

ICAI Global Career E-KIT BAHRAIN



Moving Towards New Frontiers



The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India
(Set up by an Act of Parliament)



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Important Notes

- ▶ This E-Kit is prepared with a view to furnish you with the important information that a member may want to know when our fellow professional arrives in Bahrain to take up an employment or set up professional firm / business. The contents should not be construed as the regulations or laws that are in force in Bahrain.
- ▶ Similarly, as the socio economic parameters keep changing in this vibrant economy and the information included in this E-Kit is based on the current factors as on 30th September 2015, the reader is requested to discuss the facts with the concerned authorities to take a note of changes if any, that may have taken place since the date of publishing this booklet.
- ▶ Information contained in this document is purely for internal circulation and meant for ICAI members to give them an overview of the activities of the Chapter and to facilitate and guide the members.
- ▶ Each country has a distinct visa requirements and for all professional and business engagements.
- ▶ This document does not promote Bahrain either for practice/employment. The users of this information need to update the requirements before taking any decision in this regard. The benchmark of success of individual members may differ between individual members depending upon the skills, aptitude and professional dexterity.



ICAI Motto

**Ya esa suptesu jagarti kamam kamam Puruso nirmimanah |
Tadeva sukram tad brahma tadevamrtamucyate |
Tasminlokah sritah sarve tadu natyeti Kascan | etad vai tat ||**

(That person who is awake in those that sleep, shaping desire after desire, that, indeed, is the pure. That is Brahman, that, indeed, is called the immortal. In it all the worlds rest and no one ever goes beyond it. This, verily, is that, kamam kamam : desire after desire, really objects of desire. Even dream objects like objects of waking consciousness are due to the Supreme Person. Even dream consciousness is a proof of the existence of the self. No one ever goes beyond it : cf. Eckhart : 'On reaching God all progress ends.')

Source : Kathopanishad

ICAI Vision:

ICAI aims at harnessing the opportunities and addressing the challenges presented by the rapidly changing environment so that by 2030, ICAI becomes: World's leading accounting body, a regulator and developer of trusted and independent professionals with world class competencies in accounting, assurance, taxation, finance and business advisory services.

ICAI Mission:

ICAI will leverage technology and infrastructure and partner with its stakeholders to:

- ▶ Impart world class education, training and professional development opportunities to create global professionals.
- ▶ Develop an independent and transparent regulatory mechanism that keeps pace with the changing times
- ▶ Ensure Adherence to highest ethical standards
- ▶ Conduct cutting edge research and development in the areas of accounting, assurance, taxation, finance and business advisory services
- ▶ Establish ICAI members and firms as Indian multi-national service providers



The ICAI - An Overview

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) is a statutory body established by the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 for the regulation of the profession of Chartered Accountants in India. The ICAI has achieved recognition as the premier accounting body in India and today it is the second largest accounting body in the world.



ICAI Presence

- ▶ Headquarters : New Delhi
- ▶ Regional Offices : 5 (Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Kanpur, New Delhi)
- ▶ Branch Offices : 154 branches spread all over the country
- ▶ Overseas : 28 chapters and an overseas office in Dubai

