

Count on Your Future:

A Vault of Resources to Multiply Success for Ohio's K-12 Youth in Accounting, Finance, and Entrepreneurship



INTRODUCTION

Preparing Ohio's Next Generation for a Changing World

From evolving accounting technologies to innovative entrepreneurship and financial systems, Ohio is on the path to nurturing the next generation of leaders in these critical fields. The rapid advancement of digital finance tools, small business ecosystems, and financial literacy initiatives calls for a skilled workforce that is ready to lead and innovate.

At the **Ohio Society of Certified Public Accountants (OSCPA)**, we collaborate with educators, parents, industry professionals, and community partners to equip students with the skills they need to thrive in accounting, finance, and entrepreneurship. Because accounting is known by those in the field as the *"language of business"*, it offers a wonderful connection between multiple content areas and a variety of career paths. Whether students pursue traditional pathways, new and emerging careers, or launch their own businesses, these fields offer a wealth of opportunities with stability and high-paying salaries - OSCPAs encourages young people to explore the possibilities! For more information or if you have questions, please email: foundation@ohiocpa.com or visit www.ohiocpa.com/look-beyond.

The **OSCPA Accounting, Finance, and Entrepreneurship Vault** offers free resources designed to provide students, K-12 and Career Technical educators, parents, and other stakeholders with high-quality and engaging accounting, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship learning experiences. These free resources can be integrated into various settings, including classroom learning, at home, after-school programs, out-of-school activities, and summer enrichment programs.

Components of the Vault

The OSCPAs Vault is comprised of three key components to help facilitate learning focused on accounting, finance, and entrepreneurship:

1. **Free Webinars & Workshops:** Engage in no-cost virtual learning opportunities to stay current on high-quality resources, and learn directly from industry experts on a variety of topics. An interactive workshop for educators will be offered to redesign and enhance secondary accounting courses with industry credentials, college credit, and graduation seals.
2. **Learning Activities & Curriculum:** Access standards-aligned lesson plans, free digital tools, and engaging online activities that bring accounting, finance, and entrepreneurship to life in the classroom.
3. **Career Connections:** Discover exciting and sustainable career pathways and suggested activities to explore to plan for a bright and secure future. Learn about career opportunities and the sizable growth predicted in accounting and related fields in Ohio.

FREE WEBINARS & WORKSHOPS

OSCPA offers a range of free webinars, workshops, and e-learning opportunities designed to support K-12 students, educators, parents, and partners in their learning about all things accounting and related professions. To learn more, visit the OSCP website at <https://ohiocpa.com/look-beyond>.

Webinar Series

OSCPA hosts a free webinar series focused on the implementation of the Resource Vault and related learning about the limitless opportunities in accounting. Special guests from industry and education join us to discuss curriculum integration, career pathways, and valuable resources for educators, students, and families.

DATES: *WINTER 2025*

- **Thursday, January 16 3:30 PM:** Accounting, Finance, & Entrepreneurship Vault Tour (All Audiences)
- **Thursday, January 30 9:00 AM:** Careers in Accounting Expert Panel (All Audiences)
- **Thursday, February 6 3:30 PM:** Statewide K-12 Forensic Accounting Competition Preview (All Audiences)
- **Thursday, March 6 3:30 PM:** High School Accounting Course Enhancement Workshop (9-12th Educators & Administrators)

Visit the OSCP website at <https://ohiocpa.com/look-beyond> for event details, registration links, and recordings from previous webinars.



CPA CLASSROOM VISIT

Teachers can schedule a free classroom visit with an expert by filling out the form at this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/CPAVisit>.

Visits include a presentation with interactive slides, free resources, and time for discussion and Q & A.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES & CURRICULUM

K-12 Learning Activities

OSCPA has gathered a range of resources, learning activities, and curricular materials for providing engaging and immersive opportunities for K-12 students.

Developing valuable skill sets in areas like accounting, financial literacy, budgeting, and entrepreneurship early builds a foundation for future success in the workplace and life!

