

ROBSON / LAIDLER

ACCOUNTANTS



Want to know more
about becoming an
accountant?

www.robson-laidler.co.uk/careers

**You could be a fully qualified
accountant within just 6 years**
Let us show you how...





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What is an accountant?

An accounting career is more than just crunching numbers on a spreadsheet. It's both challenging and rewarding where you get to make a real impact to the businesses you work with.

As an accountant you'll be building real relationships with your clients, working across a range of different sectors, and getting to know their business goals.

What doors can accountancy open?

1 in 5 CEOs of FTSE 100 firms started their career in accounting, making accounting a great foundation to your career and your long-term goals.

Accountancy qualifications are also recognised worldwide, opening up a broad range of opportunities.

Sometimes you'll get the opportunity to travel across the country to meet with clients, as well as attend networking and trade events.

Career paths into accountancy

The AAT (Association of Accounting Technicians) route provides you with everything you need to succeed in accountancy. It is a three year course and Robson Laidler will pay for your study with the AAT provider which usually involves visiting the provider one day per week. For the rest of the week you will be at the office being paid a salary to work and gain experience as an accountant in an accountancy firm. AAT is an internationally recognised organisation and you end up with a degree-equivalent qualification.

In comparison, the University route is a three year degree. Most universities offer degrees in accountancy. You would then apply for jobs at an accountancy firm or in Industry.



Higher Apprenticeship Route

6 years work experience
No student debt

Study ACA/ACCA

Study AAT

Study AAT

University Route

3 years work experience
student debt

Study ACA/ACCA

University Degree





Types Of Roles In Accountancy

In Industry

When you are considering a career in accountancy, there are generally two different roles you may consider. Being an accountant 'In Industry' is working for a business such as Nissan or Northumbrian Water and helping to prepare their accounts.

In Practice

Being an accountant 'In Practice' is where you work in an accountancy firm, such as Robson Laidler, doing work for a wide range of clients from a local hairdresser to a multi-national corporation.

Both options provide a range of different opportunities for you to build and develop your skills and knowledge whilst learning the fundamentals of accountancy.



Your Journey As A Trainee

- **Junior:** You'll be learning the ropes from preparing bank reconciliations and analysing client's manual records into cloud-based software to preparing small company accounts.
- **Semi senior:** You'll be proactively demonstrating your skills by preparing the majority of bookkeeping and annual work for small companies and charities autonomously.
- **Senior:** When you become a senior, you will be completing more technical accounts work including cash flow statements and consolidated group accounts. You will also be responsible in providing the juniors and semi-seniors with training and ensuring your knowledge is passed on effectively.
- **Assistant manager:** An assistant manager's role is to look after a number of the smaller clients which is a stepping stone towards management.
- **Manager:** In this role, you'll be responsible for a portfolio of clients and will stay in contact with these clients, recognising and responding to their business needs and provide quality advice on all accounting related issues.



Did you know?...

Janet Jackson and Mick Jagger studied to be an accountant.

David Ross the British entrepreneur who started Carphone Warehouse qualified as an accountant before he became a billionaire.

Beyond Numbers



We believe in nurturing talent within our firm, meaning there is real career progression, in fact most of directors are our own home-grown talent.

As a trainee accountant you'll hit the ground running by helping real people achieve their business goals and make their dreams a reality.

Whether you're helping an entrepreneur gain a better understanding of their finances, guiding a start-up business to their first million pound, or working with a large global firm with offices across the world, you'll be the person guiding companies through every step of their

financial journey.

Business owners will rely on the quality and accuracy of the financial data and advice you give them to allow them to make business decisions.

Because you'll be working with a wide range of clients, across a multitude of industries, you'll have the unique opportunity to see what makes businesses tick, and what causes failure.

This will enable you with time to spot patterns and see round corners, so you can help business owners avoid costly mistakes they may be blind to.



Why Choose Robson Laidler?

Robson Laidler is over 100 years old! And therefore has a solid reputation in the North East business scene.

