

# **Accounting Assistant**

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**Accounting Assistant** 

# **Competent Department**

Steuerberaterkammer Niedersachsen

### **Basic information**

Commercial bookkeeping assistants are external service providers who offer assistance in the area of commercial bookkeeping. In principle, they are forbidden to provide any kind of so-called assistance in tax matters, i.e. any kind of bookkeeping with regard to tax-relevant issues. This activity is only permitted to persons who are authorised to provide unlimited assistance in tax matters, i.e. tax consultants, auditors, tax agents, sworn auditors and lawyers.

### Examples of prohibited activities:

- Representation of third parties in dealings with the tax authorities
- Preparation of tax returns for third parties
- Preparation of annual financial statements
- Preparation of advance turnover tax returns

#### Examples of permitted activities:

- purely mechanical entry of current transactions (document sorting)
- Transfer to a cash book
- data entry of prepared accounting documents (cash book, bank statements)

Only with commercial training and after having worked in accounting for at least three years:

Account assignment

- · Payroll accounting
- Creation of wage tax registrations

Commercial accountants must report their activities to the competent trade office and are subject to trade supervision. Their activities also lead to a membership in the responsible Chamber of Industry and Commerce.

# **Procedure**

# **Legal bases**

• § 6 Steuerberatungsgesetz (StBerG)

## **More information**

Further information is available from the Chambers of Industry and Commerce