On the following pages, OSCPA has curated free materials organized by grade bands and is designated by learning activity or full curriculum. These items are scalable, flexible, and modular.



CAREER CONNECTIONS FRAMEWORK

Guidance on the Career Connections Framework has also been included in each grade band section, provided by the **Ohio Department of Education and Workforce**. The Career Connections Framework is a planning tool for districts to provide students with opportunities to develop a vision and realistic plan for their futures. This framework aligns the many efforts around college and career readiness to support students in becoming productive and engaged citizens. More information can be found on their website:

<https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Career-Tech/Career-Connections/Career-Connections-Framework>



LEARNING ACTIVITIES & CURRICULUM

ELEMENTARY GRADES K-5

At this stage, students are beginning to understand basic concepts of money, saving, and spending.

Learning about accounting and finance helps them develop early financial literacy skills, such as budgeting and making informed choices.

Exploring entrepreneurship sparks creativity and introduces problem-solving as they imagine creating and running small businesses.



LEARNING ACTIVITIES



Banzai Personal Finance: Games and resources allow kids to make mistakes, learn, and succeed in a safe space. Life literacy skills they develop include: budgeting, saving, managing debt, internet safety, career planning, soft skills.



EconEdLink: The go-to-place for K-12 economics and personal finance resources, providing high-quality lesson plans, videos, assessments, activities, professional development webinars, and more for educators.



Junior Achievement: Provides free, high-quality, online resources for parents and educators to empower young people to own their economic success.



Money as You Grow: Activities, suggested language, and guidance to bring money topics to life through storytime and conversations with a parent or trusted adult.



My First Nest Egg: Lessons and interactive tools for families and educators to help young people learn to save.



Venturelab: Discover tools, activities, and guides designed to foster innovation and entrepreneurial thinking in young minds.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES & CURRICULUM

ELEMENTARY GRADES K-5

The **Ohio Career Connections Framework** suggests students at this age become familiar with careers through learning that connects life and classroom instruction to future work. Career awareness strategies show students various types of careers and stimulate interest in future work.



Suggested Activities:

- Workplace visits
- Informational career interviews
- Interdisciplinary and experiential learning
- Classroom career speakers
- Introduction to Ohio career fields and pathways



FULL CURRICULUM



Wagilabs: Empowers students by sparking their curiosity, compassion, and courage. Students identify community challenges, brainstorm ideas, and pitch solutions to improve the world one idea at a time.



Everfi Financial Literacy: This 4th-6th grade gamified course features an engaging storyline, diverse cast of characters, and interactions & activities to teach students fundamental financial topics in a fun and engaging way.



YEI Pitch Challenge: This program contains activities that help kids learn creativity, problem solving, critical thinking, and presentation skills. It teaches kids vital workforce readiness skills and helps develop a mindset for 21st century careers whether or not they become an entrepreneur.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES & CURRICULUM

MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADES 6-8

Middle school students are growing in independence and decision-making.

Introducing them to accounting and finance helps them grasp more complex ideas, such as managing an allowance, understanding needs vs. wants, and setting financial goals.

Entrepreneurship education fosters innovation, critical thinking, and teamwork, empowering students to explore how businesses operate.



LEARNING ACTIVITIES



Banzai Personal Finance: Games and resources that teach skills including: budgeting, saving, managing debt, internet safety, career planning, soft skills.



EconEdLink: The go-to-place for K-12 economics and personal finance resources, providing high-quality lesson plans, videos, assessments, activities, professional development webinars, and more for educators.



The Financial Lab: Managing money can be hard, but learning built-in biases helps to make smarter decisions. Practice overcoming them by taking care of your pet in this game.



Junior Achievement: Provides online resources to empower young people to own their economic success. Finance Park includes curriculum and a simulation day with experiential learning hosted at JA middle school students. [Video here.](#)



Ohio Means Jobs: Students can create a free account, explore career pathways, play career exploration games, learn about themselves and watch career videos. Activities include future budgeting, building a resume, and planning for college and career.



