EXTRAORDINARY STARTS HERE.

Ed Fan CA
Training firm: EY

BECOME AN ICAS CHARtered ACCOUNTANT TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS & BEYOND.

EXTRAORDINARY STARTS HERE.
I wanted to ensure I had lots of opportunity and choice in my career and knew that gaining my CA qualification would support this.

Katie Siddiq, Finance Business Partner Trainee CA at Lloyds Banking Group
AN EXTRAORDINARY CAREER STARTS HERE

Qualify as an ICAS Chartered Accountant to unlock a rewarding, challenging and exciting career in business and beyond.

SUCCEED BEYOND ACCOUNTANCY

Chartered Accountants (CAs) don’t just work for accountancy and finance firms. Qualify as an ICAS CA and the wealth of skills and expertise you gain will present a variety of impressive career opportunities.

Becoming ‘chartered’ will take you beyond accountancy training. It’s a rigorous professional qualification, combining expert tuition, relevant workplace experience, and unrivalled support and guidance.

A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITY

As an ICAS Chartered Accountant you could work for anyone, anywhere in the world: make your mark in the tech sector, a global financial centre, at a big accountancy firm, charity or government department.

Furthermore, for those with an entrepreneurial streak, becoming a CA provides the key skills to start and manage a successful business.

Above all, if you’re in the market for an extraordinary career, becoming an ICAS Chartered Accountant is the place to begin.

Transform your life with two letters: READ page 2.

Start your extraordinary career:
VISIT ICAS.com/becomeaca
SEARCH how to become a CA
CA – TRANSFORM YOUR LIFE WITH TWO LETTERS

ICAS CAs are in a world-class of their own.

AN ICAS EXCLUSIVE
Having the letters CA of Chartered Accountant after your name will impress employers and open doors to a host of amazing life opportunities. And did you know, those two letters are exclusive to ICAS members? No other Institute, training body or organisation in the UK can use the prestigious ‘CA’ designation.

GO BUSINESS CLASS
Become an ICAS Chartered Accountant and you’ll have earned your membership within a group of the world’s best business professionals. The career choices, challenges and rewards you’ll find will match this new, sought-after status.

GAIN GLOBAL RECOGNITION
The ICAS CA qualification is globally recognised and respected, so you won’t be restricted to working within the UK. No matter where your travels lead, your skills as a dynamic, capable and forward-thinking business professional will always be in demand.

What is ICAS?
READ>> page 5.

Transform your life:
VISIT>> ICAS.com/becomeaca
SEARCH>> how to become a CA
I’m Ed Fan CA and I trained in Audit at EY and moved to Advisory after becoming qualified.

I’ve recently joined a US tech start-up and became their first Finance Manager in the UK, and am helping them drive the business growth from a finance and commercial perspective.

**How was your CA training?**

Studying for the CA was hard but rewarding. It really helped reshape my ability to learn. I think the structured learning process and the broad content covered by the qualification can really help you to think critically and apply your learning practically.

The learning process gave me a well-rounded foundation, which is appealing to employers, and the well-connected network has also really helped my career.

**Why did you become a CA?**

I’ve always enjoyed numbers and problem solving, and accounting was a perfect fit that provides many options, an excellent network and prosperous career opportunities.

**What makes you proud to be a CA?**

I am proud to belong to such a recognised and sought-after accounting body. Also, the English language is not an area of my expertise so getting through the exams first attempt was an achievement for me!
I’m Donna Berrie CA, Financial Planning & Analysis Manager at Skyscanner. I work with our Marketing and Growth teams, reviewing costs, forecasting results, understanding the trends and assessing how we’re performing against budget.

It’s really interesting, being involved with a discipline which was completely new to me, learning more about the marketing world and linking this into finance.

How was your CA training?

A big change. The learning style was quite different to how I previously liked to learn. There are always people you can connect with who have been through it too and have lots of tips and advice to share. It was hard work, but it’s been worth it.

Why did you become a CA?

The CA community is very active, you can link up with fellow CAs who are out in industry or the profession and can give you guidance, advice and possible access to future roles and growth opportunities. There are a wide range of roles available, you can work in almost any industry within a finance role.

What makes you proud to be a CA?

I’m proud to be a CA because of the opportunities and experiences I’ve had, from working in New Zealand to getting to work for a company I really admire. And also for my involvement with the ICAS Foundation, a charity that supports academically talented young people from disadvantaged communities.
WHAT IS ICAS?

ICAS is a historic professional body that works with its members’ future in mind.

PROFESSIONAL PRESTIGE

ICAS was the first-ever professional accountancy body, created by Royal Charter in 1854.

