

APT PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME COURSE (APT)

Overview

The APC is an assessment of professional competence and focuses on the integration of technical skills within 'real life' circumstances, on pervasive skills such as communication, on understanding the 'big picture' (the business and the environment in which the business operates) and on strategy, risk management and governance. The APC examination will assess professional competence to the extent possible in a written examination and has been very carefully designed to do so.

Entry Requirements to write APC Examination

- Candidates must have passed the ITC;
- Candidates must have completed 20 months of a contract by the beginning of the month in which the examination is written;
- Candidates must have successfully completed the professional development programme.

APT APC Professional Competence Development Programme Course

Please be advised that Accounting Professional Training (APT) / CAA will run the Professional Competence Development Course. The programme study workshops to start 16 April 2021, which will be done online until when it is cleared safe from the COVID-19 to have actual contact sessions.

Objectives

The primary objective of the Course is to develop the professional competence of candidates to a level appropriate for new entrants to the Chartered Accountancy profession. The course will also equip students with new professional skills.

Why should 2021 Candidates do the course?

Firstly, the Course is compulsory and is an entry requirement to write APC. Students are required to attend the Workshops, participate throughout the course, write and pass the assessments for them to be eligible to write the APC Examination.

Secondly, studying for an exam while working a full day is extremely onerous. The course provides candidates with the motivation and structure to ensure that they cover the necessary material.

Programme Study Methodology and Structure

APT will offer the course on-line. The programme will allow candidates the flexibility of studying in their own time and completing work or submitting assignments within a scheduled time frame rather than on a fixed date. Candidates will be able to access APT on-line facilities at any time, will have access to “chat rooms” and will have the opportunity to work in groups. **Candidates are advised that the minimum computer specifications to enable students to communicate and download documents or information on the learning site is basically Windows or Mac OS.**

The programme will incorporate a tracking system which will enable individual candidates to monitor their own progress on the programme and their competency development. The programme is comprised of seven Modules.

Distribution of Course Material

Course material will be made available online on APT once registered only. Additional course material will as well be made available online on APT during the course of the programme. There would also be On Line downloadable material and Videos which could be made available on DVD – these would be send through ICAZ.

Exams/Assessments and requirements to pass the programme

Passing of the assessments is the entry requirement to APC Examination.

In order to pass the APT programme, candidates will be required to pass two assessment examinations.

- Both assessment examinations fully simulate the APC and are written under full examinations conditions.
- The first examination date is set as per the course timetable. Candidates will receive guidance prior to this examination. Candidates will also be required to complete a series of short on-line assessments during the course tenure in order to assist their development and assess their progress and, thereby, to gain entry to this examination.



- Candidates are required to pass the first examination in order to progress to the second. Candidates who fail the first examination will be provided with further guidance and will be required to write supplementary examination.
- The second examination date is Wednesday 8 September 2021.
- Candidates who fail this examination will be allowed to write supplementary examination.
- There is no minimum mark required for a supplementary examination.

Candidates are graded as either “competent” or not and candidates who do not achieve “competence” will be required to sit for the supplementary examination. The assessments are written under examination conditions at stipulated centres. Candidates will complete multidisciplinary single integrated case studies based on a real-life scenarios.

Candidates will:

- Receive scenario information several days prior to the examination;
- Research additional information and consult where necessary, during this time, based on triggers embedded in the pre released scenario;
- Received additional scenario information together with the requirements on the day of the examination;
- Have a whole working day in order to complete their solutions, although the intention is that the examination remains an 8 hour examination;
- Be assessed according to competence demonstrated in their solutions as opposed to receiving marks for specific points.

The programme also includes two Self-Assessment Case Studies which may be written at home.

On completion of the professional development programme, successful candidates will be awarded a certificate which will entitle them to write the APC.

Registration Information:

Students will be required to register with both APT direct (On-Line) and with ICAZ (to complete the ICAZ course application form and email it to contact details below). On-Line programme will allow candidates the flexibility of studying in their own time and completing work or submitting assignments within a scheduled time frame. Students will be able to access APT on-line facilities at any time. The On-line programme incorporates a tracking system which will enable individual students to monitor their own progress on the programme and their competency development.

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Categories which a student may opt to register:

- **First time students including Catchup students – R6000 plus USD300** (compulsory for all first time students).
- **Repeat students – R5100 plus USD300** (This is for those who are repeating the programme and didn't make it in 2020. They are supposed to get their scripts reviewed. It is not mandatory for all repeaters to get a script review for their 2020 APC. It is strongly recommended and encouraged that students have their scripts reviewed and attend the repeat class)
- **Refresher students – R2650 plus USD300** (This is for those students that have done the programme before, and still have valid certificates i.e certificates still within 3 years of issue. These students do not require a script review because possibly they did not write APC last year)

On-line registration with APT is open and all students are expected to have been registered On-line before they email registration forms to register with ICAZ. How to register On-line:

Simply go to apcprogramme.co.za

Go to APC Programme on the Top Bar

The draw down offers "Register Inline" as one of the option.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE: ALL COURSE STUDY WORKSHOPS TO BE DONE ONLINE.
STUDENTS WILL BE ADVISED IN DUE COURSE FOR ANY STUDY WORKSHOPS UPDATES.**



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Conclusion

The APT Professional Competence programme seeks to develop the professional competence expected of a Chartered Accountant at entry into the profession and will offer the best possible chance of passing the APC examination.

❖ **THE COURSE TIMETABLE WILL BE AVAILABLE AND ACCESSIBLE ON APT ASSIST UPON REGISTRATION AND POP**

March 2021

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