

Ten Things To Look For In An Accounting Partner



Hiring an accounting resource to manage your books is a great way to save time and stress while you focus on the rest of your business. But not all bookkeeping partners are created equal. To help you evaluate would-be vendors, we've compiled the top ten things to look for when you're outsourcing your accounting.

1- Availability

This might sound obvious, but the first thing you should ask when talking to a potential accounting partner is whether or not they have the time to properly service your books.

2- Specialization

Make sure the vendor has accounting experience specific to your business model. You want a bookkeeping resource who is able to understand your business's issues and help you flag industry-related financial tasks or challenges.

3- A Dedicated Team

You want to be a name, not a number. Work with an accounting resource who can dedicate consistent resources to your books. The better they know your business, the better they'll be at catching irregularities and reducing errors; saving you time and money.

4- Technology

The right platforms can streamline communication with your accounting vendor and the sharing pertinent information. They can also give you access to your most critical business information anytime, anywhere.

5- Accuracy and Timeliness

As you have conversations with any potential accounting partners, take note of their attention to detail and their time management. Do they respond to your inquiries in a timely manner? Are they on time for meetings? These are important traits in a bookkeeping resource.



6- Data Security

This is some of your most sensitive business information. Ask any potential vendors about their information security safeguards including what their policies and procedures are in the event of a breach.

7- Clear Processes

Not everything in life is routine, but accounting is. Any potential vendor should be able to describe their onboarding process and their plan for managing and communicating your periodic financials.

8- Level of Service

If you want to truly offload the hassle of your business accounting, you'll want a partner who does more than create periodic reports. A true accounting partner will spot irregularities, uncover new efficiencies and flag potential theft, vendor error or quality control issues.

9- Ethical

An accounting partner who cuts corners or doesn't do things exactly "by the book" could be a huge liability for your business.

10- A Partner in Your Business

The best accounting vendor will be one who cares not just about your books, but your profitability. A bookkeeper who wants your business to succeed will be more likely to communicate the opportunities and red flags they see in your data.

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