ACCA-ISCA Joint Pathway Programme for Professional Qualification (JPP)

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How do I register for the ACCA-ISCA Joint Pathway Programme for Professional Qualification (JPP)? What are the fees payable?

You do not need to register separately for the JPP. All students in Singapore who are registered with ACCA at the Fundamentals level (Papers F1 to F9 or any part thereof) from 1 July 2015 onwards will be automatically put on the JPP. This includes both existing Fundamentals level students and new students who are registering with ACCA for the first time. The prevailing ACCA initial registration fee and annual subscription fee will apply. There will be no additional charges or fees payable.

2. What requirements must I meet in order to be registered on the JPP?

For new students, you need to possess three O-Level and two A-Level passes in five separate subjects, including Math and English at O-Levels. Applicants with polytechnic diplomas or university degrees may enjoy some exemptions.

For existing Fundamentals level students you must ensure your annual subscription fees to ACCA are paid up, along with any other outstanding payments. Only Singaporean students or students residing in Singapore shall be eligible to register under the JPP.

3. Do I need to pay registration fees (for new students) and annual student membership fees twice – once to ACCA and another to ISCA¹?

No, you are only required to pay a one-time initial registration fee and the annual subscription fee to ACCA. The prevailing ACCA initial registration fee and annual subscription fee will apply. More details may be found here: http://www.accaglobal.com/sg/en/qualifications/accountancy-career/fees/fees-charges.html

¹ Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants
4. **What options are there for me after completion of the JPP (that is, ACCA Papers F1-F9)?**

   All students who successfully complete the requirements of the JPP will be awarded the ACCA-ISCA Advanced Diploma in Accounting and Business and may progress to the Professional level of the ACCA Qualification or other professional accountancy qualifications, subject to the conditions imposed by the respective professional accountancy bodies at the time of application.

5. **Does the JPP provide me with a pathway to professional membership with ACCA?**

   Yes. Students on the JPP will be eligible for ACCA membership after the completion of the ACCA Professional level exams, the Professional Ethics module and three years of relevant practical experience.

6. **Will I be able to switch to another professional accountancy qualification or join another professional accountancy body after embarking on the JPP?**

   This is dependent on the professional accountancy body in question and further requirements (if any) imposed by it prior to joining. Successful completion of the JPP (ACCA-ISCA Advanced Diploma in Accounting and Business) is equivalent to a Bachelor degree in the UK education framework. For detailed information on the statutory and official education recognition held by ACCA and ACCA’s qualifications, please visit [http://www.accaglobal.com/sg/en/learning-provider/learningproviders-exemptions/recognition-acca-qualifications.html](http://www.accaglobal.com/sg/en/learning-provider/learningproviders-exemptions/recognition-acca-qualifications.html)

7. **Is there any impact on me if I am pursuing the BSc in Applied Accounting degree from Oxford Brookes University? Does the BSc qualify for ISCA Associate membership?**

   Students on the JPP are eligible for the Oxford Brookes University BSc degree. However, students must ensure that they have opted-in to the BSc degree scheme and meet the University’s eligibility and graduation requirements. More details may be found here: [http://www.accaglobal.com/sg/en/student/exam-entry-and-administration/oxford-brookes-bsc-hons-in-applied-accounting/eligibility-for-the-oxford-brookesbsc.html](http://www.accaglobal.com/sg/en/student/exam-entry-and-administration/oxford-brookes-bsc-hons-in-applied-accounting/eligibility-for-the-oxford-brookesbsc.html)
The Oxford Brookes University BSc in Applied Accounting degree will be assessed by ISCA for Accredited Accounting Degree status in due course, to determine if its graduates are eligible to apply as Associate members of ISCA.

8. **Does the JPP have any impact on the expected Reciprocal Membership Agreement (RMA) between ACCA and ISCA?**

The JPP offers all students who successfully complete the requirements of the Programme a progression to the Professional level of the ACCA Qualification or other professional accountancy qualifications, subject to the conditions imposed by the respective professional accountancy bodies at the time of application.