TaxEDU Explainer Videos: These animated videos clearly explain how all types of taxes function in an easy-to-understand way.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES & CURRICULUM

MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADES 6-8

The **Ohio Career Connections Framework** suggests students explore their career interests through embedded activities. Career exploration strategies are opportunities for students to discover work environments and understand the various aspects of the workplace. Strategies include tools and instruments that help students understand and appreciate their strengths and interests. Students start plans for their future with career information and postsecondary education data. Plans include course selection and planning as well as career aspirations and goals.

Suggested Activities:

- Workplace visits
- Informational interviews
- Career-related courses
- Career mentorships
- Career research
- Service learning
- Experiential learning



FULL CURRICULUM

EVERFI®
from Blackbaud

Everfi Financial Literacy Course 6-8: This free digital course empowers students to effectively manage their finances, make sound decisions, and become financially responsible. Through a story-based narrative and interactive exercises, students learn to make real-life decisions about their personal finances, as well as how to achieve important goals around saving money, education and career planning, and budgeting.

EVERFI®
from Blackbaud

Everfi Venture Entrepreneurial Expedition Course 7-8: This curriculum is designed to teach students to think entrepreneurially about business and life. Students develop a personalized plan for their individual business, including financing, marketing, team-building, and market research, along with a roadmap for academic and career success. Using case studies, interactive business simulations and personal development activities, this course teaches important basic business skills.

**young
entrepreneur
INSTITUTE**
AT UNIVERSITY SCHOOL

YEI Pitch Challenge: This program contains activities that help kids learn creativity, problem solving, critical thinking, and presentation skills. It teaches kids critical workforce readiness skills and helps develop a mindset for 21st century careers whether or not they become an entrepreneur.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES & CURRICULUM

HIGH SCHOOL GRADES 9-12

High school students are preparing for adulthood, making it essential to deepen their understanding of personal finance, saving for future goals, and learning about career opportunities.

Accounting and entrepreneurship education gives them practical skills for managing finances, understanding business principles, and exploring pathways in the business world, including owning a business or pursuing a career in accounting or finance.

This section includes learning options such as: OSCP Digital Badges, online Learning Activities, Full Curriculum, Industry Recognized Credentials, and additional learning opportunities such as Accounting Career Days and CPA Camp provided by the OSCP specifically designed for high school students.



DIGITAL BADGES



The OSCP now offers FREE mini-courses available to high school students with the option to earn digital badges on a variety of emerging topics such as:

- **AI for Business Efficiency**
- **Data Analysis**
- **Data Visualization**
- **Microsoft Productivity Guru**
- **Business Success Skills**
- **Accounting Scholar**



THE
OHIO SOCIETY
OF CPAs

ADVANCING THE STATE OF BUSINESS

Visit <https://ohiocpa.com/look-beyond> to register!

LEARNING ACTIVITIES & CURRICULUM

HIGH SCHOOL GRADES 9-12

LEARNING ACTIVITIES



Accounting +: Is your guide to a limitless future! More than a website, it is an ecosystem of resources, videos, partners, and modern learning tools focused on accounting.



EconEdLink 9-12 Resources: The go-to-place for K-12 economics and personal finance resources, providing high-quality lesson plans, videos, assessments, & activities.



Future Accountants: Comprehensive resources to learn about the exciting opportunities in the accounting profession.



Intuit Financial Simulations & Intuit Games: High school level-appropriate games plus simulations using TurboTax, Quickbooks, Credit Karma, and Mailchimp. Explore concepts like credit, loans, savings and investments.

Finance Calculators: Use a variety of calculators such as: a simple loan, auto loan, compound interest loan, debt repayment, inflation, savings, student loan, retirement, mortgage or budget calculator.

ProConnect Tax Online for Educators & Students: Those at accredited academic institutions are eligible for a one-year student registration for ProConnect Tax by Intuit. High School students, please have your teacher complete the educator registration first.