Unlike the 'Big 4' accountancy firms who tend to specialise in larger businesses, Robson Laidler's size and structure allows us to work with both smaller startups, right the way through to large scale enterprises. This means you'll get to work with a wide and diverse client range and broaden your experience. We also specialize in healthcare, working with doctors, dentists and GPs, as well as charities

and the not for profit sector.

We currently have two office locations in Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne and Chester-Le-Street, County Durham, with plans to expand to other locations in the future as we grow our team and client base.

Our team is made up of ambitious people from various backgrounds who specialise across a multitude of sectors. We also place strong emphasis on values and a company culture, making a positive working experience for all.

“Attitude
determines
altitude”

Zig Zigler
American author, salesman, and
motivational speaker



What We Look For

Your progression with us isn't just dependent on your technical abilities as an accountant.

At Robson Laidler, your progression is also based on attitude and continued demonstration of our values.

Our values are:

- To Create Real Connections
- To Leave a Positive Impact
- Seek Greatness Every Day
- Encourage Curiosity and Change

Soft Skills Required

As well as technical skills, and a positive attitude, there are a number of soft skills you'll need to develop in order to be successful as an accountant, including:

- Strong verbal & written communication
- Problem solving
- Self-motivation
- Rapport building
- Timeliness
- Decisiveness
- Teamwork
- Time management
- Working under pressure
- Collaboration & leadership
- Listening & note taking
- Adaptability



What We Can Offer You

- Training webinars
- Team development days
- Access to professional subscriptions

Social:

- Networking opportunities
- Client entertainment nights
- Annual Christmas party
- Social activities after work

Wider impact:

- 1 paid volunteer day per year to do something that means something to you
- Be part of our own Community Foundation, where we give regular donations to local charities
- Make an impact with our B1G1 initiative, where we support charitable causes around the globe through our daily business activities

Want to be part of something bigger?

Robson Laidler were named the first B-Corp in the North East. Our B-Corp certification means Robson Laidler are committed to ensuring we balance purpose and profit, with a business purpose of making a positive impact to people's lives.



Salary & Progression

- Transparent salary with the ability to increase it with exam success
- Develop your career further with a defined career pathway

Work life balance:

- Flexible working hours
- Agile working allowing you to work from home up to 40% of the week
- Your birthday off each year
- 20-25 days holidays plus bank holidays

Wellbeing:

Wellbeing: We have a Wellbeing Policy with numerous health activities and campaigns throughout the year including a running and walking club, Bike to Work Scheme and daily free fruit.

Continued Professional Development:

- Funded training worth over £20,000
- Study support & study leave to prepare for exams



Day in the life of an accountant

"No day as an accountant is typically the same, which is one of the best things about the job.

When in the office, the day usually begins with going through your emails and setting out a list of tasks to complete that day.

These tasks differ from client to client, but it will all come down to the end goal of producing a set of either audited or unaudited accounts.

We often go out to visit our client's premises, particularly when carrying out audits as we can gather information more easily.

Going out to a client is an excellent way to understand their business and what it entails, it is also great to have some interaction away from the usual office environment."

Charlotte Boyle, trainee accountant

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Message From Our Managing Director Graham Purvis

“We welcome candidates from any background or experience to join us on our training programmes. We can guarantee you a rewarding and enriching journey through accountancy where you will learn first-hand the positive impact accountants and advisors can make to their clients lives. We believe in nurturing talent from within and giving all our people a fulfilling and life-long career pathway with our Firm.”

Next Steps

To join us send your CV and covering letter to:
recruitment@robson-laidler.co.uk

<https://www.robson-laidler.co.uk/careers/#jobs>



ROBSON / LAIDLER

Fernwood House
Fernwood Road
Jesmond
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE2 1TJ

Tel: 0191 281 8191



Mains House,
143 Front Street
Chester-le-Street
County Durham
DH3 3AU

Tel: 0191 388 3377

