

Rising Star

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Cecilly Deorocki
Tax Associate
tonneson + co

What drew you to the accounting profession?

Originally in school for entrepreneurship, I switched my major after my first financial accounting class. My professor told us about all the different opportunities through the MSCPA and the various career paths that were possible through public and private accounting, as well as through accounting education. This, compounded with the community support that I experienced through the MSCPA and AICPA, as well as the profession’s interest in increasing diversity and inclusion, is why I chose a career in accounting.

How did receiving a scholarship through the MSCPA Educational Foundation impact your career?

Not only did it help me pay for my education, but it also put me in touch with tonneson + co during the reception. I hit it off with the firm’s representatives during this event, which led to an internship during my final year at school, and ultimately to my current position. Through the MSCPA Educational Foundation, I found a firm that I believe I truly fit with.

How are you preparing to take the CPA Exam?

I’m an early bird and like to wake up on the earlier side to study, knowing I won’t be able to retain information as well after the workday.

What advice do you have for students majoring in accounting?

Get involved with the accounting

community! Accounting can be an isolating major. Being a member of my school’s accounting association, working as an accounting research assistant and attending MSCPA events helped me feel more connected to the accounting major and hear from other like-minded students and professionals. Also, research the many accounting scholarships with the MSCPA and AICPA, as these can help lighten the burden of paying for your degree.

How has tonneson + co helped you in your career development?

I have pitched ideas about soft skills platforms and progressing business development in teams with members from every level of the firm, from associates to shareholders. I have also been personally invited to events by shareholders who are invested in developing my networking skills. This multi-level exposure and inclusion provides me with the opportunity to grow professionally.

In 10 years, I hope to be:

A CPA, a mother, an author and in a more impactful position to help others.

Favorite cause/charity:

I am heavily invested in supporting animal rights groups like People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), as well as supporting the work of animal shelters domestically and abroad – including the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) in Australia. ♦



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