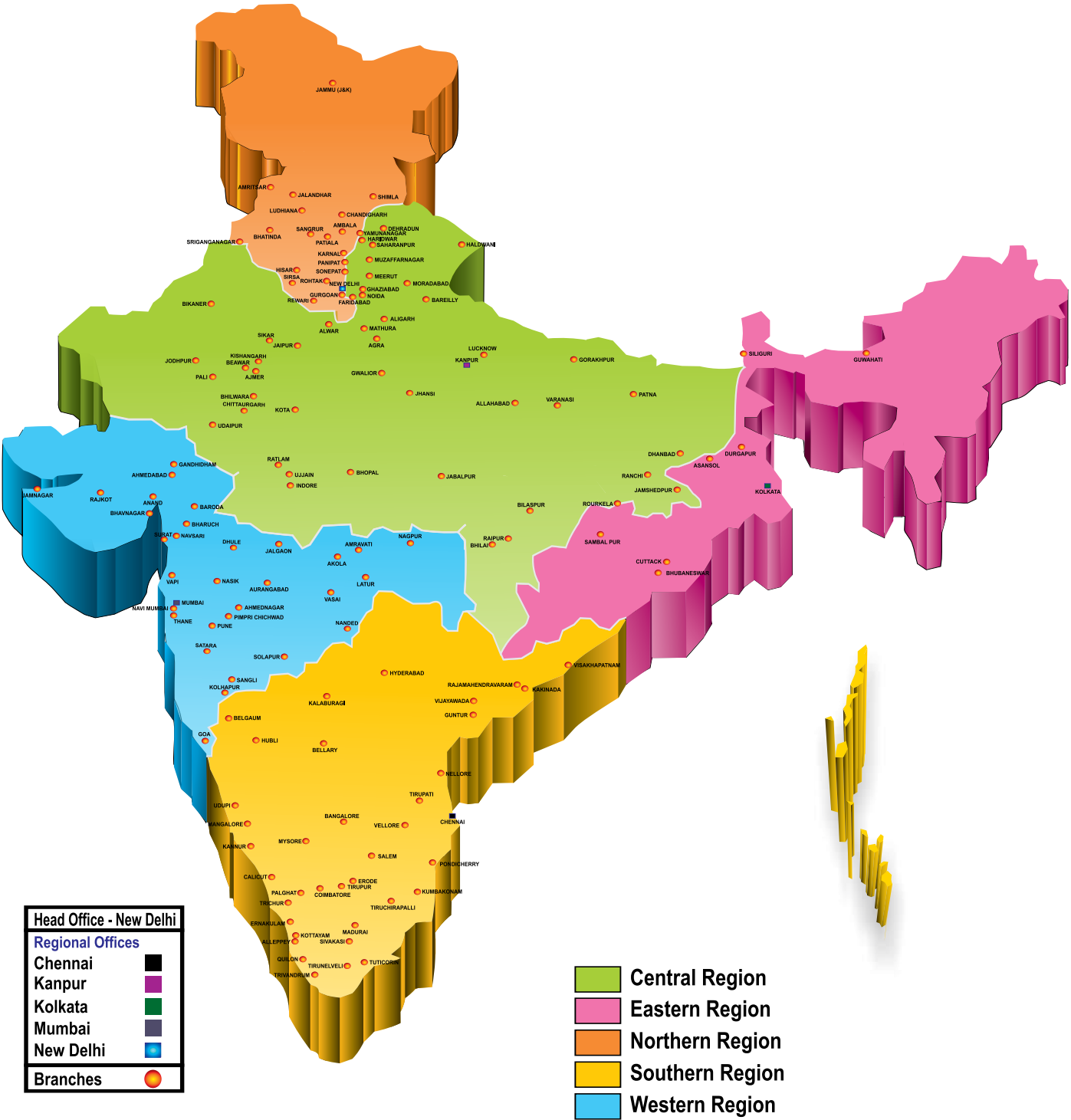
Currently around 8.5 lakh students are pursuing the CA course and the total membership count of the ICAI is over 2.57 lakh. A significant number of members occupy eminent positions in government and various organisations.

The affairs of the ICAI are managed by a Council in accordance with the provisions of the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 and the Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1988. The Council is composed of 40 members of whom 32 are elected by the members and remaining 8 are nominated by the Central Government generally representing the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Ministry of Finance, and other stakeholders.

Activities at a glance:

- ▶ Regulator of CA Profession
- ▶ Standards Setter
- ▶ Disciplinary Mechanism
- ▶ Services to Government and stakeholders
- ▶ Education & Research
- ▶ International initiatives
- ▶ Continuing Professional Education
- ▶ Corporate Governance
- ▶ Public Finance

