



ACCOUNTING CAREER AWARENESS PROGRAM (ACAP)

VARIOUS LEARNING STYLES

One way to help you better understand and remember the information you're getting is by playing to your specific learning style. There are three distinct major learning styles: **auditory** (hearing), **visual** (seeing) and **kinesthetic** (doing). Understanding more about each of these styles and various methods for accommodating them will increase your ability to learn/comprehend. They can help a facilitator work smarter—without necessarily working harder—to share new information with you.

VISUAL LEARNERS:

Visual learners gravitate toward things they can see, such as diagrams, flip-charts, films and handouts. Visual learners say things like, 'show me' or ask if they 'can have a look' at something. These are the people who first like to read the instructions before they dig in or watch someone else do it. Tapping into a visual learner's mind's eye can be done by:

- Creating checklists of tasks or information needed for exams
- Using flashcards to review and help remember new information
- Drawing pictures to explain concepts
- Asking students to close their eyes to envision information (such as a math problem or how a process works)
- Using maps, charts, animations, etc. to organize materials
- Creating a system of organization through color coding
- Writing big ideas or important notes down on the chalkboard
- Rearranging and organizing flashcards to display a correct order or sequence
- Formatting handouts with various font sizes and styles to show hierarchy
- Having students use symbols to replace words in their notes whenever possible

AUDITORY LEARNERS

Auditory learners can be pretty vocal. They prefer to use their ears to receive information. This could be through hearing themselves and others talk, or other noises or sounds. They do best when hearing from the expert on a topic and will say things such as, 'tell me more about it' or ask if they 'can talk it over' with you. Help an auditory learner really hear you by:

- Having conversations about the material, either one-on-one or as a class
- Reading material aloud, either done in chunks by the students or all by the facilitator
-
- Recording lectures to playback later
- Having students explain newly learned information to each other
- Creating a rhythm or song out of the information and rehearse it regularly
- Using word association, such as mnemonic devices, to help with memory
- Studying with a buddy so information can be said, heard and discussed
- Asking questions about concepts so students can explain it in their own words
- Prompting students to record themselves reviewing material for playback
- Having students create oral presentations to show comprehension

KINESTHETIC LEARNERS

Kinesthetic learners crave a hands-on approach. These tactile learners are all about touching, doing, feeling and experiencing. They prefer to be immersed in the subject matter and might say things like 'let me try' or want to express how they feel about a topic. These doers tend to jump right in and learn as they go. Kinesthetic learners can more easily pick up what you're putting down by:

- Using role playing or acting to increase comprehension and memory
- Envisioning themselves as a character or somehow interacting with the information (i.e., "being" the auditor responsible for finding errors in a client's books)
- Using body movements (i.e., snapping, clapping, dancing or mouthing) while reciting information
- Taking field trips, both physical and virtual
- Using real-life examples to explain concepts
- Creating and playing games based on information or concepts being taught
- Taking notes as material is being taught for the first time
- Organizing their notes using different pens, markers and highlighters
- Taking in information in ways that utilize all of their senses
- Tracing words, maps or other diagrams as a way of internalizing information

Consider various ways to complete an assignment. Would you rather give a presentation? Create a collage that you can walk the class through? Work as a group to solve a problem and make a video explaining it? Write an essay or song? Or simply take a traditional multiple-choice test? You could even come up with your own ideas for ways to show your comprehension.

RANKING: Rank (1, 2, or 3) each of the three (3) learning styles:

1. Learning style most effective for me:

2. Next most effective learning style for me:

3. Least effective to facilitate my learning/comprehension:
