

Chartered Accountancy 101

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Trusted Business Leadership



Who is Chartered Accountants Ireland?

- Ireland's largest and longest established professional accounting education & membership body
- Dual 'ACA' and 'CPA' designation - a globally recognised business leadership credential
- Educating, supporting, advising – community relationship fostered, a lifelong career partner
- Leading voice of the accounting profession and the island's business community, supporting economic prosperity
- All island body with Belfast and Dublin offices – local, accessible



Partner to island's top employers

39,000 members and 7,000 students

Becoming a Chartered Accountant.

Your passport to...

- Career choice & stability
- A connected community
- Travel & international work
- Best in class professional education



Career choice & stability

Professional education developing skills to shape you as a:

- Business leader
- Critical thinker
- Decision maker
- Problem solver
- Trusted advisor
- Strategist
- Influencer
- Work in any sector... practice, business, public, third level
- Develop a varied career in traditional and non-traditional roles
- Chartered Accountants work at senior levels across so many market
- Enjoy job security – 99% Employment
- Earn a top salary £€

Business Leadership qualification: 64% work in business, 28% work in practice

Future skills

Customer/
public service

Decision making

Critical analysis

Communication

Organisation

Technology

Attention to detail

Leadership

Influence

Interpersonal/
team player

Emotional
intelligence

Creativity

Problem solving

Storytelling

Time management

Adaptability



Career choice & stability

PRACTICE



PUBLIC/THIRD SECTOR



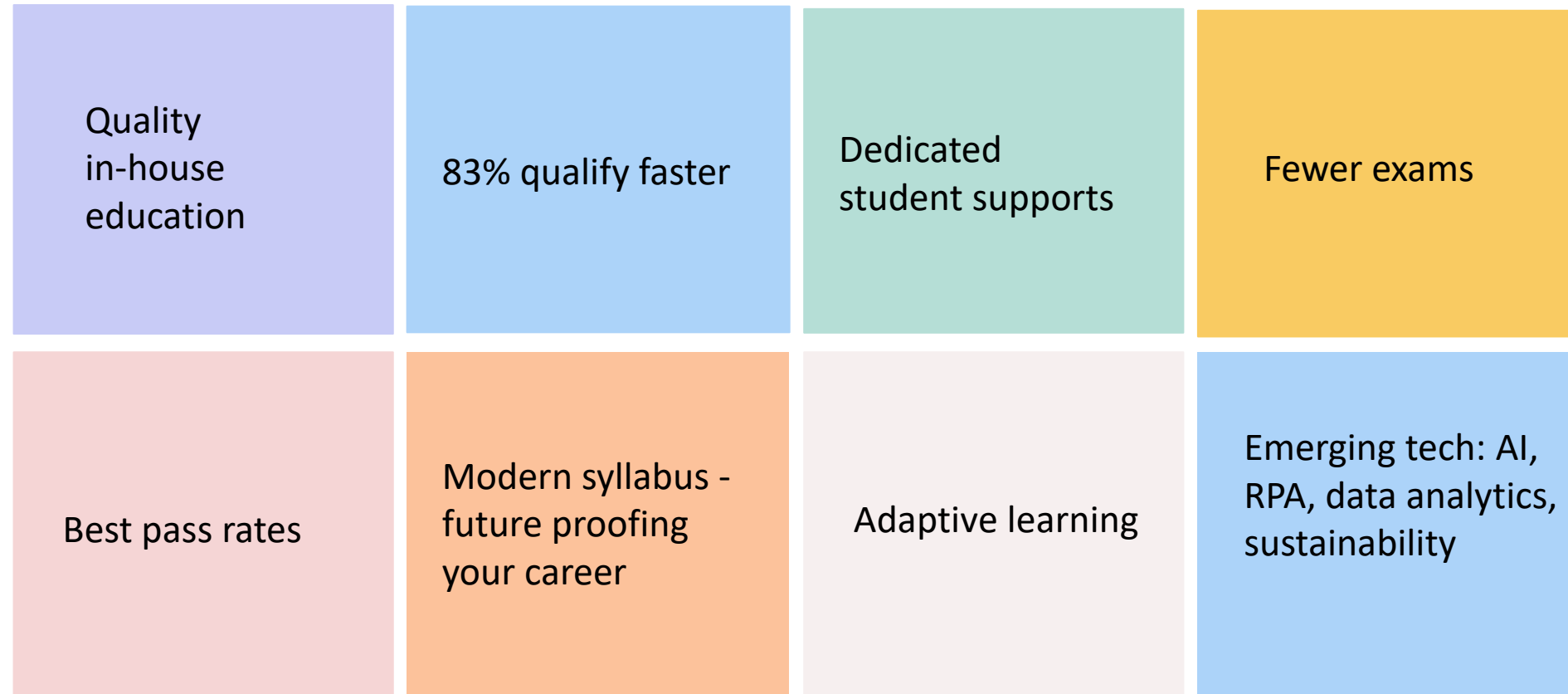
BUSINESS



We are partner to leading employers and the island's largest recruiters of top talent

Best in class professional education

Varied programme pathways and options including digital delivery, on demand learning & online exams



Exclusive technology partnerships:



Travel & international work

15 professional bodies - representing over 700,000 members and over 1 million students

Globally recognised & respected professional qualification

Travel the world, 5000 work overseas

99 of 100 Best Global Brands employ Chartered Accountants

Chartered Accountants work in more than 200 countries worldwide

More than 50 of the FTSE 100 have a Chartered Accountant as CFO



A connected community

Leading & largest
body - 39,000
members, 6,600
students

All-island presence:
Student & member
societies -district
and international

Lifelong career
partner:
Access to exclusive
business network &
connected community of
professionals

Gender balance:
43% members &
48% students are
female

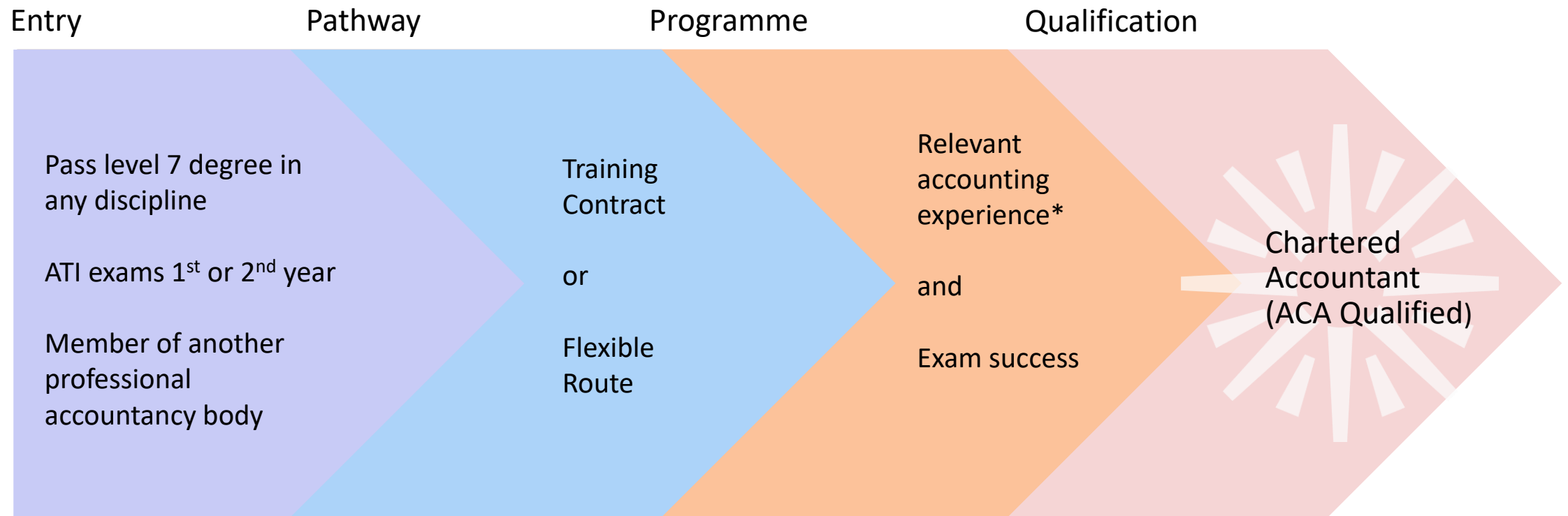
Dedicated supports
for students &
members e.g. Thrive,
CA Support, Balance

Special interest
groups e.g.
Sustainability &
D&I



How do I become a Chartered Accountant?