Quickbooks Online for Educators: Those at accredited academic institutions are eligible. Complete the form to confirm your eligibility and unlock your free license for QuickBooks Online.



Junior Achievement 9-12 Resources: Free online resources to teachers and parents so our kids can spend more time planning for and dreaming about tomorrow, and less time worrying about today.



Ohio Means Jobs: Students can create a free account, explore career pathways, play career exploration games, learn about themselves and watch career videos. Activities include future budgeting, building a resume, and planning for college and career.



TaxEDU Lessons, Resources & Explainer Videos: Detailed lessons, podcasts, videos, and more on taxation. The animated videos clearly explain how all types of taxes function in an easy-to-understand way.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES & CURRICULUM

HIGH SCHOOL GRADES 9-12

The **Ohio Career Connections Framework** suggests high school students continue career exploration while focusing on career planning. The suggested activities below provide advanced experiences that offer hands-on opportunities in a workplace. Career planning strategies focus on making clear links between career options and educational decisions. Students develop the skills to revisit previous exploration and planning strategies as they face career changes throughout life.

Suggested Activities:

- [College Credit Plus](#)
- Career academies
- [Career pathways](#)
- Advanced academic and technical education
- Career-tech student organizations
- [Industry-recognized credentials](#)
- Student Success Plan
- [Work-based Learning](#)
- Career mentorships
- Pre-apprenticeship programs
- Part-time work
- Service learning
- [OhioMeansJobs K-12](#)



FULL CURRICULUM

EVERFI®

from Blackbaud

Everfi offers a variety of free, high-quality courses for high school students. Select the linked course on the right to explore topics, the number of lessons and duration, skills taught, and aligned state standards.

- [Youth Entrepreneurship \(7-10\)](#)
- [Tax Simulation \(9-12\)](#)
- [Financial Literacy for High School \(9-12\)](#)
- [Accounting Careers: Limitless Opportunities \(9-12\)](#)
- [Investment Education for High School \(9-12\)](#)
- [Minding Your Money Skills for Life \(9-12\)](#)
- [Teaching Data Science for High School \(9-12\)](#)
- [Build Credit Fundamentals \(9-12\)](#)
- [Modern Money \(9-12\)](#)
- [Grow: Financial Planning for Life \(9-12\)](#)
- [Crypto Foundations \(9-12\)](#)

LEARNING ACTIVITIES & CURRICULUM

HIGH SCHOOL GRADES 9-12

FULL CURRICULUM



Entrepreneur Pathway Experience: This program helps students develop real world entrepreneurial skills and an entrepreneurial mindset in an innovative high school classroom setting.



Design for Delight Foundations: This course is a free 8-hour online learning path that students can take at their own pace. The course will help promote creativity, critical thinking, complex problem solving, and collaboration in your classroom. This course is intended for both educators and students to get started with design thinking.

Intuit Financial Readiness: Consists of 13 units of either teacher-led or self-paced personal finance curriculum to teach the skills students need to feel confident as they make financial decisions. It includes a comprehensive, flexible curriculum, and resources to help bring concepts to life in the classroom and throughout adulthood.



JA Inspire: This program exposes students to Central Ohio's jobs, career opportunities, and education pathways while planning their high school coursework with an in-person Career Fair.

JA Financial Literacy: A one-semester, teacher-led course that meets the financial literacy education credit requirement.

JA Company Program: Pop-Up: This program teaches students how to plan, launch, and operate their own business venture within a structured, guided experience.



YEI Pitch Challenge: A simple set of activities that help kids learn creativity, problem solving, critical thinking, and presentation skills. Pitch Challenge teaches kids critical workforce readiness skills and helps develop a mindset for 21st century careers whether or not they become an entrepreneur.

Entrepreneurship Pathway to Workforce Readiness Toolkit: Prepares educators to facilitate 12 one-hour sessions culminating in a pitch event that enables students to demonstrate skills required for an Ohio Means Jobs Readiness Seal. The OMJ Seal is a formal designation students can earn on their high school diplomas and transcripts indicating they have the personal strengths, strong work ethic and professional experience that employers need.