ICAI National Network

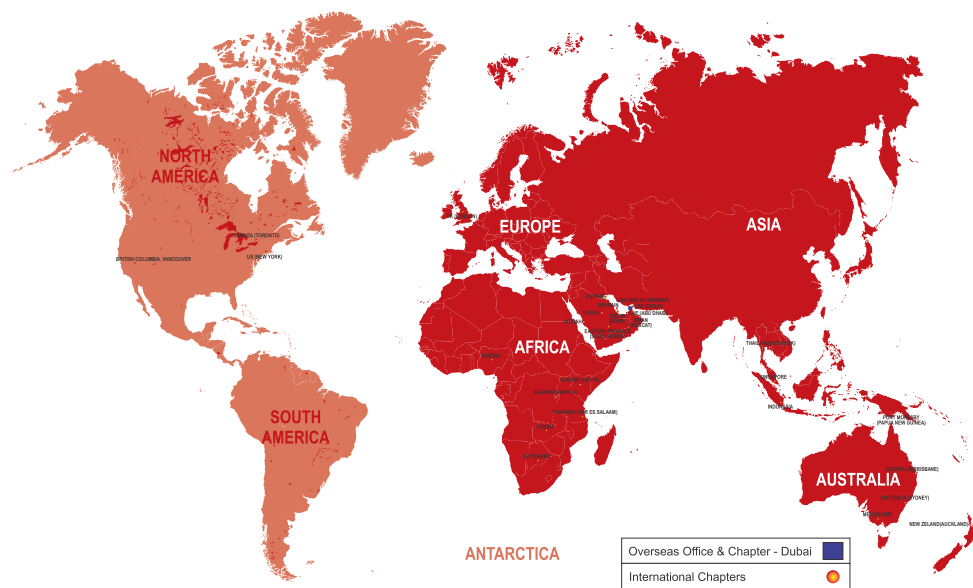




ICAI's Chapters aiding to ICAI's success story

- ▶ Promoting Brand Indian CA ahead of similarly placed qualifications
- ▶ Acting as gateway to promote career opportunities.
- ▶ Updation to Global paradigm of Knowledge: Conducts Certification Courses on IFRS, Valuation etc.
- ▶ Helping Indian members professionally under the aegis of Chapter
- ▶ Promoting members to member networking
- ▶ Operationalising MoUs/ MRAs already entered into
- ▶ Gateway for promoting FDI to India

Africa-Middle East	Abu Dhabi		Bahrain		Botswana	
	Doha		Dubai		Dar Es Salaam	
	Jeddah		Kampala		Kenya	
	Kuwait		Nigeria		Oman	
	Ras Al Khaimah	Riyadh	Saudi Arabia (E.Province)		Zambia	
Asia	Bangkok		Indonesia		Singapore	
Australasia-Oceania	Auckland	Brisbane	Melbourne	Port Moresby	Sydney	
Europe-North America	UK (London)	US (New York)	Canada (Toronto)		Canada (Vancouver)	



CA. M. Devaraja Reddy

President, ICAI



The role of professional services provider has undergone sea-change. As the world is shrinking with newer and newer meanings of delivery of services, opening up new horizon, the professionals are likely to become more and more integrated and focused. It is indeed a matter of satisfaction that the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) has kept its work programme structured in a manner so as to imbibe the emerging scenarios and we are taking due steps for leveraging Indian CA brand globally. The ICAI and its members are known for rendering services of high ethical standards with commitment to the cause of excellence, independence and highest standards of professional integrity.

India is moving towards IFRS-compliant Indian Accounting Standard (Ind-AS). With the implementation of Ind-AS, greater transparency in financial reporting and higher level of disclosures are likely, which will help to lower the cost of capital for Indian businesses in the long term. Convergence with IFRS would facilitate creation of overseas opportunities for young Chartered Accountants. In the present scenario, the Indian accountants have become increasingly sought after, especially in the fast-developing nations. In India, the world's developing economic superpower, demand for accountants has grown manifold.

We feel heartening that the family of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) today has 254,000-plus members, and student base has shot up to more than 850,000. These figures exemplify the importance of role of a Chartered Accountant in building economic momentum in the country.

In order to provide better opportunities to our members to explore employment/professional opportunities abroad, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India has prepared Global Career E-Kits for various countries, to aid global mobility for its members. These Global Career E-Kits covers general information of related jurisdiction such as demographic details, economic environment, useful business information, visa requirements, useful information such as contact details of local chapter, information on MoU/MRA and FAQs for members abroad, etc.

