

James Jones, CPA - Principal



James has always aimed to gain a working knowledge of unfamiliar subjects and acquire the skills necessary to produce results. This constant drive for learning eventually led him from the field of graphic design and management into the field of Accounting and Finance where he went on to obtain his licensure as a Certified Public Accountant (CPA). Most recently, it has led him into The University of Iowa's Tippie College of Business Professional MBA Program where he is pursuing a Master's in Business Administration (MBA) with a focus in Accounting and Finance.

Throughout his accounting career, James has helped a variety of clients with many different aspects of their accounting needs. He welcomes the opportunity to build longstanding relationships with those whom he serves, and has found helping small to mid-sized business achieve financial stability and growth both intellectually and personally satisfying. James brings extensive knowledge and proven capabilities in period-end close, financial statement preparation, account reconciliation, internal controls, accounting information systems, and financial analysis to the CFO Advantage team. His industry knowledge ranges from construction to design, manufacturing to healthcare, and retail to not-for-profit organizations.

With experience in both public and private accounting, as well as volunteer services, James is dedicated to helping clients achieve their larger goals, while managing their day-to-day accounting needs. He thrives on opportunities to find solutions to complex problems that impact business performance. While applying analytical skills and creative thinking, James is constantly seeking to identify potential areas of improvement and to implement solutions that minimize costs and increase efficiencies.

James and his wife, Julia, have been residents of Des Moines since 2012, and they enjoy many interests and activities together outside of work including music, cycling, swimming, running, hiking and traveling.

Professional Experience:

- CliftonLarsonAllen – Outsourcing Staff Accountant and Tax Associate: 2014 – 2017
- Schneider Graphics – Graphics Installation Technician: 2012
- Zephyr Graphics – Department Manager and Graphic Designer: 2010 – 2011
- Iowa Army National Guard – Avionics Communication Equipment Repair: 2005 – 2011

Professional Certifications and Designations:

- Certified Public Accountant (CPA): Iowa Board of Accountancy (2017)

Education:

- Masters of Business Administration – Candidate:
 - University of Iowa, Tippie College of Business (2017 – Present)
- Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Accounting - Equivalent:
 - Simpson College (2014)
- Associate of Science in Accounting:
 - Des Moines Area Community College (2013)
- Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art – Graphic Design:
 - The University of Iowa (2006 – 2010)

Community and Industry Involvement:

- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) – Member: 2014 – Present
- Iowa Society of CPAs (ISCPA) – Member: 2014 – Present
- Des Moines West Side Chamber of Commerce – Ambassador and Member: 2017 – Present
- Central Iowa Trails Association – Member: 2016 – Present
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Clinic (VITA) – Volunteer: 2014