A COMPLETE APPROACH TO AUDIT

ground-breaking integrated qualification for auditors

Combining the unrivalled expertise and standing of both the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland (ICAS) and the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA), this integrated qualification model will meet the evolving needs of both the public and corporate audit sectors.

- The qualification reflects the evolution of the audit environment and the mixed economy, where public services are increasingly commissioned through private sector contracts, by providing experience to practise across both sectors.
- It reflects radical changes made to public sector audit in the past few years with the abolition of the Audit Commission and the introduction of a new public sector audit regime.
- Dual designation from both institutes – Chartered Accountants (CA) and Chartered Public Finance Accountants (CPFA) – as well as the award of the qualifications for company audit and public audit.
- The integrated qualification has a flexible delivery model that can be delivered face-to-face, or as a blended model through the use of technology.
- Ideal for those practising in both public and private environments.
- The integrated qualification is suitable for those working or wanting to work within this expanding mixed public/private sector environment.
- Fast track options for CAs or CPFAs are also available and can be completed in as little as 12 months.

“With the public sector making up around a third of UK GDP and increasing amounts of public spending carried out through the private sector, an integrated qualification delivered by CIPFA and ICAS makes absolute sense.”

Rob Whiteman – Chief Executive CIPFA

“This integrated qualification seeks to build on opportunities in the new reality of audit in the UK. This means practitioners will need a wider and deeper understanding to work across public and private sector audits.”

Anton Colella – Chief Executive ICAS
Qualification structure

The integrated qualification of 15 modules comprises 11 ICAS modules which, alongside the relevant practical experience requirements, make up the CA element of the qualification, as well as covering relevant content in the CIPFA syllabus. The remaining four modules are specialist CIPFA modules which allow the student to become CPFA qualified. Once the appropriate company audit and public audit experience has been recorded, the company audit qualification and public audit qualification can also be awarded.

A range of delivery approaches are available and ICAS and CIPFA operate as one strategic and operational partnership to create the structure and education delivery model which best meets the needs of modern audit practice.

Fast track routes for CAs and CPFAs to become audit qualified

Building on the joint relationship, fast track routes have been established for CIPFA members who wish to build on their Chartered Public Finance Accountant status to become Company Audit Qualified and for ICAS members who wish to build upon their Chartered Accountant status to become Public Audit Qualified. Members from both bodies will be required to take three modules plus demonstrate a number of days of audit experience. These fast track routes can take as little as 12 months to complete.

The route for CIPFA members is set out below:

- Assurance and Business Systems
- Financial Reporting
- Taxation

210 days of UK audit experience including 105 days of company audit experience.

The route for ICAS members is set out below:

- Public Service Financial Reporting
- Strategic Public Finance
- Advanced Public Audit

210 days of UK audit experience including 105 days of local public audit experience.

To find out more about this unique qualification visit: www.cipfa.org/iqa
E: customerservices@cipfa.org or: alamb@icas.com T: +44 (0)20 7543 5600