I am confident that these E-Kits will assist our members to establish a preliminary interface with the jurisdiction to serve in times to come. I along with my ICAI team would be happy to have your valuable inputs/suggestions related to these E-Kits.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the Managing Committee members of our Chapters abroad for their contribution to compile valuable information for preparation of these Global Career E-Kits.

With best regards,
CA. M. Devaraja Reddy
President

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India



CA. Nilesh Shivji Vikamsey

Vice-President, ICAI



Accountancy, as a profession has evolved over time and the Chartered Accountancy profession has emerged stronger with testing times and this has empowered the professionals to face the new world with more confidence, expertise and excellence, so that not only the opportunities are exploited to the fullest, but at the same time withstand the ever dynamic economic scenario.

The pace and magnitude of changes in the accounting profession is dramatic: from new regulations and changes in public policy to the coming transition of ownership within firms to meeting the challenges of globalization. Accountants often times face conflicts between maintaining values central to their profession and the demands of the real world. Harmonizing these competing demands speaks to the very heart of being a professional in contrast to simply having a job or performing a function.

India has a large pool of well-trained and skilled Chartered Accountants. The growth of trade and industry in India has been buoyant and with multinationals increase their presence; one sees landscape for functioning beyond domestic jurisdictions. Moreover the movement beyond India has been a response to requirements in overseas markets.

I am glad that the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India in order to cater to the needs of our members is coming out with Global Career E-Kits to assist our members in promoting their global mobility. This Career E-Kit will be a starting point for the members to equip them with basic informational resources in respect of select jurisdictions.

I am sure that the primary information compiled in the Global Career E-Kit would help in strengthening the knowledgebase of the members who are looking to pursue their career globally.

With best wishes,
CA. Nilesh Shivji Vikamsey
Vice President

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India

CA. Kapil Batra

Chairman – Bahrain Chapter of ICAI



Dear Indian Fraternity

As the torchbearers of this trusted profession of Chartered Accountancy we are present across the globe. The hard work every one of us has put in first to qualify for being called and thereafter within our chosen line of application of our skills is not hidden from the sight of those who need such high quality services.

Kingdom of Bahrain is no exception where is recognized and respected in the business world for the contribution we make in the business growth and protection. Bahrain has been a second home to many of our members for decades and a strong 400+ registered membership base of the Bahrain Chapter of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (BCICAI) is testimony to that. With almost one fourth of the population of the island being from India this nation always acknowledges the value of mutually beneficial relationship.

It is quite possible that one of you, currently employed outside Bahrain, comes across an opportunity to work in Bahrain. The Executive Committee of the BCICAI takes pleasure and pride in sharing with you all a summary of information as an E-kit for guidance about working and living in this small yet thriving island nation. BCICAI is the single largest body of professionals in Bahrain which conducts and organizes various educational and family events for its members and on behalf of the community in Bahrain, I welcome the members aspiring to join in.

I am sure that this E-kit which is a result of the dedicated efforts of Nisha would be of great help and guidance to you.

Welcome to the Land of Pearls.

CA. Kapil Batra
Chairman
Bahrain Chapter of ICAI



CA. Vivek Kapoor

Vice Chairman – Bahrain Chapter of ICAI



Dear Fellow CAs,

Welcome to the land of the ancient Dilmun Civilization. This land is itself a Pearl in the ocean of the Arab Countries.

The Bahrain Chapter of the ICAI is a very active chapter of the ICAI and conducts around 12 professional events for the members annually in addition to the family events for its members and their families.

Bahrain hosts many Indian Chartered Accountants and the business houses in the country see the Indian Chartered Accountant as a symbol of trust and reliability with the perfect skill set to handle the present and future of the business houses. A sizeable number of the members are well placed in various companies across Bahrain.

Bahrain offers a good and quality lifestyle for expatriates and their families and was rated amongst the top 5 in the world by HSBC expat poll in 2014.

The Bahrain Chapter of the ICAI has 400+ registered members, making it the largest organized professional body on this Island.

