

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



Press Clipping

PUBLICATION : The Star
SECTION : Course Focus Page 4
DATE : March 21, 2017
TITLE : Pathway Into The Accounting Profession

Pathways into the accounting profession

AS the only Malaysian professional accounting body, the Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA) has been paving the way for Malaysians to qualify as professional accountants since its inception in 1958.

In Malaysia, MICPA's CPA (Certified Public Accountant) members can automatically become members of the Malaysian Institute of Accountants (MIA).

In 2009, MICPA forged ties with Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CAANZ) to run a joint programme that admits its graduates into both bodies through a set of common examinations.

Graduates also gain access to the Global Accounting Alliance (GAA), which provides membership support from 10 premier accounting bodies across 11 countries without additional membership fees.

The MICPA-CAANZ Programme provides two qualifications and titles from two bodies - CPA (M) and CA (ANZ) - along with the GAA passport.

These are numerous available routes into MICPA membership.

CPA (M) and CA (ANZ)

The MICPA-CAANZ Programme is open to diploma and bachelor's in accounting holders from accredited institutions in Malaysia, Australia and New Zealand.

Diploma holders from Universiti Teknologi Mara, Politeknik Malaysia and Tunku Abdul Rahman University College need to undergo 4+5 modules while accredited degree holders are required to complete a minimum of the five final modules, armed with three years of relevant work experience.

Graduates earn two prestigious globally recognised titles and gain access to the GAA.

Conversion Programme

The conversion programme allows non-accounting degree holders to pursue their ambition of becoming a CPA (M) and CA (ANZ).

Comprising eight modules with possible exemptions depending on the candidate's current discipline, the Conversion Programme is conducted at Universiti Sains Malaysia (northern region) and Universiti Malaya (central region).

Upon completion of the

programme, candidates may proceed to the MICPA-CAANZ Programme, which awards the CPA (M) and CA (ANZ).

Associate CPA

Associate CPAs receive the same membership benefits and resources as CPAs, except for the right to seek election to the MICPA Council, attend general meetings of the institute and carry out any duty reserved to CPA members.

There are two routes into this membership category. Accredited bachelor of accounting degree holders or diploma holders who have passed the MICPA Professional Stage Examination must complete the Associate CPA Professional Competence Programme and obtain three years of relevant practical experience.

This category of associate CPAs may pursue the CPA qualification should they wish to do so later in their careers. Alternatively, members of academia with a master's or doctorate in accounting or allied subject from accredited tertiary institutions may be admitted as an Associate CPA.

Accounting technician

With two years of relevant work experience in hand, candidates need to pass a professional ethics examination before being admitted.

Accounting technicians receive the same membership privileges and resources as full-fledged CPAs minus voting rights. They can choose to move on to pursue the CPA qualification should they wish to do so later in their careers.

Scholarships

Currently, the Pengeraja Profesional Akauntan Siswazah-MICPA (PPAS-MICPA) sponsorship is open to students who have recently completed or are soon to complete their degree programmes.

This sponsorship allows two out of five modules to be completed in full-time mode and the remaining three modules in part-time mode while under employment with an Approved Training Employer. Applications are ongoing for the September 2017 intake.

■ For more information, call 03-2698 9622, e-mail eileen.mktg@micpa.com.my or visit www.micpa.com.my.



Students who complete the MICPA-CAANZ Programme gain qualifications from the CPA (M) and CA (ANZ) as well as the GAA passport.

The Star – Course Focus Pullout (Business, Accounting & Finance) – Mar 21

Pathways into the Accounting Profession

As the only Malaysian professional accounting body, The Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA) has been paving the way for Malaysians to qualify as professional accountants since its inception in 1958. Since then, we have had many CPA (M) title-bearers who have gone on to have international careers in accounting. This title gives them recognition as professional accountants and they can use it wherever their careers take them. Here in Malaysia, MICPA's CPA members can automatically become members of The Malaysian Institute of Accountants (MIA) – the regulatory body for accountants, and practice as “Accountants” as defined by the Accountants Act 1967.