All our 22,000 members have achieved the internationally recognised and respected CA qualification of Chartered Accountant. Only qualifying as a Chartered Accountant with ICAS allows you to use the prestigious CA letters after your name.

SUPPORTING SUCCESS

In addition to being an educator and examiner, ICAS acts as an industry regulator and thought leader. Everything we do, through a support process involving technical guidance, training and mentoring, is aimed at helping our members to continually advance their careers.

Why train with ICAS?

READ page 6.

Learn more:

VISIT ICAS.com/becomeaca
SEARCH how to become a CA

THERE ARE OVER 22,000 CAs WORLDWIDE.

SOME OF THE CITIES OUR MEMBERS WORK IN

Here are just some of the other industries ICAS CAs work in:

- 15% FINANCIAL SERVICES
- 5% ENERGY AND UTILITIES
- 3.6% RETAIL AND FOOD
- 5% INDUSTRY AND MANUFACTURE

75% OF FTSE 100 COMPANIES EMPLOY CAs
WHY TRAIN WITH ICAS?

We’ve put over 160 years of professional experience into assisting our students’ success and delivering a business qualification fit for the modern world.

LEARN FROM OUR EXPERIENCE
ICAS was formed by Royal Charter in 1854. As you can imagine, we’ve trained a lot of CAs since then and know the best possible path to our students’ success. Our track record speaks for itself: some of the world’s most prominent and accomplished business leaders qualified as CAs with us.

SHARE IN OUR EXPERTISE
That abundance of ICAS expertise forms the foundation of our unique syllabus, teaching materials and exams. Additionally, through regular employer consultation we keep the ICAS CA qualification, and our students’ knowledge, at the cutting edge. The results command credibility in the business world and will be key to your professional progression.

TAKE AN ETHICAL APPROACH
Ethics and integrity are at the heart of a CA’s professional responsibilities. In fact, the commitment to these principles are a common thread throughout the ICAS CA qualification, culminating in the dedicated Public Trust & Ethics assessment. As a result, you’ll be educated to make informed decisions whilst upholding the highest standards.
ACHIEVE TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE
The technical knowledge and professional skills gained whilst training with ICAS will form the basis of your successful career. Our hands-on approach combines expert tuition with practical application and will ease your understanding of complex financial activities.

BE INTERNATIONALLY QUALIFIED
We have developed several reciprocal agreements with international accounting organisations, enabling global success for ICAS members. Indeed, once qualified, the CA badge will be your passport to a world of exciting and financially rewarding possibilities.

Gain more than a qualification:
READ>> page 8.

Learn more:
VISIT>> ICAS.com/becomeaca
SEARCH>> how to become a CA

Being a CA sets you apart and makes clear that you’re a hard-working individual who doesn’t give up when times are tough. It also provides the opportunity to progress in any field you choose, all over the world.
Laura Dorward CA
Assistant Manager
EQ Accountants
GAIN MORE THAN A QUALIFICATION

Qualify with ICAS and we’ll provide a mixture of mentoring sessions, technical workshops and networking events to open opportunities and advance your career.

CONNECT TO SUCCESS

The incredible amount of hard work required to qualify is an experience shared by all Chartered Accountants and helps bring ICAS members closer together. Consequently, when you become a CA, you’ll connect to a successful global community covering a wide range of companies and professions. And at ICAS we work to foster that bond, so you can learn from shared experience, build the knowledge and network required to progress.

ONGOING SUPPORT

ICAS will always be there to support you, whether through a job change or an opportunity for skills development. Our innovative global, virtual mentoring programme can match you with the right person to guide your next steps. What’s more, we provide courses, webinars, workshops and conferences – all designed to advance your career.

WE’LL KEEP YOU UPDATED

When you become a CA, it will be essential to keep your technical knowledge current. Our schedule of updates, in-depth analysis and commentary will do the hard work for you, ensuring your skills remain up-to-date, regardless of your specialism within the industry.

EXCLUSIVE EVENTS

ICAS runs a packed calendar of exciting events designed to connect and educate our members. You can network with like-minded colleagues at CA dinners worldwide, drop in to masterclasses on special-interest topics, attend speed-mentoring events, or view the latest exhibitions in some of the UK’s most exciting venues.

How to become a CA:
READ>> page 10.
VISIT>> ICAS.com/becomeaca
SEARCH>> how to become a CA

When studying for the CA qualification I felt completely supported by everyone at ICAS and my fellow colleagues.

Nikola Doig CA
Senior Manager, Deloitte
I’m Stephen Mahon CA, an Audit Senior in the Melbourne office of Grant Thornton Australia. I work on the financial audits of a variety of businesses, in industries such as manufacturing, oil and gas exploration, aged care, public schools and automotive.