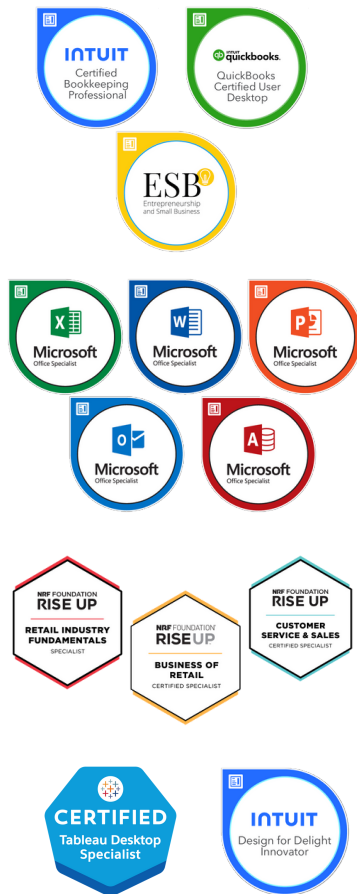
LEARNING ACTIVITIES & CURRICULUM

HIGH SCHOOL GRADES 9-12

INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS



Connecting students to opportunities to earn Industry-Recognized Credentials helps put them on the pathway to graduation and success beyond high school. Examples include the following credentials in accounting, finance, and entrepreneurship with more being added each year:



- **Intuit Certified Bookkeeper (CB)**: Nationally recognized certification that validates bookkeeping skills (3 points).
- **Intuit QuickBooks Certified User**: Industry-recognized certification for students proficient in QuickBooks (3 points).
- **Entrepreneurship and Small Business (ESB) Certification**: Credential for aspiring young entrepreneurs (3 points).
- **Microsoft Office Specialist** (choose from options such as Excel, Powerpoint, Outlook, Word, etc.) (3 points each).
- **RISE Up Retail Certification**: Credentials for Industry Fundamentals, Business of Retail, Customer Service and Sales (6 points each).
- **Tableau Desktop Certified Associate**: Learn how to make business decisions by understanding the business problem, identifying data to explore for analysis, and delivering actionable insights (4 points).
- **Certiport Intuit Design for Delight**: This certification helps individuals validate their knowledge of design thinking principles and the tools needed to identify problems, gain customer empathy, brainstorm solutions, run experiments, test assumptions, pivot, and much more (1 point).

These credentials provide students with valuable skills that will help them excel in their careers. **For more information and additional credentials, please visit the [Ohio Department of Education and Workforce Industry Recognized Credential page](#).**

LEARNING ACTIVITIES & CURRICULUM

HIGH SCHOOL GRADES 9-12



ACCOUNTING CAREER DAYS

Half-day events for high school students held on local college campuses to teach about the accounting major and CPA careers. Local CPAs serve as guest speakers and share insights into the profession. College accounting majors share advice related to transition from high school to college and provide support and guidance.

Visit the [OSCPA website](#) for this year's dates, locations and to register!

FREE OSCP A MEMBERSHIP

High school students can sign-up for a free membership to the Ohio Society of Certified Public Accountants. This allows you to register for free Digital Badging courses, access internship positions, apply for scholarships, and explore endless accounting career opportunities. **Sign-up at <https://ohiocpa.com/look-beyond>.**

CPA SUMMER CAMP

The **Careers in Professional Accounting Camp** (CPA Camp) is an all-expense paid experience for students interested in exploring careers in accounting. Learn how accounting can lead you to career stability, a high salary, and meaningful work. You'll even have the opportunity to earn scholarships.

Visit the [OSCPA website](#) for this year's dates, locations and to register!



CAREER CONNECTIONS

It is never too early to begin exploring the limitless possibilities of one's future!

