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Audit Gateway Program Prepares Students for Careers with the Wisconsin Department of Revenue

The Wisconsin Department of Revenue's Audit Gateway Program began a new academic year earlier this month. The multi-year training program prepares accounting students for careers as Revenue Auditors in the agency's Division of Income, Sales & Excise Tax.

Launched in 2021, the Audit Gateway Program is designed for individuals who have an associate degree in accounting, are enrolled in an accredited college or university pursuing a bachelor's degree in accounting and wish to obtain on-the-job experience with the goal of becoming a full-time auditor upon graduation.

Selected candidates receive tuition assistance for up to three years (or six consecutive semesters) toward the completion of a four-year degree in accounting. DOR pays the students' tuition, laboratory costs, books, and fee expenses up to \$5,000 per semester or a maximum of \$10,000 per fiscal year. Individuals accepted into the Audit Gateway Program learn tax laws and auditing techniques while working full-time when classes are on break, and full- to part-time when classes are in session. Students are eligible for up to six hours of study time per week during their work hours if they work 35 hours a week or more while in school.

"The Gateway Program is an amazing jumpstart for a wonderful career working for the Wisconsin Department of Revenue," said Brian Janicki, Tax Representative 3 and current Gateway Auditor Program participant. "With the flex schedule...it allows you to continue your education, earning a bachelor's degree in accounting. This also allows you to be able to work at the same time, gaining experience." Janicki enthusiastically praised the combination of real-world experience, tuition reimbursement, work-life balance and benefits offered by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue.

Five students graduated from the inaugural class, with an additional four graduating from this year's class on May 8. All have accepted auditing positions at DOR. Individuals interested in applying for next year's program should watch for the job announcement on wisc.jobs, with a posting date expected in December 2024.

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