees, which requires an additional 1 or 2 years of study. Additional education in criminal justice or law enforcement is a plus. Many companies encourage obtaining the Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE), Certified Public Accountant (CPA), and/or Chartered Accountant (CA).

<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/business-and-financial/accountants-and-auditors.htm>

Career Coach – Search career information and current local wage data

<https://hostos-cuny.emsicc.com/careers/fraud-examiner-investigator-or-analyst/about>