To: Fall 2020 Intermediate Accounting I (ACTG 3110) Students

From: Jeannie Harrington, Chair, Department of Accounting

Date: May 20, 2020

Re: Update to the April 2, 2020 memo regarding the Intermediate Accounting I entrance requirement for Fall 2020 semester

In the April 2, 2020 memo, we shared that due to the ever-evolving circumstances resulting from the Coronavirus, we were unable to definitively outline the entrance requirement process for Fall 2020 semester and promised to do so by July 1, 2020. We are pleased to provide those details via this updated May 20, 2020 memo.

As specified in the MTSU undergraduate catalog, all students enrolling in ACTG 3110 must achieve a passing grade on a departmental admission exam. Through this requirement, we continue to make progress towards our goal of ensuring students are adequately prepared for Intermediate Accounting I, because students complete the Principles of Accounting II prerequisite via a variety of different curricula at a variety of different schools.

Every semester since Spring 2007, students have met the entrance requirement in one of the following two ways:

1) scored 70 percent or higher on the entrance exam administered on campus prior to the beginning of the semester; or

2) scored less than 70 percent on the entrance exam administered on campus prior to the beginning of the semester and subsequently completed ALEKS® (Financial Accounting: Accounting Cycle/Corporation), which is an interactive online learning system that assesses a student’s beginning knowledge level and then offers instruction, based on the assessment, to bring the student to the appropriate knowledge level.

Note: The first offering of the entrance exam has always been at least six weeks prior to the beginning of the semester to allow ACTG 3110 students to determine whether ALEKS® completion would be required in order to meet the entrance requirement.

We now know that all summer courses at MTSU are being offered via the online format only. The Intermediate Readiness Committee has determined it to be inappropriate to administer the exam on campus during the summer months. With both your physical health and your academic preparedness in mind, the entrance requirement for Fall 2020 ACTG 3110 enrollment will be met by all students via successful completion of ALEKS® (Financial Accounting: Accounting Cycle/Corporation) by 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 27, 2020. The entrance exam will not be administered for Fall 2020 enrollment in ACTG 3110.
All students enrolled in ACTG 3110 during Fall 2020 semester MUST COMPLETE ALEKS® (Financial Accounting: Accounting Cycle/Corporation) by 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 27, 2020, unless they met the entrance requirement as part of the ACTG 3110 curriculum during Spring 2020 semester.

The Intermediate Readiness Committee, based on more than 13 years of feedback from students, is confident that Fall 2020 students will find benefit in this review of the financial accounting cycle; in addition, many previous students have reported enjoying completing the module. We want you to succeed in ACTG 3110, and we believe this is an acceptable change in the entrance policy for Fall 2020 that both meets the needs of the times and of our students.

Upon request to Ms. Foote at Rebecca.Foote@mtsu.edu, a student enrolled in ACTG 3110 will be provided an access code for ALEKS®, the access code will be paid for by the Department of Accounting. The time requirement to complete the online module ranges from approximately five hours to 45 hours, averaging approximately 18 hours.

A student who does not successfully complete the entrance requirement by 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 27, 2020, will be given the option of withdrawing from the course for the semester or remaining in ACTG 3110 for the duration of the semester and earning a semester grade of F or FA (determined by the student’s attendance history in ACTG 3110 during Fall 2020 semester). In the event that a student chooses to remain enrolled in ACTG 3110 after failing to meet the entrance requirement by the deadline of 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 27, 2020, no assignments or tests will be graded from that point forward. Completion of the entrance requirement for enrollment in ACTG 3110 during Fall 2020 semester will be valid through Spring 2021 semester.

Please contact Ms. Foote with any questions you have regarding the Intermediate Accounting I entrance requirement. Her contact information is provided immediately below.

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