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3-7-1975

# Accounting majors continue in demand

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### **Recommended Citation**

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations, "Accounting majors continue in demand" (1975). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present.* 23985. https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases/23985

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#### MISSOULA--

The number of bachelor level offers to college graduates majoring in accounting increased 13 percent, and demands in the humanities and social sciences also recorded small gains over the past year, although the volume in the latter two areas was limited and increases in both disciplines probably could be traced to the stepped-up recruiting of women, according to Dr. Don Hjelmseth, director of the Career Planning & Placement Services (CPPS) at the University of Montana in Missoula.

The CPPS is a participating institution in the National Salary Survey conducted by the College Placement Council. The data released by Hjelmseth was compiled by the council for its second report of the year.

Reversing the trend of recent years, the volume of offers to engineering candidates is down at both the bachelor's degree and master's degree levels, Hjelmseth said. For all curricula, bachelor's degree volume dropped 2 percent from last March. The decrease might have been even greater except for a substantial number of accounting offers and increased volume of women candidates. On the other hand, total volume was up 5 percent at the master's degree and doctoral levels.

Although no doctoral offers for women were reported in the fields surveyed, the master's volume for women was up 51 percent, while the bachelor's volume rose 12 percent. Nevertheless, women's offers still made up only 11 percent of the bachelor's total and 10 percent of the master's total.

At the bachelor's level, two engineering disciplines withstood the downward trend in volume. Civil engineering rose 18 percent over last March, while chemical engineering rose 7 percent. The number of offers in agricultural sciences more than doubled since March of 1974, Hjelmseth said.

#### ACCOUNTING MAJORS CONTINUE IN DEMAND--page 2

In the dollar average of bachelor's offers, the pattern was erratic, Hjelmseth said. In a number of cases those disciplines with increases in volume experienced smaller gains, or even decreases, in dollar averages. Conversely, some disciplines with declines in volume showed the largest gains in dollar averages.

Despite its heavy volume, accounting at \$987 advanced only about 7 percent since last July, as did general business at \$855. Agricultural sciences at \$792 showed a gain of less than 1 percent and social sciences dropped 4 percent to \$705.

"The College Placement Council Survey, now in its 15th year, is based on offers, not acceptances, made to college students in selected curricula, and graduate programs during the normal recruiting period, September to June," Hjelmseth said. Data is submitted on an ongoing basis by 156 colleges and universities throughout the United States. Three reports are issued each year--in January, March and July.

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