The Bahrain Chapter of ICAI will be pleased to assist the members in their efforts to relocate to this beautiful and tolerant nation and guide them for the smooth settlement.

CA. Vivek Kapoor
Vice Chairman
Bahrain Chapter of ICAI

About The Country

General Information about Bahrain

Full Name	:	Kingdom of Bahrain
Official languages	:	Arabic
Demonym	:	Bahraini
Population	:	1,378,000
Area Total	:	765 km ²
Religion	:	Islam
Capital	:	Manama
Independence	:	14 August 1971
GDP	:	\$34.908 billion
Currency	:	Bahraini dinar (BHD)
Time zone	:	AST (UTC+3)
Government	:	Unitary parliamentary constitutional monarchy
King	:	Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa
Crown Prince	:	Salman bin Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa
Prime Minister	:	Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa
International dialing code	:	+973



ABOUT BAHRAIN

General Information about the Kingdom of Bahrain

Bahrain is an Arabic word meaning "Two Seas". The Kingdom is a hereditary, constitutional monarchy; located in the heart of the Arabian Gulf, west of the Asian continent. It is characterized by its rich civilization and long history of more than five thousand years. It is influential at Arab, regional and international levels.





Bahrain was the first country in the Gulf to discover oil, and is one of the financial centres of the Middle East. Bahrain's National Day and the coronation of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa are annually celebrated on 16-17 December. Since His Majesty King Hamad came to power in 1999, many economic and social developments have been accomplished in accordance with the Constitution and the Economic Vision 2030.

DEMOGRAPHICS DETAILS

Bahrain is an archipelago of 33 islands in the Arabian Gulf midway between the Qatar peninsula and Saudi Arabia. Bahrain Island is a pear-shaped land mass 48 km. long and 16 km. wide. It is connected to Saudi Arabia by 23-km causeway, which opened in November 1986. The Kingdom is spread across a total land area of 770 sq km. The city of Manama is the Capital.



Population of the Kingdom of Bahrain

The Bahraini society is characterized by its cultural, ethnic and religious diversity. The population of the Kingdom of Bahrain in 2014 was about 1.3 million people. (Source: CIO 2014) of which 52% were expatriates of which around 25% are Indian.

The population is distributed across five Governorates (the Capital Manama, Muharraq, Northern, Central and Southern). The size of the labor force is estimated to be 716.4 thousand workers.



o Climate

Bahrain has a desert climate with summer temperatures rising to above 47° C. During the winter, the temperature drops to 10-15° C with occasional rainfall. The summer is hot and humid and the hot period lasts from late April to the end of September. Bahrain time difference is GMT + 3 (Winter)/GMT + 2 (Summer).

o Language

Bahrain's official language is Arabic, while English is used as an official language in business.

o Religion

Islam is the official religion of the Kingdom and is embraced by the vast majority of the population. There are also places of worship in Bahrain for adherents of other religions.

o Major Customs and Practices

Bahrain is a unique land with an ancient and storied culture that spans many centuries. Despite modernization and a cosmopolitan outlook, Bahrain is today essentially an Arabic culture. Relatively new pastimes like soccer share time with traditional arts like falconry, horse riding, hunting, and horse and camel racing.



Bahrain is one of the most tolerant countries in the Middle East when it comes to dress code, however there are some general guidelines that should be observed by both men and women:

- In areas such as a souk, village or central market advisable to wear a long skirt or trousers. Clothing that covers the knees is acceptable but longer clothing is preferable.
- It is advisable to cover up at the public beach or swimming pool.
- At a mall ensure that knees and shoulders are covered.
- Formal dressing includes the Bahraini traditional dress, full suits, etc.

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

o Currency

Bahraini Dinar (BHD) is the official currency. It is composed of units of 1000 fils. It is pegged to the US Dollar and 1 USD=0.377 BHD. The maximum denomination note is 20. ATMs are available at petrol stations, malls and other market places. Debit cards and credit cards are widely accepted everywhere.



o Driving

The easiest way to get around the Kingdom of Bahrain is by car. Vehicles can be hired from any number of car hire companies. Gasoline price in Bahrain is cheaper than in most other parts of the world. Travel by road within Bahrain is safe. Highways and major roads are four to six lanes wide and well maintained; however, roads in villages and older parts of Manama and Muharraq may be narrow and twisting. Driving in Bahrain is on the right hand side, in keeping with the majority of traffic world-wide.