The JPP does not impact the RMA to be entered into between ACCA and ISCA. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed in October 2013 to work towards clear pathways for ACCA members to become CA (Singapore) and vice versa. More details on the RMA and its terms and conditions will be announced in due course.
9. **What benefits can I expect from the JPP?**

Upon successful completion of the JPP, you will earn the ACCA-ISCA Advanced Diploma in Accounting and Business, which is equivalent to a Bachelor degree in the UK education framework, as well as progression onto the Professional level of the ACCA Qualification. On top of this, you will benefit from initiatives jointly developed by ACCA and ISCA that are aimed at providing you with career guidance, helping you to develop work ready skills and promoting employability. Top-performing students of the JPP will be awarded joint prizes by ACCA and ISCA.

10. **I have already completed the ACCA Qualification/ACCA Fundamentals level, how will the JPP affect me?**

You will not be affected by the JPP. Only existing Fundamentals level students and new students who are registering with ACCA for the first time from 1 July 2015 onwards will be put on the Programme. As a Professional level ACCA student or affiliate, you will continue to enjoy support from ACCA to help you attain ACCA professional membership en route to becoming a qualified accounting and finance professional.
11. Is there a pathway to ISCA membership via the ACCA Qualification?

ACCA Affiliates who do not meet the requirements of the transitional arrangements dated 1 April 2013 to qualify as a Chartered Accountant of Singapore (CA (Singapore)), are eligible to apply as Associate members of ISCA.

Students under the ACCA-ISCA Joint Pathway Programme who progress to the ACCA Professional level and successfully complete the ACCA Qualification’s final exams, are eligible to apply for the Associate (ISCA) membership.

ACCA Affiliates and Students, including JPP students, may attain full professional membership with ACCA first and subsequently apply for CA (Singapore) membership via the RMA to be entered into between ACCA and ISCA, subject to the terms and conditions to be announced in due course. Please refer to ISCA’s website (http://isca.org.sg/become-a-member/pathways/) showing the pathway to CA (Singapore) membership for ACCA and other professional bodies.

However, The ACCA-ISCA Joint Pathway Programme provides direct access to a global qualification for aspiring Professional Accountants in Business. ACCA Affiliates and Students not wishing to pursue a career in public practice, but looking to work as professional accountants in a multitude of positions in diverse sectors such as commerce, industry, financial services, education, and the public and not-for-profit sectors, are encouraged to apply for the Associate (ISCA) membership.

Please refer to ISCA’s website for a list of recognized accounting and finance qualifications for Associate (ISCA) membership admission.

12. Is there a pathway to ISCA membership via ACCA’s Certified Accounting Technician (CAT) Qualification? [NEW]

If you are a holder of the Certified Accounting Technician (CAT) Qualification, you are eligible to apply for the Affiliate (ISCA) membership but subject to the completion of the Principles of Singapore Law and Tax module under the ISCA Accredited Accounting Technician.

Please refer to ISCA’s website for a list of recognized accounting and finance qualifications for Affiliate (ISCA) membership admission.
13. In what way is this new ACCA-ISCA JPP different from the previous ACCA-ICPAS Joint Examination Scheme (JES) which ceased in September 2012? [NEW]

The previous ACCA-ICPAS JES was in place from 1983 to 2012. Under the scheme, ACCA students paid student membership fees to both ACCA and ISCA and were able to gain former ICPAS associate membership upon successful completion of the JES examinations, which satisfied the examination element required for membership admission. They would also gain membership into ACCA.

The new ACCA-ISCA Joint Pathway Programme launched in July 2015, allows ACCA Fundamentals level students to enjoy a slew of enhanced benefits such as career guidance, student engagement activities and recognition of outstanding performance - all jointly organised by ACCA and ISCA - by paying an annual student fee to ACCA only. Under the JPP, all Fundamentals level students in Singapore will also be awarded the ACCA-ISCA Advanced Diploma in Accounting and Business upon successful completion of Papers F1 to F9.

Note:
Care has been taken by ACCA and ISCA to ensure the contents of this document are correct at the time of print (March 2017). ACCA and ISCA reserve the right to change the information, or parts of it, at any time, without prior notice.

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