

Accounting Career Awareness Program (ACAP)

What Accountants Do

- Analyze, verify, and report the results of financial information to:
 - Organizations
 - Governmental Agencies
 - Individuals
- Accountants:
 - Can make a lot of money
 - Own their business
 - Travel
 - Meet a lot of interesting people
 - Get involved in a variety of business situations

Some Careers in Accounting & Finance

- Public Accounting
- Corporate Accounting
- Tax Accounting
- Entrepreneur
- Professor
- Non-Profit
- Information Technology



Some Keys to Success

- Strong desire to succeed
- Strong work ethic
- Ability to handle confidential information
- Flexible
- Perseverance
- Be technically competent
- Ability to network (social acceptable)
- Be politically astute



ACAP

- Weeklong residency program for high school students (held at SMU)
- Eligibility to attend:
 - Complete online application
 - Minimum of 3.0 GPA
 - High school transcript
 - Two (2) recommendation letters
 - Write 100-word essay
 - Complete onsite interview

Curriculum Highlights

- Facilitated classroom instruction
- Executive roundtable discussions
- Corporate tours
- Group project; group presentation
- Talent show
- Social outing
- Apply for scholarships
- Compete for other monetary awards
- Closing luncheon
- Professional network (ongoing)

Some Key Dates

- Application period: Jan 2-Apr 28, 2017
- ACAP Interviews: May 27, and June 3
- Students/Parents Orientation: June 17
- Dallas ACAP Week: June 25-30



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ACAP 2016 Highlights

- ACAP Week: June 12-17, 2016
- 59 students: 29 males, 30 females (723 students since inception in 2001)
- Average GPA: 3.45
- Number of Admins & Counselors: 12
- Number of Volunteers: 50
- High Schools Represented: 34 (8 students from outside the DFW Metroplex)
- Scholarships Awarded: \$6,000
- Other monetary awards: \$1,500
- Companies Represented: 23
- Individuals & Parents Contributing: 60

Group Project

- Create a Business Plan
- Create a Marketing Strategy
- Prepare Financial Statements
- Present before a Panel of Judges
- Winning Group: Each person gets \$50)



Ongoing Professional Network

- **College Life:**
 - Career Opportunities
 - Professional Affiliations
 - Mentoring
 - Scholarships
 - Internships
 - Full-time Employment
- **Adult Life:**
 - Career Opportunities
 - Mentoring
 - Full-Time Employment
 - Volunteer Opportunities (*"Lifting As We Climb"*)

What We Need From You (Counselors)

- Promote Accounting as a career option
- Promote ACAP:
 - Distribute flyers & other info
 - Encourage students to apply
 - Encourage parents to promote ACAP
 - Visit the website