The entry routes and journey overview



*Work in any sector e.g., Practice, Business, Public Sector, Financial Services, Third Sector.



Entry Route 1: Graduate

Related Degrees:

- Potential full / part exemptions
- Undergrad honours degree (level 8) in:
 - ✓ Accounting
 - ✓ Finance
 - ✓ Business
- Postgrad Diploma in Accounting
- Masters in Accounting

Non-Related Degrees:

- Likely no exemptions
- Undergrad degree (level 7/8) in ANY discipline e.g. Law, Engineering, History, Marketing, Psychology, Art, English, Medicine, Computing
- All backgrounds welcome

What's the difference?

How many exams you sit on the Chartered programme
Previous related education history = potential exemptions!

Entry Route 2: Accounting Technicians Ireland (ATI)

Apprenticeship pathway

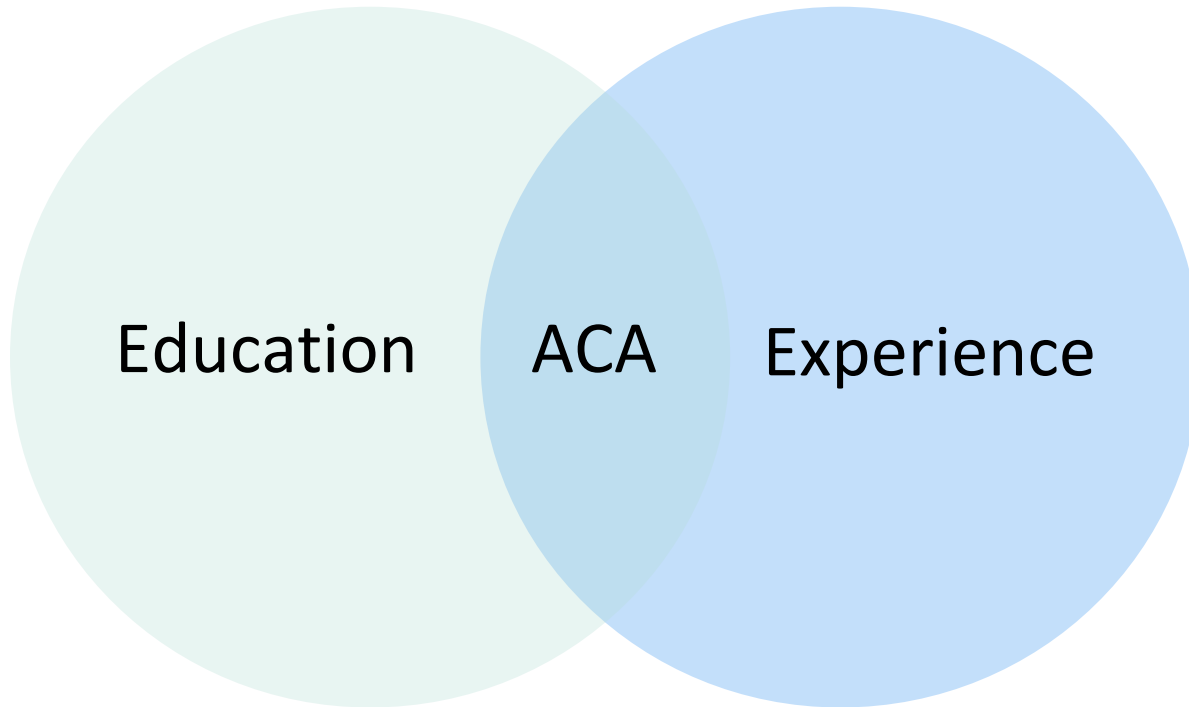
- Most popular with school leavers
- Earn while you learn
- 2 year fixed programme
- Work 4 days a week
- College 1 day a week
- On completion transition onto the Chartered ACA programme

