

RECOGNITION OF ACCA AND CAT

INTRODUCTION TO RECOGNITION

ACCA continually receives high numbers of enquiries from our members and students regarding their options for further or complimentary studies post-qualification and, as a result of this high demand, ACCA encourages educational institutions to provide information on the level of entry and exemption that is available to ACCA members and students, and CAT graduates and students from their undergraduate and postgraduate programmes of study.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF PROVIDING RECOGNITION INFORMATION?

Full details of the recognition information you provide will be made available to all ACCA members and students, giving you the opportunity to attract more students who wish to pursue academic studies.

ABOUT ACCA

ACCA is a self-regulating professional body whose Council is responsible under its Royal Charter to the Privy Council. Under the Companies Act ACCA is also responsible to the UK Professional Oversight Board (POB) for the regulation of statutory auditors.

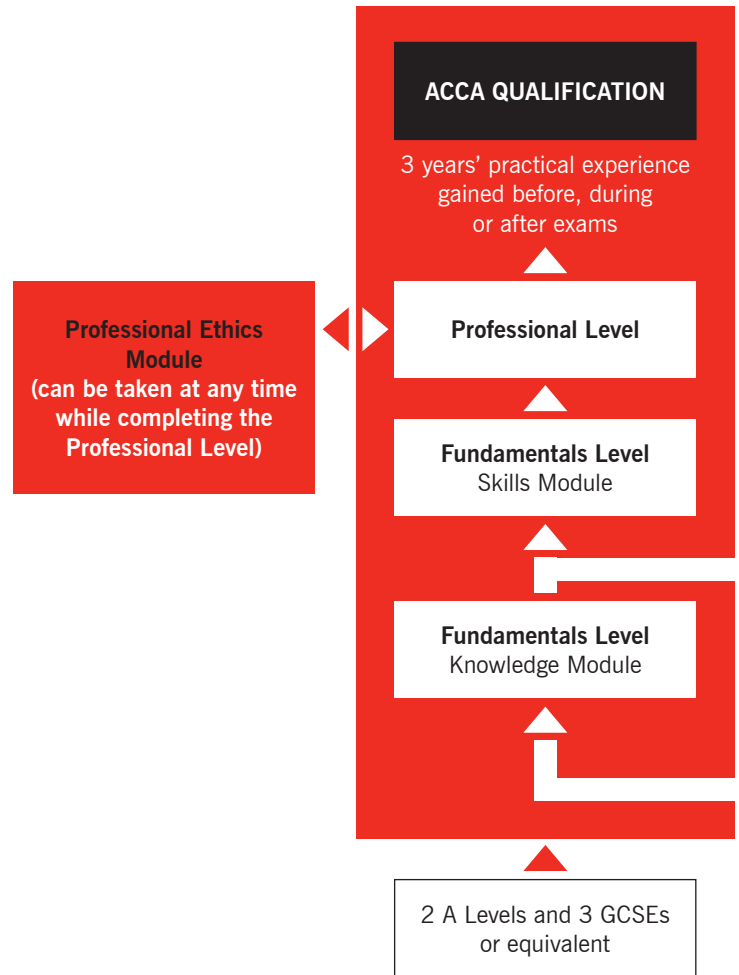
ACCA is the largest and fastest-growing international accountancy body with 260,000 students and 110,000 members in 170 countries. ACCA offers first choice qualifications to people of application, ability and ambition around the world who seek a rewarding career in accountancy, finance and management. ACCA works to achieve and promote the highest professional, ethical and governance standards and advance the public interest.

