The accounting profession has grown due to the increased complexity, size, and number of businesses and the frequent changes in the tax laws. Accounting is now a $95 billion-plus industry. The more than 1.4 million accountants in the United States are classified as either public accountants or private (corporate) accountants. They work in public accounting firms, private industry, education, and government, and about 10 percent are self-employed. These number games raised serious concerns about the quality of earnings and questions about the validity of financial reports. Investors discovered to their dismay that they could neither assume that auditors were adequately monitoring their clients’ accounting methods nor depend on the integrity of published financial information. The accounting profession will face significant changes in the next three decades, and professional organizations, their members, and educational institutions should respond. The three changes—evolving smart and digital technology, continued globalization of reporting/disclosure standards, and new forms of regulation—are major challenges for the profession. Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) research Drivers of Change and Future Skills has explored these important changes, expected to be encountered by the year 2025. Environmental issues. Because of the widespread stakeholder concern and associated regulations toward social and environmental considerations, contemporary organizations are facing challenges to find. Accounting as a Profession. Traditional sociological accounts held that the professions were a distinct class of occupations recognizable by their traits (e.g. use of codes of ethics, self-regulation, systems of education and credentialing) and their reliance on specialized and arcane knowledge. This approach however runs into difficulty when occupational groups who are not commonly held to be professions (e.g. hairdressers) begin to adopt the same traits as the classic professions and when differences in the knowledge underlying practice is recognized such as when the scientific basis of medi