

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



Press Clipping

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THE Malaysian Government has highlighted the need to develop more accounting professionals for our nation because as an economy grows, the need to have highly skilled accountants grow with it.

For the past eight years, The Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA) and Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CAANZ) have been conducting the MICPA-CAANZ Programme. The programme provides graduates with two memberships and qualifications, which are Certified Public Accountant, Malaysia and Chartered Accountant, Australia and New Zealand.

Traditionally, professional courses are undertaken while gaining work experience to ensure candidates obtain a deep understanding of technical knowledge and how it applies to business in real life. This is what makes the programme effective as it develops practical professionals who can adapt their solutions using their technical know-how to advise clients in their respective environments.

There is a growing demand for talented accounting graduates even

Golden opportunity

before they leave university. The MICPA Students Sponsorship Programme (SSP) is a bridge that connects talent to employers during their final undergraduate year and provides students with sponsorship to commence the MICPA-CAANZ Programme before graduating. The SSP also ties in an internship placement and a job offer upon graduating with the same employer.

An SSP candidate, Foo Jun Lin commenced the programme in the final year of his Bachelor of Accounting at Universiti Malaya sponsored by an SSP participating employer, PwC Malaysia. He did his internship there and joined as a full-time employee in audit after graduating last year.

"I was attracted to the affiliation between MICPA and CAANZ, which will grant me access to Global Accounting Alliance (GAA). This allows me to pursue my career abroad in the future, as the GAA passport ensures I can obtain the technical and membership support

There is a growing demand for talented accounting graduates even before they leave university.

I will need as a global professional.

"Secondly, the structure of the programme is not only based on my performance in the final examination but has online assessments and workshops, which effectively and continuously enhance learning throughout the module. The online resources provided virtual classrooms, e-learning and quizzes, which are very useful and beneficial in learning," says Foo.

The SSP provided a great platform for Foo to get a head start in his professional studies. He was able to secure his internship and

future career with a Big Four.

"The MICPA Students Sponsorship Programme has developed my analytical and problem-solving skills, which are very practical in my professional work. It has helped me gain solid technical knowledge and manage my time better in coping with a professional programme while having to work," says Foo.

To be eligible for the SSP, candidates must be undergraduates from a MICPA-accredited university, pursuing a four-year degree in accounting. SSP participating employers will assess candidates based on their academic track record and soft skills proficiency. Interested candidates should be prepared to apply before they enter their fourth year.

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

Foo Jun Lin was able to secure his internship and future career through the MICPA Students Sponsorship Programme.



Golden Opportunity for Accounting Students

Accounting is a popular course of choice amongst Malaysians for various reasons, but one reason why it is a fantastic choice is that there is never a lack of career opportunities for accountants. Even the Malaysian government has highlighted the need to develop more accounting professionals for our nation, because as an economy grows, the need to have highly-skilled accountants grows with it.

As the only Malaysian professional accounting body, The Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA) has been developing professional accountants since 1958, and though known to be a challenging exam, the prestige and recognition it affords its members have taken them far in their careers both locally and internationally. For the past 8 years, MICPA have been conducting a joint professional qualification with Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CAANZ) – the MICPA-CAANZ Programme, which provides graduates with 2 memberships and qualifications – *Certified Public Accountant, Malaysia*, or CPA (M), and *Chartered Accountant, Australia & New Zealand*, or CA (ANZ).

Traditionally, professional courses are undertaken whilst gaining work experience, to ensure candidates obtain a deep and intrinsic understanding of both technical knowledge and how it applies to real life business. This is what makes the MICPA-CAANZ Programme effective – it develops practical professionals who can adapt their solutions using their technical know-how to advise clients in their respective environments.

The good news for accounting undergraduates is there is a growing demand by employers for strong talent even before they leave university, and the MICPA Students Sponsorship Programme (SSP) is a bridge that connects talent to employers during their final undergraduate year, and provides them with sponsorship to commence the MICPA-CAANZ Programme before graduating. The SSP also ties in an internship placement and a job offer upon graduating with the same employer.

