## **CPA**

## Practice **Advisor**

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Aug. 08, 2017

U.S. audit, tax and advisory firm KPMG LLP has announced expansion of its KPMG Master of Accounting with Data and Analytics Program, a one-of-a-kind and award-winning initiative developed to prepare accounting students for the digital marketplace.

The expansion of the program increases the number of participating schools from two to nine, and increases the number of students from 51 to 135 who will receive full tuition, other support and KPMG job offers upon graduation. The expansion also includes a tax component at one of the new schools in the program.

"KPMG's expanded investment in the data and analytics program demonstrates the firm's commitment to the future of the audit and tax professions," said Frank Casal, KPMG's U.S. Vice Chair – Audit. "We're pleased to include prestigious institutions who share this focus and are equally passionate about their students building advanced skills in accounting, tax and data analytics that they can bring into the marketplace."

In August 2016, KPMG disrupted the education and recruiting experience for the audit profession by collaborating with the Ohio State University Max M. Fisher College of Business and the Villanova School of Business to launch the KPMG Master of Accounting with Data and Analytics Program. Fifty-one students were accepted to the program and will begin their studies at those two schools in the fall of 2017.

KPMG's program provides each school with access to proprietary KPMG technologies that integrate easily into its academic programs. KPMG will increase the program's

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## Schools joining the program include:

- Arizona State University's W. P. Carey School of Business
- Baylor University's Hankamer School of Business
- The University of Georgia's Terry College of Business
- The University of Mississippi's Patterson School of Accountancy
- The University of Missouri's Robert J. Trulaske, Sr. College of Business
- The University of Southern California, Leventhal School of Accounting
- Virginia Tech's Pamplin College of Business

The University of Mississippi's Patterson School of Accountancy will integrate the program into its Master of Accountancy and Master of Taxation degrees.

The program's expansion to Baylor University's Hankamer School of Business will focus on incorporating KPMG technology and proprietary audit tools into the school's Master of Accounting curriculum, allowing KPMG to further broaden the scope of student education through technology investments.

Globally, KPMG International's Ireland member firm launched a similar program in March with the National University Ireland Galway, and its South Africa member firm is piloting a program at the University of Witwatersrand. Several other KPMG member firms are also pursuing additional similar relationships in their respective countries.

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