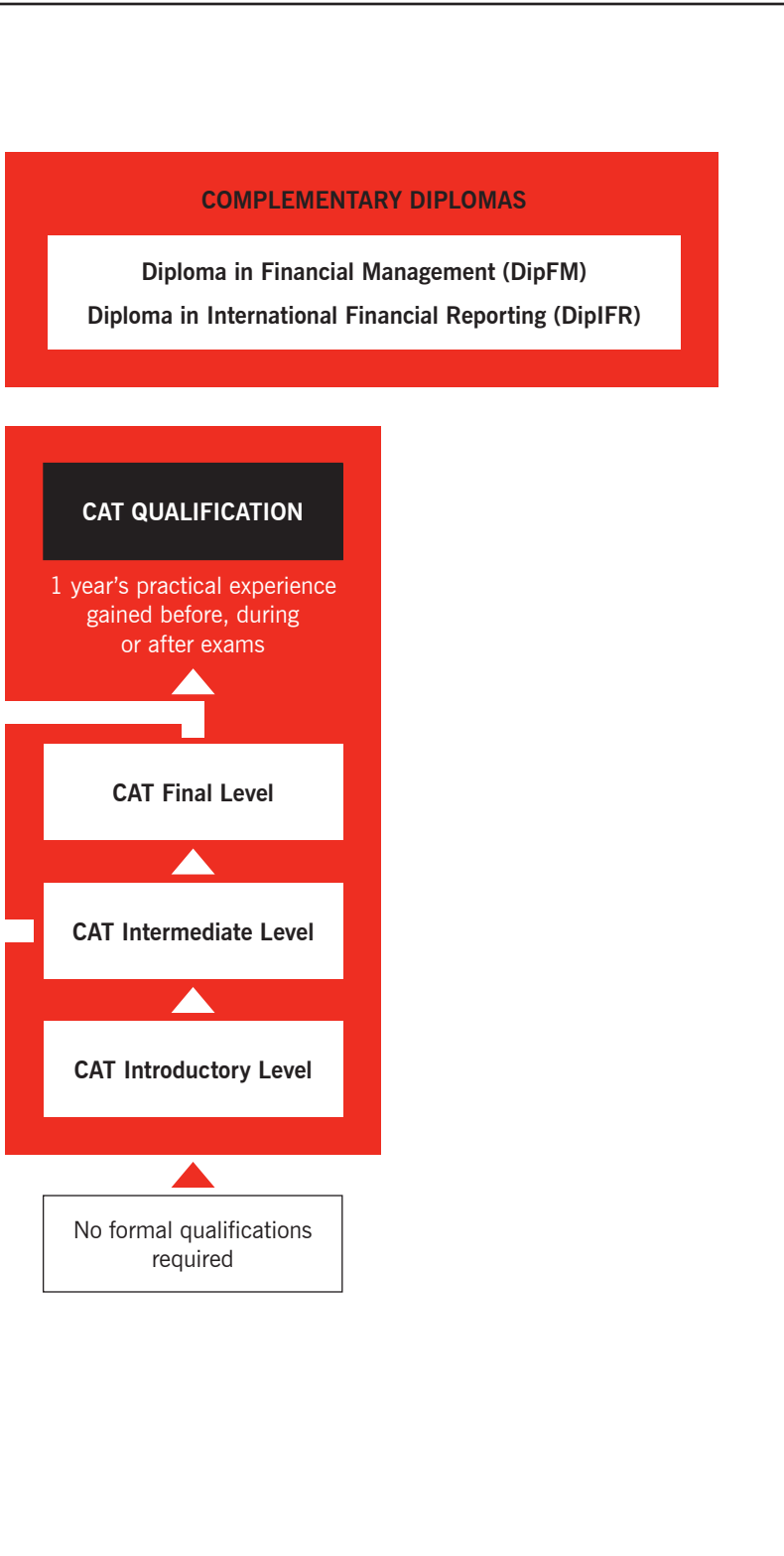
ACCA delivers qualifications in partnership with many organisations. ACCA operates joint examination schemes in 21 countries and works closely with over 400 registered tuition providers and over 6,500 employers of accountants and finance professionals. ACCA delivers services to students and members through a network of over 75 offices and other centres, aiming to support them throughout their careers.

ACCA uses its expertise and experience to assist governments, donor agencies and professional bodies to develop the profession. ACCA aims to achieve and promote the highest professional, ethical and governance standards and advance the public interest.

ACCA's reputation is grounded in over 100 years of providing accounting and financial qualifications. Our long traditions are complemented by modern thinking, backed by a predominantly young, dynamic membership.

ACCA QUALIFICATIONS STRUCTURE





ACCA offers two core qualifications:

- a technician level qualification, Certified Accounting Technician (CAT), provides a comprehensive introduction to accountancy
- a professional qualification (ACCA) enabling members to reach the highest level in accountancy

ACCA QUALIFICATION

The ACCA Qualification is designed to provide the accounting knowledge, skills and professional values which will deliver finance professionals who are capable of building successful careers across all sectors, whether they are working in the public or private sectors, practising in accounting firms, or pursuing a career in business.

After completing the professional exams, affiliates should be capable of:

- preparing and analysing financial accounts and reports, and giving appropriate professional advice
- preparing and analysing management accounting reports, measuring, assessing and managing performance – giving appropriate professional advice
- understanding the implications for – and constraints on – accountants and managers imposed by corporate and business law
- preparing tax computations and giving professional advice on a range of taxation issues with regards to personal and corporate taxation
- recognising the role of internal and external auditing with respect to financial review, control, accountability, and assurance
- applying financial management theory and techniques in the interests of sustainable and responsible value creation, and giving appropriate professional advice on financing, investment, and distribution
- managing the strategic direction of an organisation and supporting business strategy through implementing business process change by applying appropriate project, systems, and people management techniques and theories

and

- appreciating that an accountant must embrace and adhere to a set of professional values and behave within an ethical framework, showing responsibility to stakeholders through operating within an effective system of governance, internal control, and risk management.

