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



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producing professionals

Tan (left) with Gan

THE Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA) has been producing professionals in Malaysia since 1958. With a long and proven track record of producing quality professional accountants also known as Certified Public Accountants (CPAs), MICPA has been continuously evolving to equip local talents with a strong foundation and provide a launching pad for a bright career and future in the accountancy and finance industry.

finance industry. In partnership with the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia (ICAA), the MICPA programme gives members two professional memberships and access to the Global Accounting Alliance (GAA) upon fulfilment of membership requirements.

The increasing number of candidates enrolling for the MICPA programme has provided a clear indication of it being able to meet the needs of accountants today - global recognition, access to global accounting resources through the GAA, and the dual MICPA-ICAA membership.

To further advance the accountancy profession and propel high-achieving account-ing students into the profession, MICPA designed the Students Sponsorship Programme (SSP to link bright students to established top tier organisations The students will intern with the organisations for six months while pursuing two modules of the MICPA programme. Upon completion of their under graduate degree programme, SSP candidates will be offered a permanent position in the sponsoring organisation where they will complete the remaining three modules of the programme. Target students are those in their final year of an accredited fouryear Bachelor of Accountancy degree programme in accredited public or private universities in Malaysia.

The benefits an employer draws as a training organisation are more intangible, with the SSP becoming an avenue to bring in talents with strong potential and aptitude. However, a tangible benefit is the double tax deduction incentive, applicable for related expenses up to RM5,000 incurred for each intern for each year of assessment as the SSP has been endorsed by TalentCorp as an approved Structured Internship Programme, Since the SSP commenced in Sept 2011, SSP candidates have achieved remarkable results, with their pass rate averaging 88% over two modules. The recent results of the Taxation module yielded an exceptional pass rate of 91.7% by SSP candidates alone, compared to an overall pass rate

of 73.5%. Tan Teong Yu, a Universiti Malaya student pursuing a Bachelor of Accounting degree achieved top marks in the Taxation module and attained the BDO Gold Medal award. He is a current SSP candidate interning with BDO Malaysia through SSP. He credits his success to the support from family members and fellow interns who were able to contribute to fruitful learning discussions while studying together. He was also given hands-on guidance by his mentors at BDO Malaysia.

Apart from Tan, all 21 SSP candidates in his batch obtained a pass in the Taxation module, producing a 100% pass rate among BDO Malaysia's SSP candidates. BDO Malaysia chairman, Datuk Gan Ah Tee attributes the success to his fellow partners who set aside their personal time for practical sharing sessions with the students.

No doubt, the SSP can help accelerate a student's path into the accounting profession. Once a graduate completes the SSP and begins a career in accounting, he will need to complete the remaining three modules of the MICPA programme, which can be done within a minimum of one year. After three years of full-time experience in his SSP firm, he can qualify for full MICPA membership and be entitled to use the designation Certified Public Accountant, as well as an ICAA membership, which carries the designation of Chartered Accountant.

Accounting students from accredited universities seeking an internship placement starting in Sept 2012 or Feb 2013, and would like to pursue the MICPA programme should apply for the SSP now by sending their CVs to cv@micpa.com.my with the sub-Ject: Application for MICPA SSP - Batch 2, 2012 or Batch 1, 2013.

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