How was your CA training?

I started from scratch without exemptions after graduating from University College Cork and initially found the study quite difficult. But this stood me in good stead as I was afforded the opportunity to quickly acquire the knowledge required to progress. My training employer allowed me sufficient time to study but also to put into practice what I had learned in the classroom.

Why did you become a CA?

The role of Chartered Accountant really became attractive when I learned that being a CA is not just being an accountant. Given the breadth and quality of training, it’s more about becoming a business advisor.

And such is the reputation of the qualification around the world, there’s no limit to the roles and industries available to CAs. I’ve experienced that first-hand, coming to Australia and obtaining an employer-sponsored visa on the back of the CA qualification.

What makes you proud to be a CA?

I am proud to be a CA as it signifies a level of hard work and determination. In addition, I’m proud to be a member of ICAS, the oldest professional accounting body in the world, to share the same affiliation as the wonderful minds that came before me.
HOW TO BECOME A CA

There are various routes to becoming an ICAS CA with options for school leavers, graduates, accountancy professionals and apprentices.

THE SCHOOL-LEAVER ROUTE
- earn while you learn/no student debt
- 5 years approx
- Highers/A Levels required

One of the great things about the CA qualification is you can start training straight from school and earn a competitive salary whilst doing so.

You don’t need any previous knowledge of accountancy or finance – we’ll ensure that’s all covered by your training. In fact, all that’s required to get started are good Higher/A Level results, like those you’d need to get into university*.

It normally takes five years to complete the CA qualification through the school-leaver route, and whilst studying with us you’ll gain invaluable real-world experience with an ICAS-authorised employer.

Learn more:
VISIT ICAS.com/becomeaca
SEARCH ICAS school leaver

THE GRADUATE ENTRY ROUTE
- earn a competitive salary
- 3 years approx
- most degrees qualify

Lots of our students come direct to us upon graduating from university. It doesn’t matter what degree you have, and you don’t need any previous experience in accountancy or business, which means our students come from a variety of backgrounds.

All you need is a university degree that meets our entry requirements*, and we also welcome international students.

The graduate route to becoming a CA usually takes three years and is organised in the form of a training agreement with an ICAS-authorised employer, so you’ll earn a competitive salary throughout.

Learn more:
VISIT ICAS.com/becomeaca
SEARCH ICAS graduate entry

*(Entry requirements vary per employer, so please check carefully before applying.)
THE PROFESSIONAL ENTRY ROUTE

- boost your career
- 3-5 years
- flexible learning options

The professional entry route to becoming a CA is ideal if you’re already working in a financial role or if you’re a university graduate with relevant employment experience.

It’s a highly flexible route to becoming a CA: you can study and sit your exams with ICAS at different times to suit you. Moreover, we offer online learning, and training locations UK-wide.

This is a great way to fast track or boost your career, and often means you can study for the CA qualification without giving up your current job.

Learn more:
VISIT ICAS.com/becomeaca
SEARCH ICAS professional entry

APPRENTICESHIPS

- unlock an extraordinary career
- 3-5 years
- government funded

Apprenticeships are an additional route to becoming a fully qualified Chartered Accountant, and a great way for employers to train their employees using government funding.

The ICAS Level 7 Accountancy Professional Apprenticeship is open to those working more than 50% of their time in England. It provides an opportunity to earn a competitive salary whilst studying to qualify as an Accountancy Professional and Chartered Accountant (CA).

The RGU Graduate Apprenticeship in BA (Hons) Accounting is available in Scotland and delivers an honours degree and the CA of Chartered Accountant. The unique five-year course involves paid workplace training alongside supported study, the majority of which is conducted online.

Both apprenticeships are fully funded: through the government apprenticeship levy in England, and by Skills Development Scotland.

Learn more:
VISIT ICAS.com/becomeaca
SEARCH ICAS apprenticeships
5 STEPS TO BECOMING AN ICAS CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

1. MEET THE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
From Highers and A Levels, to a degree or relevant professional experience.

2. SECURE A TRAINING AGREEMENT
Secure a training agreement with an ICAS-authorised employer and earn a competitive salary whilst you study.

3. GAIN REAL-WORLD PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE
Demonstrate key, practical skills and record them in your Achievement Log.

4. PROFESSIONAL STUDY
With our support you’ll study and pass the three levels of the CA qualification, and the dedicated Public Trust & Ethics assessment.

5. YOU CAN NOW BECOME A CA!
Apply for ICAS membership and add those all-important letters – CA – to your name.

Learn more:
VISIT ICAS.com/becomeaca
SEARCH how to become a CA

“The benefit the CA qualification will give you during your career is immeasurable.