Taxis are plentiful and can be hailed up from the street. It is compulsory for taxis to use tariff meters. There are many private companies come up providing taxi services like Radio Meter Taxi, UBER, Bahrain Taxi, etc.

Public transportation is provided by Bahrain Public Transport Company (BPTC). It is a new dawn in public transport with state of the art buses with free 4G wifi.

Like other Middle Eastern countries, the Kingdom also follows left hand drive. The minimum driving age is 18. Requirements for those who wish to apply for a Bahraini driving license include an eye test. The General Directorate for Traffic provides a comprehensive list of driving instructors. The use of seat belts is compulsory. Holding of Indian driving license is of no relevance in acquiring a driving license in the Kingdom.

Driving license renewals and annual vehicle registration can be done in any post office, while traffic offenses can be paid online.

o International dialing code

The International code for the country is 973. Batelco, Viva and Zain are the major service providers in the Kingdom.



o Social and Cultural Clubs

With a multi-cultural and multi-ethnic society, there are many active social clubs for the expatriate population to serve varied socio-cultural and development needs.

o Ramadan

Ramadan is the most important months for Muslims as it is believed this is the month that the Qu'ran was first revealed to the Prophet Mohammed (PBUH). During this month all healthy Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset when they must refrain from all food, drink, gum chewing, any kind of tobacco use, and any kind of intimacy.



All residents have to respect the month of Ramadan- which means adopting the rules in public places during daylight hours and refraining from eating or drinking in these places. The contempt may attract penalties. The working time is generally reduced to 6 hours per day for fasting employees.

o Miscellaneous

- Electricity: 240 volts (3 pin plugs)
- There are 8 daily newspapers, 2 of which are in English. Bahrain Television transmits local and international news, current affairs, documentaries, educational programmes, as well as entertainment series and films. Bahrain TV also runs Channel 55, which broadcasts in English.

ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

Since becoming an independent State in 1971, Bahrain has witnessed spectacular economic growth and has transformed from an essentially agricultural base, where the main products were pearls and dates, to a modern industrial, business and service center and is today acknowledged as being the banking hub of the region. Over the past years the Government has been the engine of the economy, using oil revenues diligently in order to provide a modern physical and legal infrastructure without having to resort to traditional forms of taxation. The result is a vibrant economy, a population which is well educated and adaptable, and a private sector ready to reach out to the global market. The Government is now progressively moving away from its involvement in productive processes, to that of facilitator of private sector initiatives.



Bahrain has an open economy. The Bahraini currency is the second-highest-valued currency unit in the world. Bahrain's banking and financial services sector, particularly Islamic banking, have benefited from the

regional boom driven by demand for oil. Petroleum production is Bahrain's most exported product while aluminum production is the second most exported product, followed by finance and construction materials.



Petroleum and natural gas are the only significant natural resources in Bahrain. Because of limited reserves, Bahrain has worked to diversify its economy over the past decade and has stabilized its oil production.



Bahrain has many large financial institutions and is known as the business capital of the Gulf.

Taxation and import laws apply equally to Bahraini and foreign-owned companies, and foreign investors must comply with the same requirements and legislation as local firms. There is no personal income tax in Bahrain till now.

Bahrain Economic Vision 2030

It is a shift from an economy built on oil wealth to a productive, globally competitive economy, shaped by government and driven by a pioneering private sector – an economy that raises a broad middle class of Bahrainis who enjoy the good living standards from increased productivity and high-wage jobs.



• Cost Of Living

The cost of living in Bahrain is the lowest in the GCC. The accommodation is decently priced and a wide range of housing options available to suit all tastes and lifestyles. Bahrain offers the highest quality of life for employees and their families with the varied housing options, utility rates and competitive wages.