This section provides current guidance for in-demand and high-paying jobs in accounting, finance, and entrepreneurship. This is the place to explore career pathways, jobs data, and careers.

Which Careers in Ohio Have a Bright Future?



Ohio's accounting, finance, and entrepreneurship sectors are on track for significant growth by 2030. This includes rising demand for professionals such as accountants, auditors, financial analysts, and entrepreneurs, driven by advancements in financial technology and increasing small business opportunities. These fields are essential across all industries, offering students a strong career foundation, even if they're still exploring their future paths.

With the Baby Boomer generation nearing retirement, 50% of Ohio's accounting professionals are expected to retire by 2030, and an additional 25% will retire by 2035. **This will create a critical need for young talent to step into promising leadership roles.**

-  **Accounting & Auditing:** Expected job growth in accounting and auditing across various industries in Ohio will bring over 50,000 employed professionals by 2030 earning a median salary of \$75,550. Accountants and auditors are employed in all industries and in all parts of the state, country and world!
-  **Treasurers & Controllers:** These professionals direct financial activities like planning, procurement, and investment and their roles are projected to grow by 16% by 2030. Median salaries in this field in Ohio are \$131,610, with over 22,000 positions employed.
-  **Financial Examiners:** With a projected growth rate in Ohio of 19% through 2030 and a median salary of \$66,620, these roles are increasingly crucial as businesses navigate evolving economic landscapes and investment opportunities.
-  **Fraud Examiners, Investigators, and Analysts:** This exciting sector of the accounting profession is growing by 5% with over 16,000 employed and a median salary in Ohio of \$83,610. Fraud professionals obtain evidence, take statements, produce reports, and testify to findings regarding fraud allegations.
-  **Entrepreneurship:** In 2023, there were 148,623 small business applications in Ohio alone. Small businesses employ nearly half of America's workforce and contribute 43.5% of the nation's GDP, underscoring the entrepreneurial opportunities available to the next generation. A strong accounting foundation (or finding a good accountant!) is critical to maintain a successful business.

Data sourced from:

<https://topjobs.ohio.gov/top-jobs-list/overview>

<https://www.onetonline.org/link/localtrends/13-2011.00?st=OH>

<https://www.uschamber.com/small-business/small-business-data-center>

CAREER CONNECTIONS

Exciting Career Examples

There is no one description that can fully capture what a career in accounting looks like. Accountants work in a variety of roles in all industries, and in every city, state, and in every country. Visit <https://www.joinaccountingplus.com/career> to create a free account and explore more.

accounting+

BUSINESS OWNER
ENTREPRENEUR

RUN YOUR OWN BUSINESS
Because accounting is often considered the **language of business**, there's something about a career in accounting that makes owning your own business **more attainable**.

Accounting is like **boot camp for entrepreneurs**, understanding how money works, where it goes is critical for business owners.

Estimated net worth:
\$47.7 billion
AKA... the 24th richest person in the world!

COMMUNITY LEADER
NOT-FOR-PROFIT

HELP YOUR COMMUNITY
Not-for-profit organizations need funding, planning, and allocation of resources to operate and **help members of our communities**.

Perks: Work with organizations that are **making a difference**, be a part of something bigger and **do what you love** using skills that suit you.

ZeNai Brooks, CPA
Executive Director | Indiana Democratic Party

EARTH LOVER
ESG: ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL & (CORPORATE) GOVERNANCE

MAKE AN IMPACT
As companies are starting to take a more significant look at how **their business impacts the environment**. Accountants are becoming a popular choice to help **analyze and report** on these ESG (environmental, social and governance) areas.

You can help companies think about their impact with your accounting skills!