An SSP candidate, Foo Jun Lin, commenced the Programme in the final year of his Bachelor of Accounting degree at Universiti Malaya in end-2015, sponsored by PwC – an SSP participating employer. He did his internship there, and joined as a full-time employee in audit after graduating in 2016. He is currently studying for his fourth module in the Programme out of five, with one more module to go before he completes the entire Programme within a year of graduating from university.

On why he chose the MICPA-CAANZ Programme, Jun Lin shares: “I was attracted to the affiliation between MICPA and CAANZ which will grant me access to Global Accounting Alliance (GAA). This opens doors for me to pursue my career abroad in the future, as the GAA Passport ensures I can obtain the technical and membership support I will need as a global professional. Secondly, the structure of the Programme is such that it is not only based on my performance in the final examination, but has online assessments and workshops which effectively and continuously enhances our learning throughout the module. The online resources provided such as virtual classrooms, e-learning and quizzes are very useful and beneficial in learning.”

He further adds: “The SSP provided a great platform for me to get a head start in my professional studies, commencing in the final year of my university. I was able to secure my internship and future career with a Big 4, and the great thing is, I’ll complete the Programme within a year of graduating from university.” He elaborates further on how the Programme has nurtured his professional skills: “The learning in the Programme has helped to develop my analytical and problem-solving skills which is very practical in my professional work. It’s helped me gain solid technical knowledge which will equip me as I climb the career ladder. I’ve also learned to manage my time better – a very vital skill in coping with a professional programme whilst having to work.”

To be eligible for the SSP, candidates must be undergraduates from a MICPA-accredited university, pursuing a 4-year Degree in Accounting. SSP participating employers will assess candidates based on their academic track record and soft-skills proficiency, so strong results and active participation in extra-curricular activities will speak volumes. Interested candidates should be prepared to apply before they enter their 4th year. Jun Lin shared some words of advice to those interested in the MICPA-CAANZ Programme and the SSP: “Always prepare yourself for your future career, even from now. Pursuing a professional qualification is the start of the next phase of your career. It’s not an easy path, but just be prepared mentally to work hard, do your very best, and success will be yours.”

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



The poster features the logos for CPA MALAYSIA and CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS AUSTRALIA - NEW ZEALAND at the top. The main title is 'MICPA-CAANZ PROGRAMME'. Below the title are three cartoon animals (a koala, a tiger, and a sheep) sitting on a book. To the right, a large number '1' is followed by 'PROGRAMME GIVES YOU', a large number '2' is followed by 'QUALIFICATIONS CPA(M) & CA(ANZ)', and a large number '3' is followed by 'AWARDED BY COUNTRIES'. Below this is a section titled 'When can I start?' with two options. Option 1 is 'Upon completion of Degree' with bullet points: '- Secure employment with an Approved Training Employer (ATE)', '- Commence MICPA-CAANZ Programme whilst gaining practical experience'. Option 2 is 'Get a headstart with the Students Sponsorship Programme (SSP)' with bullet points: '- Get sponsored by a participating employer to do the MICPA-CAANZ Programme', '- Start 2 out of 5 modules in final year of a recognised accounting degree', '- Obtain an internship placement', '- Receive a conditional job offer before graduation', '- Sponsorship for remaining 3 modules whilst gaining practical experience'. A 'Sign me up!' button is in the top right. At the bottom, it says 'THE MALAYSIAN INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS (MICPA) (3246-U)', 'www.micpa.com.my | +603-26989622', and social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube.

CPA MALAYSIA | CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS AUSTRALIA - NEW ZEALAND

MICPA-CAANZ PROGRAMME

1 PROGRAMME GIVES YOU

2 QUALIFICATIONS CPA(M) & CA(ANZ)

3 AWARDED BY COUNTRIES

When can I start?

Option 1

Upon completion of Degree

- Secure employment with an Approved Training Employer (ATE)
- Commence MICPA-CAANZ Programme whilst gaining practical experience

Option 2

Get a headstart with the Students Sponsorship Programme (SSP)

- Get sponsored by a participating employer to do the MICPA-CAANZ Programme
- Start 2 out of 5 modules in final year of a recognised accounting degree
- Obtain an internship placement
- Receive a conditional job offer before graduation
- Sponsorship for remaining 3 modules whilst gaining practical experience

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