

THE MALAYSIAN INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
(INSTITUT AKAUNTAN AWAM BERTAULIAH MALAYSIA)



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CPA - an invaluable identity

WHEN Kuala Lumpur-born lass Teh Suet Ghoon joined the MICPA's (Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants) training programme in 2007, she did not anticipate that she would qualify with the MICPA professional qualification just three years later. Teh decided to pursue the MICPA qualification whilst pursuing her Bachelor of Accountancy degree at Multimedia University, Cyberjaya. She graduated with a First Class Honours degree in May 2007 with a CGPA of 3.88.

She adds that people were advising her not to take up the MICPA programme as the exams are challenging, but this did not deter her, as she is well aware of the high quality and prestige that comes with the qualification. Destiny prevailed, and she was also the Most Outstanding CPA Student in 2010.

Teh passed each module of the Advanced Stage Examination of the MICPA examination at the first attempt. She was awarded the Ernst & Young Gold Medal for Advanced Auditing & Assurance by MICPA during the 2009 MICPA Excellence Awards Presentation Ceremony.

Teh undertook her articleship under MICPA's Stream I training programme with a member firm of the Institute under the supervision of a principal and mentor. She completed her three-year training contract in Dec 2010.

Stream I is the traditional route of training where a student will work in the office of a CPA (Certified Public Accountant) in public practice under a



Teh Suet Ghoon

training contract. You will gain experience in a wide range of services from audit to IT consultancy, exposing you to a wide variety of clients. This option is designed for those who plan to build a career in public accountancy practice.

Teh highlights that her training in audit was very wholesome and gave her a competitive edge, as every individual is encouraged to grow and develop his career through the various learning opportunities. She describes her experience as a chance of a lifetime as she had the ability to be creative, to think out of the box and provide tangible value-added services. Furthermore, the firm supported her by offering a full sponsorship to undertake the MICPA professional qualification.

She added that a CPA is a highly respected business professional in the accounting and finance industry. To her, the three letters signify Commitment, Professionalism and Achievement. All CPAs are well noted for their technical competence and the qualification offers holders numerous opportunities in various industries, giving them a wider selection of jobs and career progression. The qualification also adds to their professional credibility and greater global mobility, thereby opening doors to success. Her advice to potential students is, "Make the winning move and go for the qualification. You just need to have the passion and be motivated".

The MICPA recently launched the Students Sponsorship Programme with approved accounting firms and approved

training organisations (ATOs). The objective is to assist students who are interested to pursue the revised MICPA programme while pursuing the final year of an accredited four-year Bachelor of Accountancy degree programme. It also provides an avenue for ATOs to identify suitable candidates for internship and employment.

Under the Students Sponsorship Programme, ATOs will sponsor students who are interested to pursue the Taxation module and Financial Reporting module of the Revised MICPA programme while pursuing the final year of their Bachelor of Accountancy degree programme.

Candidates will be required to work for ATOs during their internship as well as upon completion of the Bachelor of Accountancy degree programme for a period of not less than three years.

The Students Sponsorship Programme is open to candidates who meet certain minimum criteria. The MICPA works with accredited public and private universities in Malaysia to identify suitable candidates who are interested to pursue the revised MICPA programme.

The profile of the identified candidates will be submitted to the ATOs for consideration. The ATOs will conduct an interview with the identified candidates to consider their suitability to meet the needs of the ATOs. An acceptance letter will be given to the successful candidates.

■ For details, call 03-2698 9622 e-mail micpa@micpa.com.my or visit www.micpa.com.my.

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