Martin Gilbert CA
CEO, Standard Life Aberdeen
WHAT IS AN ICAS TRAINING AGREEMENT?

If you’re a school-leaver or graduate entrant, an ICAS training agreement is your first step to becoming a CA.

We work in partnership with our ICAS-authorised employers to offer our students an exciting array of employment opportunities. The range of available vacancies is so diverse that, whatever your career aspirations, we’ll have something to suit.

Learn more:
VISIT ICAS.com/becomeaca
SEARCH ICAS training agreement

WHERE YOU CAN TRAIN WITH ICAS?

ICAS offers online study, and training opportunities throughout the UK.

You can train and study for the CA qualification at centres UK-wide, the location of your classes dependent upon where your employer is based, and some students can also take advantage of our supported online-learning option.

We strive to ensure that standards of teaching and student support are consistently high across all locations and methods. So, no matter where or how you train, you’ll receive the first-class ICAS experience.

Learn more:
VISIT ICAS.com/becomeaca
SEARCH ICAS training
THE CA QUALIFICATION IN DETAIL

The ICAS CA qualification is structured to deliver the skills and knowledge you’ll need to succeed.

- accounting, finance & broader business skills
- real-world professional experience
- importance of Public Trust & Ethics

Your working life may present a variety of complex and unpredictable situations. We’ve designed our CA qualification to help you formulate and communicate professional solutions, no matter what comes along.

Through a mix of study and real-world professional experience you’ll gain technical expertise in finance and accounting, alongside broader business skills in management, analysis, communication, presentation and ethics.

Learn more:
VISIT ICAS.com/becomeaca
SEARCH ICAS qualification
TEST OF COMPETENCE
SCQF LEVEL 9
The building blocks of the CA qualification.

Here you’ll get to grips with basic concepts in accountancy, finance and commercial awareness. You’ll develop core knowledge across six key areas:

- Assurance and Reporting
- Business Acumen
- Finance
- Financial Accounting
- Management Information & Technology
- Tax

You may be eligible for TC exemptions, depending on your previous level of study. Find the full list of TC exemptions at ICAS.com (search: ICAS exemptions).

TEST OF PROFESSIONAL SKILLS
SCQF LEVEL 11
Going beyond technical knowledge.

Being a good CA is about much more than your technical ability. TPS equips you with essential professional skills and how to apply them in practice. It builds on core knowledge learnt at TC and prepares you to work with real-world clients.

Subjects studied at TPS are:

- Strategic Finance & Modelling
- Assurance & Data
- Financial Reporting
- Business Tax
- Risk & Technology

TEST OF PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE
SCQF LEVEL 11

There are two important elements at the final TPE level.

CASE STUDY
Bringing it all together.

Students work on a multi-disciplinary case study, advising on a complex, real-life business scenario. This calls for strong professional judgement and utilises all the technical knowledge and professional skills learned at TC and TPS.

PUBLIC TRUST & ETHICS
Ethics is at the heart of the CA qualification.

All students complete a Public Trust & Ethics course, a theme that runs through the entire qualification and includes a separate assessment in the final year alongside the TPE Case Study.

RELEVANT PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE
Developing your skills and knowledge with your employer.

To qualify as a CA, you’ll also need to have worked a minimum of 450 days of relevant practical experience with your employer and recorded it in your Achievement Log.

QUALIFICATION ACCREDITATION
ICAS is recognised by the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) Partnership as a Credit Rating Body. The CA qualification is credit rated at the same level as a Masters Degree. SCQF recognition offers employers a quick and easy way to recognise and compare the CA with other equivalent or international qualifications.

To find out more about the CA qualification syllabus, visit icas.com/becomeaca
ICAS has entered into partnership with the Chartered Institute of Taxation to bring together two high-quality designations. Students can study towards two prestigious qualifications in accountancy and tax. The joint programme allows students to specialise in one of three areas of tax:

- owner-managed businesses
- major corporates
- indirect taxation.

The programme allows students to fast-track their CA and CTA studies, achieving their designatory letters in as little as three years by combining the CA and CTA study routes, providing exam exemptions where relevant.

The main benefits of the joint programme to both students and employers is the reduction in study time, letting students qualify earlier and reducing overall costs. The credits available will ensure that students will still cover the full CA and CTA syllabus but with a reduction in overlap when compared to sitting the qualifications individually.

Learn more:
VISIT ICAS.com/ctaqualification
"Without my CA qualification none of this would have been possible."

RICKY MUNDAY CA INSPIRE ALPINE
"THE QUALIFICATION HAS GENUINELY MADE ME THE PERSON I AM TODAY."

CATHERINE BURNET CA

SENIOR PARTNER, KPMG