FRAUD DETECTOR
FORENSIC ACCOUNTING

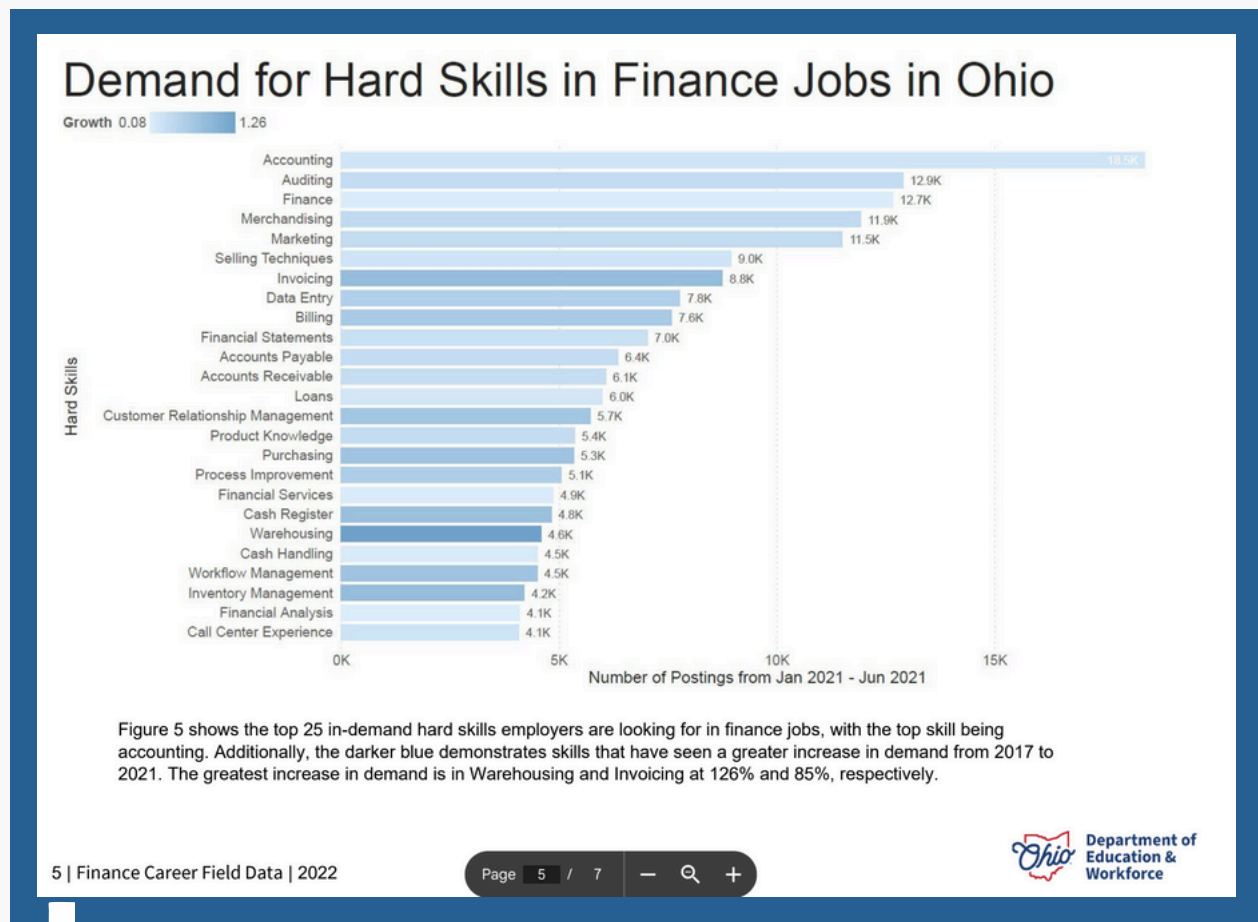
SOLVE FINANCIAL CRIMES
Forensic accountants are responsible for **following the money** and helping **solve financial mysteries**.

Perks: Work with organizations to help minimize and **prevent loss**, use your inquisitive skills, help **catch the 'bad guys'**.

FBI employs 2,000+ accounting special agents

CAREER CONNECTIONS

In-Demand Skills





Count on Your Future!



For more information, email:
foundation@ohiocpa.com or visit
www.ohiocpa.com/look-beyond