In 2009, MICPA forged ties with Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CAANZ) – the most highly-regarded professional accounting body in Australia and New Zealand – to run a joint Programme that admits its graduates into both bodies through 1 set of common exams. Graduates also gain access to the Global Accounting Alliance (GAA) which provides membership support from 10 premier accounting bodies across 11 countries without additional membership fees. In summary, the MICPA-CAANZ Programme provides for 2 qualifications and titles from 2 bodies – CPA (M) and CA (ANZ), and the GAA Passport.

While this is the most widely sought-after qualification, there is more than one pathway into the profession. Below summarises all the available routes into MICPA membership:

1. CPA (M) and CA (ANZ)

The MICPA-CAANZ Programme is open to Diploma and Bachelor in Accounting holders from accredited institutions in Malaysia, Australia and New Zealand. Diploma holders (from UiTM, Politeknik Malaysia and TARUC) need to go through 4 + 5 modules; accredited degree holders go through just the final 5 modules at a minimum, armed with 3 years of relevant work experience. Ensuring quality at every turn, candidates learn to acquire strong analytical and critical thinking skills through an open-book exam concept. Candidates are required to work and study hand-in-hand whilst being mentored by an experienced professional, as application skills are much needed in today's fast-paced business environment. Graduates earn 2 prestigious globally-recognised titles awarded by 3 countries, and access to the GAA.

2. Conversion Programme for Non-Accounting Degree Holders

Allows non-accounting degree holders to pursue their ambition of becoming a CPA (M) and CA (ANZ). Comprises 8 modules with possible exemptions depending on the candidate's current discipline, and is conducted at Universiti Sains Malaysia (northern region) and Universiti Malaya (central region). Upon completion of the Conversion Programme, candidates may proceed on to the MICPA-CAANZ Programme which awards the CPA (M) and CA (ANZ) titles.

3. Associate CPA

Associate CPAs receive the same membership benefits and resources as CPAs, with the exception of the right to seek election to the MICPA Council, to attend general meetings of the Institute and to carry out any duty reserved to CPA members. There are 2 routes into this membership category – accredited Bachelor of Accounting degree holders or Diploma holders who have passed the MICPA Professional Stage Examination must complete the *Associate CPA Professional Competence Programme* and obtain 3 years of relevant practical experience. This category of Associate CPAs may pursue the CPA qualification should they wish to do so later in their careers. Alternatively, members

of academia with a Master or Doctorate in Accounting or allied subject from accredited tertiary institutions may be admitted as an Associate CPA.

4. Accounting Technician

This membership category is designed especially for Diploma in Accounting holders and bears the title “Accounting Technician”. With 2 years of relevant work experience in hand, candidates need to pass a Professional Ethics exam before being admitted. Ensuring members uphold ethics and integrity at all times, and continuously update their skills and knowledge, this title provides an edge to those who already act as a strong technical support to public practices, the public sector and accounting or finance departments in commercial organisations. Accounting Technicians receive the same membership privileges and resources as a full-fledged CPAs minus voting rights. They can choose to move on to pursue the CPA qualification should they wish to do so later in their careers.

5. Scholarships

From time to time, scholarships are available either in part or in full, for accredited accounting degree-holders to pursue the CPA (M) and CA (ANZ) qualifications via the MICPA-CAANZ Programme. Currently, the Pengeraju Profesional Akauntan Siswazah–MICPA (PPAS-MICPA) sponsorship is open to degree holders who have recently or soon-to-be completed, and provides for full-time study for 2 out of 5 modules, followed by the remaining 3 modules part-time whilst under employment with an Approved Training Employer. Applications are ongoing for the next intake which commences September 2017.

For more information about MICPA and the various pathways offered:

Call +603-2698 9622

Email: eileen.mktg@micpa.com.my or visit: www.micpa.com.my

ACCOUNTING IS FOR EVERYONE



CPA (M) & CA (ANZ)

ASSOCIATE CPA

MICPA-CAANZ
Programme

CONVERSION
PROGRAMME

Professional
Competence
Programme

MICPA Professional
Stage Exam

Graduates with
Non-Accounting
Degree

Bachelor of
Accounting Degree

ACCOUNTING
TECHNICIAN

Diploma
in Accounting