RECOGNITION OF ACCA AND CAT

The exams are divided into two levels – Fundamentals and Professional.

Fundamentals	
Knowledge	
F1 – The Accountant in Business	AB
F2 – Management Accounting	MA
F3 – Financial Accounting	FA
Skills	
F4 – Corporate and Business Law	CL
F5 – Performance Management	PM
F6 – Taxation	TX
F7 – Financial Reporting	FR
F8 – Audit and Assurance	AA
F9 – Financial Management	FM
Professional	
Essentials	
P1 – Professional Accountant	PA
P2 – Corporate Reporting	CR
P3 – Business Analysis	BA
Options	
P4 – Advanced Financial Management	AFM
P5 – Advanced Performance Management	APM
P6 – Advanced Taxation	ATA
P7 – Advanced Audit and Assurance	AAA

The **Fundamentals** level is divided into two modules – Knowledge and Skills. The Knowledge module introduces students to the core areas of financial and management accounting. This provides the platform from which the other technical accountancy areas will be studied in greater detail in the Skills module. The Skills module contains six subjects which comprehensively cover the main technical areas that any accountant – regardless of their future career aspirations – are expected to have mastered. These comprise law, performance management, taxation, financial reporting, auditing, and financial management.

The **Professional** level is divided into two modules – Essentials and Options. Both modules have been set at an intellectual level equivalent to that expected of a student taking a Masters degree. The focus of the syllabus at this level is to build upon the technical skills already acquired, and explore more advanced professional skills, techniques, and values that are required and used by the expert accountant acting in an advisory or consultancy role at a senior level. All students must complete the three papers in the Essentials module. The Options module contains four papers. These are directly underpinned and supported by their equivalent within the Skills module in the Fundamentals level. These exams assess the more advanced and sophisticated techniques that a professional needs in order

to specialise in specific areas at work, or to follow as a career pathway in an advisory or consultancy role. Students select two out of four Option papers and are advised to choose the options that relate to their chosen or anticipated field of work.

Full syllabus details and examination papers are available at www.accaglobal.com/students/study_exams/qualifications/acca_choose/acca

CAT QUALIFICATION

The CAT qualification comprises a combination of exams and practical experience. It is designed to equip students with all the necessary technical skills and knowledge required to fulfil an accounting role to technician level. It also provides a firm foundation of knowledge and the opportunity to fast track towards becoming a professional ACCA accountant.

To achieve CAT status students need to complete a set of exams and one year's practical experience in the workplace. The CAT qualification has a range of internationally relevant syllabus options and the choice of distance learning, face-to-face or self study. The qualification is ideally suited to those who are keen to progress their careers while maintaining a manageable work-life balance.

There are nine papers in total to complete including two out of three option papers at Advanced Level.

Introductory level

- 1 – Recording Financial Transactions
- 2 – Information and Management Control

Intermediate level

- 3 – Maintaining Financial Records
- 4 – Accounting for Costs

Advanced level

- 5 – Managing People and Systems
- 6 – Drafting Financial Statements
- 7 – Planning, Control and Performance Management
- 8 – Implementing Audit Procedures
- 9 – Preparing Taxation Computations
- 10 – Managing Finances

The practical experience element consists of at least one year's relevant supervised work experience, which can be completed in any size or type of business, and in any combination of sectors, before, during or after completing the exams.

Full syllabus details and examination papers are available at www.accaglobal.com/students/study_exams/qualifications/technicianscheme

DIPLOMA IN FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (DIPFM)

Unlike many financial awareness courses, the Diploma aims to achieve a level of practical understanding that is genuinely useful in the workplace. Managers are increasingly responsible for managing their own profit centres and therefore need a similar level of financial understanding to the qualified accountants within the business. The ACCA Diploma develops this with a broad range of topics which enable managers not only to understand financial information but also link it to broader strategic decisions.

DIPLOMA IN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING (DIPIFR)

To provide qualified accountants or graduates, possessing relevant country specific qualifications or work experience with an up-to-date and relevant conversion course, providing a practical and detailed knowledge of the key international financial reporting standards and how they are interpreted and applied.

For more information on each of the ACCA Diplomas, please visit the ACCA website.

HOW CAN I LET ACCA KNOW WHAT RECOGNITION WE AWARD?

Please visit the Learning Providers – Recognition section of the ACCA website, which will provide full details on how to submit this information to ACCA, or e-mail recognition@accaglobal.com

HOW WILL ACCA COMMUNICATE THE RECOGNITION INFORMATION?

ACCA will display recognition information, for all educational institutions, through the main ACCA website.