Traditional pathway

1. Study with ATI for one year and gain a merit* – move onto the Chartered programme
2. Study with ATI for two years to gain the full Accounting Technician qualification - then move onto the Chartered programme

* GCSE/A Level/Leaving Cert criteria to be met also

The ACA programme & pathways



Training Contract pathway

- Employer led training journey
- Education and work experience wrapped into an official training agreement with an employer
- Structured and consecutive approach
- Often connected to graduate schemes

Flexible Route pathway

- Student led training journey
- Education and work experience elements don't need to run concurrently or consecutively
- Students can enrol independently
- Employers can be involved informally

Useful Resource:

Training Contract vs Flexible Route Features Table available on www.BecomeACharteredAccountant.com

(also outlines programme entry requirements)



All students complete the same education programme and exams and undertake the same work experience requirement in both pathways

Education journey

There are 3 levels of the ACA programme

- How many levels you need to complete depends on your prior education background
- Virtual delivery via learning hub (live webinar timetable & self-directed study)
- The academic year for the course delivery runs annually from Autumn – Spring/Summer
- There are 2 exam sittings (online) per year - Summer & Autumn/Winter



The ACA syllabus / exemptions

CAP 1

1. Financial Accounting
2. Finance
3. Management Accounting
4. Taxation I
 - Law for Accountants (e-assessment)

- ATI year 2 - full
- Honours (level 8) degrees in accounting, finance, etc with 2.2 grade – full/partial
- Post-grad diplomas - full

CAP 2

1. Auditing & Assurance
2. Taxation II
3. Strategic Finance & Management Accounting
4. Financial Reporting

Masters in Accounting - full
(9 recognised courses)

FAE

1. FAE Core
 - Integrated case study (inc content on technologies, AI, data analytics)
2. FAE Elective
 - Choice of Audit, Tax, Advisory, Financial Services, Public Sector

All students must complete the FAEs
(no exemptions)



Work experience journey

Students can gain the required professional development experience with any employer where they can access relevant accounting/finance work and where there is a recognised qualified accountant to act as a mentor

Core Professional Values*

Ethics & professionalism
Objectivity
Managing self & others
Communication
Problem solving

Business Competencies*

Strategic management
IT awareness
Project management
Stakeholder management
Legal performance

Functional Competencies

Financial reporting*
Audit & assurance
Taxation
Finance & Management accounting
IT/Systems

Period of required work experience:

- 4 years for ATI Diploma holders
- 3.5 years for all Degree holders
- 3 years for accredited Masters/PgDip holders

Securing ACA sponsored roles and tips

- Larger employer partners typically release their graduate ACA roles in Autumn annually
- Larger employer partners internships and placement opportunities go live pre/post Christmas – can lead to training role
- Other employers recruit all the year round
- ACA programme can be bolted on to any Accounting/Finance role – it doesn't have to be a 'Training Contract' or 'Trainee Chartered Accountant' role
- Keep eye on employer websites and social media pages, standard job forums and Chartered Accountants Ireland website Training Vacancy page and Instagram account
- Internships / placements / work experience are a great way to get exposure to roles and often can lead to graduate job offers
- Go to careers fairs and engage with employers – ask questions about roles, culture etc



Chartered Accountancy overview



Most prestigious



Largest & connected network



Best education offering



Global recognition



Fastest to qualify



High earning potential



Fewer exams



Job security



Highest pass rates



Unrivalled & local support

ACA is your passport to a career of choice –
develop as a business leader & work in any sector



Find out more

For more on how you can
become a Chartered Accountant:

Instagram: @CharteredAcclrl_Careers

Email: info@charteredaccountants.ie

Phone: 0818 28 29 28

Website: becomeacharteredaccountant.com