The table below gives an indicator of the basic living costs in Bahrain, including rent, utilities, school fees and transportation:

S.no.	Item	Average Costs (approx.)
1.	Rent	1 bedroom fully furnished apartment: BHD300-400. 2 bedroom fully furnished apartment: BHD400-550. Bachelor accommodation on sharing basis are usually available and costs much less.
2.	Utility Bills	Utility Bills are typically included in monthly rent of fully furnished apartments. The average utility bill (inclusive of water cess) for a 2 bedroom apartment ranges from BHD25 to BHD40 per month.
3.	Municipal Tax	10% of the rent. In a fully furnished accommodation, the municipality tax is included in the rent.



4.	Meals	Average casual lunchtime meal: BHD 1-3 per head. There is a wide choice of Indian restaurants available with ample vegetarian and non-vegetarian options to choose from. Luxury dining restaurants serving multinational cuisines are also in abundance.
5.	Cooking Gas	BHD 5 per month. The centrally air conditioned apartments are fitted with electric gas stoves.
6.	Groceries	Small family (2 adults 2 kids) BHD 150-200 per month.
7.	Movie Ticket	BHD 3-4.
8.	School Fees (Annual)	Indian School and other schools following CBSE (Indian) Curriculum: BHD 500-1,500. Schools following British, American and other International curriculum: BHD3,000 – 10,000. Nursery/Child Care: BHD 1,500.
9.	Cab Fare	Airport to Manama (capital): BHD 5 one way.

Useful Information

o STOCK EXCHANGES

Bahrain Bourse (BHB) was established in the year 2010 to replace Bahrain Stock Exchange (BSE) that was established in 1987. The Exchange officially commenced operations in June 1989 with 29 Bahraini shareholding companies listed. The only instruments traded at that time were common shares. The first Bahraini Public Shareholding Company was established in 1957.

With the development of the bourse, government institutions and companies started issuing several investment instruments taking advantage of the legislative and technical infrastructure established by the bourse. Since then, the bourse witnessed the listing and registration of preferred shares, bonds, sukuk, and mutual funds, making it the first bourse to list such instruments in the region. Official website: <http://beta.bahrainbourse.com/>



o CENTRAL BANK OF BAHRAIN

The Central Bank of Bahrain ('CBB') is a public corporate entity established on 6th September 2006.



The CBB is responsible for maintaining monetary and financial stability in the Kingdom of Bahrain, manages the government's reserves and debt issuance, issues the national currency and oversees the country's payments and settlement systems. It is also the sole regulator of Bahrain's financial sector, covering the full range of banking, insurance, investment business and capital markets activities. Official website: www.cbb.gov.bh.

o BANKING

There are a number of international banks operating in Bahrain including Citibank, HSBC and Standard Chartered. The major local banks include Al Ahli United Bank, Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait, and National Bank of Bahrain. The local banks, too, offer a good alternative, and it is worth considering the employer's bank. Further, many Indian Banks have their presence in the Kingdom like State Bank of India and ICICI Bank Limited (wholesale and retail operations), , Canara Bank, HDFC Bank, Bank of Baroda etc. (Wholesale Operations).



All the banks, local and international, offer standard savings and current accounts and of course offer many investment options. Most of the banks have internet banking options and some form of tele-banking, though the branch network is still the most common form of banking.

For transferring money, there are many currency exchange houses which provide competitive rates sometimes more beneficial than commercial banks.

The banks follow different times but are generally open from 0800 hrs. until 1400 hrs with some branches opening till the evening .

o ACCOUNTANCY PROFESSION IN BAHRAIN

The accounting profession in Bahrain has been growing remarkably with the Kingdom's growth. Many international accounting firms have their affiliates in Bahrain operating as functionally independent offices in compliance with international standards. Audit firms are regulated by Ministry of Industry and Commerce and license needs to be obtained for setting up the audit firm.

