

Tax Auditor

Open a company's books and work out whether the tax return tells the truth.

TYPICAL PAY

\$84,000

a year, full time

PAY RANGE

\$52k to \$149k

starting to experienced

TIME TO QUALIFY

4 to 5 years

after high school

DEMAND

Moderate

job outlook

LICENCE NEEDED

No

anyone can do it

WHERE YOU WORK

**Canada Revenue Agency offices,
provincial tax offices, accounting...**

How you get there

- 1 High school diploma** Grade 12 math is essential. Accounting or business courses give you a head start. Grade 12
- 2 Bachelor's degree** Accounting, commerce, business administration or economics with enough accounting credits to meet hiring requirements. 4 years
- 3 Co-op or student term** The CRA (Canada Revenue Agency) and provincial finance ministries hire students, and it is the easiest door in. During your degree
- 4 Apply and be assessed** Written tests, an interview, reference checks and a security clearance through the GC Jobs (Government of Canada Jobs) system. 6 to 12 months
- 5 Training on the job** New auditors get months of formal tax training before running their own files. First 1 to 2 years

Pros and cons

- + Strong pension and real job security
- + No tax-season death march like public accounting
- + Training is paid for and thorough
- People genuinely dislike what you do for a living
- Bureaucracy, quotas and slow internal processes
- Long files that drag on for a year or more

Good to know

Canada relies on you telling the truth

Canada's income tax system is built on self-assessment: you calculate what you owe and the government checks a sample. Audit exists precisely because that only works if some returns get looked at.

Computers pick the files

Modern tax administrations select most audits by running risk models over large data sets rather than at random. Auditors increasingly need data skills, not just accounting.

Optional boosts

Chartered Professional Accountant designation. In-depth tax training. Data analytics. Bilingualism.

Where these numbers come from

Job Bank: Tax auditor, wages (updated Nov 2025)

Canada Revenue Agency: Careers

Government of Canada: GC Jobs and how to apply

Numbers checked September 2026. Pay figures are typical full-time annual amounts in Canadian dollars, based on Government of Canada Job Bank wage data and published salary grids. They vary by province, employer and experience. Tuition is for domestic students. Sources, links and the click-through version: <https://career.help/ca/careers/tax-auditor>



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