

8 things an accounting adviser can do for you

Painting a clearer picture of accounting

We understand that accounting and financial reporting questions can arise at any time and require prompt attention. On-call accounting services provide you with access to support with accounting or financial reporting matters when you need it the most. The services are flexible and scalable as applicable to your circumstances. Here are eight things an effective accounting adviser may do for you as part of on-call accounting services.



Deloitte's on-call accounting offering provides accounting advisory services that enhance confidence in organizations accounting decisions by proactively navigating and addressing complexities as they arise from ever-changing internal, and external, business environments.

1. Bring an experienced perspective

Every day, preparers face complex scenarios that present challenges in determining proper accounting. Accounting advisers can utilize their deep and diverse experience as specialists across industries, for both public and private organizations, to advise you as you reach an informed accounting conclusion. They can also evaluate the accounting impacts of potential arrangements and present alternative approaches to help you structure your transactions with the intent of achieving preferred accounting results.

2. Lead an open dialogue

Using an accounting adviser allows you to have open, early-stage conversations about the accounting consequences of various potential future transaction structures, accounting models for current or historical transactions, or other topics that you might not feel ready to discuss yet with your independent auditor. Openly working through table-setting discussions like these can help you develop multi-pronged supporting arguments for your positions.

3. Explain the nuances of accounting guidance

Many non-finance leaders want to understand the rationale behind the accounting impacts of their strategic decisions. Accounting advisers can help you educate them on the nuances of complex accounting guidance, putting you in a better position to succeed in communicating those impacts, as well as advising as you prepare high-quality work products and policy memos.

4. Advocate for a chosen approach

After helping you choose your approach to an accounting issue, an accounting adviser can join you in discussions with your independent auditor to assist with articulating and supporting your positions. Your adviser can help you speak the auditor's language, present your conclusion and the rationale behind it, and help your auditor understand your perspective.

5. Examine alternative angles

In some situations, companies short on time and internal resources may take the path of least resistance when reaching accounting conclusions, even if they suspect an alternative path may be preferable. Preparers of financial reports running low on time or manpower might not be inclined to go through the effort of an accelerated implementation of the new standard. Working with an accounting adviser allows you the opportunity to have someone on your side who will advise you as you work to achieve the preferred accounting treatment.

6. Address problematic issues early

A problematic accounting issue isn't addressed early enough or with the appropriate amount of effort. You scramble to put together an analysis at the last minute, throw it over to your independent auditor and cross your fingers that it passes. Using an accounting adviser to help evaluate the implications of complex transactions can lead to earlier identification and resolution of issues, helping you avoid last-minute problems with your independent auditor.

7. Improve internal controls

Internal controls are an important part of how an accounting department functions and how it's evaluated. A company's independent auditor assesses whether an entity's internal controls are well-designed, properly implemented, and operating effectively. Bringing in an accounting adviser is a step toward assessing that they are. An accounting adviser can also help you evaluate your control environment, and help you align the processes you have in place with the relevant internal control framework.

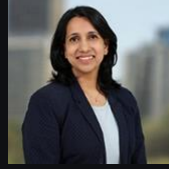
8. Improve audit readiness

With the assistance of an accounting adviser, you may increase your ability to provide the company's independent auditors with a thorough and comprehensive analysis for them to independently evaluate your positions taken. Accounting advisory services may help to provide a company confidence that their approaches to complex accounting issues are sound.

Contact us



Soter Tiong
Partner
+61 3 9671 8195
stiong@deloitte.com.au



Indrani Pal
Partner
+61 2 9322 5103
ipal@deloitte.com.au



Russell Coleman
Partner
+61 2 9322 7793
ruscoleman@deloitte.com.au



Megan Strydom
Partner
+61 8 9365 8012
megstrydom@deloitte.com.a

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