



# EDDY PALMER

## STAFF ACCOUNTANT PARENTEBEARD LLC

Q: WHAT WAS THE FIRST CAREER MOVE YOU MADE AFTER GRADUATING?

A: After graduating Messiah I joined ParenteBeard, a large regional public accounting firm as a staff accountant specializing in audit and assurance services for mid-market manufacturing, technology, and construction companies in central Pennsylvania. The firm is headquartered out of Philadelphia, but I work out of the York PA office.

Q: WHAT STEPS DID YOU TAKE IN GETTING TO YOUR POSITION IN YOUR CAREER?

A: I attended Messiah's accounting career fair hosted by Professor Jim Krimmel and the Career Center. I met the recruiters from ParenteBeard at accounting night and gave them my resume. I had two interviews with the firm, one at Messiah and one at the York office where I received a job offer.

Q: WHAT ARE THE MOST REWARDING ASPECTS OF YOUR CURRENT POSITION?

A: I really enjoy working closely with executives and business owners who are passionate about their companies and what they do. I enjoy meeting and working with new people on a regular basis and learning about new industries and businesses.

Q: WHAT ROLE DID ATTENDING MESSIAH COLLEGE PLAY IN YOUR CAREER PATH?

A: I came to Messiah as a general business major, but after taking some accounting classes and talking with upper classmen I had built friendships with I decided to switch to accounting. Thanks to the great professors at Messiah, the college has one of the top ranked accounting programs in the country. The college has also built solid relationships with local firms over the years to help students find jobs well before graduation.

Q: WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO A CURRENT MESSIAH COLLEGE STUDENT?

A: My advice would be to get involved with a lot of different activities at the college, both career and non-career related. Grades and book smarts are important, but do not underestimate the importance of social skills. Despite the stereotypes society may have about CPAs, accounting recruiters are looking for people who work well with others, have good communication and interpersonal skills. We might crunch some numbers, but really our business is about people.