

# FPER quick guide.



# What is FPER?

To become a certified accounting technician (CAT), you must demonstrate relevant skills and experience within a real work environment. This is what FPER (the Foundations Practical Experience Requirement) is all about.

You'll need to complete 12 months supervised experience in a relevant role(s) and demonstrate that you have gained a range of skills by achieving eight performance objectives (two Essentials and six Technical from three groups).

You'll use the online *MyExperience* tool, which is accessed through *myACCA*, to record your FPER and have your experience signed off by a practical experience supervisor.

We understand that FPER may seem a little daunting, and you might be wondering how to get started – but don't worry, completing your FPER can be achieved in five easy steps.



## Step 1 Gain relevant experience

To achieve the FPER you'll need to gain work experience in a relevant role – this is a role where you spend time on accounting or finance tasks. If you're not in a full time accounting role at the moment don't worry – our FPER policy is flexible so there are many ways to demonstrate that you've achieved the FPER.

You can use supervised experience you've gained through:

- roles in any organisation or sector
- part time work
- multiple roles – you don't have to achieve 12 months with the same employer
- partially relevant roles where only some of your time is spent on accounting or finance work
- roles you worked in before joining ACCA
- internships and volunteering.



## Step 2 Find a supervisor

Your experience needs to be supervised to count as FPER. You must find a practical experience supervisor to supervise and sign off your performance objectives and the time you've completed in your role. Key points to remember:

- usually your practical experience supervisor will be your line manager
- you can have more than one supervisor
- your supervisor must be a qualified accountant to sign off your performance objectives
- your supervisor does not need to be a qualified accountant to sign off the time you've completed in a role
- if your line manager is not a qualified accountant then you can ask another manager, a consultant, or the organisation's external accountants/auditors to work with your line manager and sign off your objectives.



### Step 3

#### Start recoding

You'll find the FPER much easier if you record your experience as you achieve it. Once you're working in a relevant role make sure that you record this information in *MyExperience*, so that you can track your progress.

You'll need to record details of:

- your employer's name and address
- your role – including job title and start date.

You'll also need to add your supervisor's details and send them an invitation to register, because they won't be able to sign off your experience until they've registered.



### Step 4

#### Target performance objectives

You must choose which performance objectives you're going to work on. Some key points to remember:

- you need to complete eight performance objectives, both of the Essentials and six of the Technical objectives:
  - **one** from group **one**
  - **two** from group **two**
  - **three** from group **three**
- make a plan for achieving your performance objectives with your practical experience supervisor
- choose the Technical objectives that link to your everyday work as these will be easier to achieve
- you can work on more than one objective at a time and you can complete your objectives in any order.

Once you've decided which objectives to target you can start recording your progress in *MyExperience*. To complete each performance objective you'll need to:

- write a statement and confirm that you've achieved a list of tasks called Elements
- submit your performance objective to your supervisor for sign-off.

#### ACCA Qualification students

If you're an ACCA Qualification student applying for CAT status then you'll need to complete all of the performance objectives in group one and two in place of the Introductory and Intermediate level Foundations in Accountancy exams.



### Step 5

#### Keep going

In total you'll need to complete 12 months of experience and eight performance objectives, but this doesn't need to be in one continuous role.

ACCA's FPER policy is flexible so if you're moving to a non-accounting or finance role for a while, or you're taking a career break – don't worry! Just remember to get all your progress so far recorded and signed off. So that when you're ready to continue with your FPER you can carry on from where you left off without having to go back to past employers to get your experience verified.

## Need more help?

Please visit  
[www.accaglobal.com/per](http://www.accaglobal.com/per)  
for further FPER guidance and support

Once you've completed your FPER you're a step closer to becoming a certified accounting technician (CAT).

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THINK AHEAD