The Central Bank of Bahrain has made it mandatory for all financial institutions to prepare their financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

Major Audit firms in the Kingdom are: Ernst &Young, KPMG Fakhro, PWC, Deloitte & Touche, BDO Jawad Habib, Grant Thornton etc. There are various consultancy firms engaged in accountancy and internal audit profession as well.

o EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES/ REGULATIONS IN THE COUNTRY

Many large corporations and international companies have their presence in the Kingdom. Expatriates with specialized knowledge and good language skill often find work with these companies.

The Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) is a government body with a corporate identity that is endowed with full financial and administrative independence under the authority of a board of directors chaired by the Minister of Labour. LMRA regulates and controls work permits for expatriate employees and self-employed, in addition to issuing licenses for manpower and recruitment agencies.

LMRA regulates

- Issuing entry visas;
- Residence and official identification card for foreign workers;
- Issuance of work permits for employment of domestic workers;
- Medical examinations of foreign workers and the necessary tests in coordination with the concerned authorities;
- Collection of all fees relating to work permits and licenses.

LMRA website: www.lmra.bh; FAQ section: lmra.bh/portal/en/faq



o SCHOOLING/UNIVERSITIES ETC.

Schools in Bahrain are governed by the Ministry of Education in the Kingdom and have to comply with the rigorous rules and regulations set by the Ministry. Education is compulsory for all students in the Kingdom of Bahrain and free education is offered to both Bahraini and non-Bahraini nationals in the public schools. The Ministry also provides free transport to the students who live far away from the public schools that they are attending.

The schools offer national and international curricula like the Indian, British, American and the International Baccalaureate. While the Indian curriculum schools have their terms from April to March; the other curriculum schools have from September to June.

All schools in Bahrain are closed in July and August for summer holidays. There is a considerable variation in the fees depending upon the school type, curriculum and facilities provided.

The main schools in the Kingdom are summarized below:

S.no	Name of the School	Contact Number/ Website
1)	The Indian School Bahrain	www.indianschool.bh
2)	The New Indian School	www.thenewindianschoolbh.org
3)	DPS New Millennium School	www.nms.edu.bh
4)	The Asian School Bahrain	www.asianschool-bahrain.com
5)	New Horizon School	www.nhsbahrain.com
6)	Al Noor International School	www.alnoor.com.bh
7)	Sacred Heart School	www.shsbahrain.com
8)	Bahrain Indian School	www.bhavans-bahrain.com
9)	British School of Bahrain	www.britishschool-bahrain.com
10)	St. Christopher's School	www.st-chris.net

11)	The International School of Choueifat	www.iscmana-ma-sabis.net
12)	AMA International School	www.amais.edu.bh

o HEALTHCARE

The Kingdom enjoys average general level of health care facility.



Many expatriates prefer private hospitals to the public hospitals. In case of emergency, the patients are transferred to the country's largest government hospital, Salmaniya, which has all the state of the art services.

The problem a non-Arabic speaker likely to face in an emergency is getting oneself understood, although most hospital staff do speak some basic English.

Private hospitals used most often by expatriates are Awali Hospital, International Hospital of Bahrain, American Mission Hospital, Bahrain Defence Force Hospital, Bahrain Specialist Hospital, King Hamad Hospital etc.

For use of both private and public hospitals by expatriates, a valid CPR (Central Population Registry) card is a must.

It is advisable to have a personal medical insurance. Employers normally provide this, but the same is not legally binding. There are many international companies and local companies that provide medical cover.

Many pharmacies are open 24 hours. Most pharmacies can give you basic medicines for colds, etc.

In an emergency, call 999 for an ambulance. You need to decide which hospital to go to.

o INDUSTRY/TRADE BODIES

Bahrain's current industrial programme was instituted in 1975 in an effort to diversify away from hydrocarbons. The plan has been successful - between 2001 and 2006 alone, non-oil industrial output increased by an average of 10% per year. The aluminum production industry accounted for 38.5% of total manufacturing output in 2005, making it the single largest segment and the primary contributor to recent industrial growth.



The government has created two new industrial parks in order to attract foreign companies to Bahrain and expand the sector. Obtaining an industrial license in Bahrain is quite simple and the procedures are straightforward. Industrial Development Directorate of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce is responsible of issuing industrial licenses.

Bahrain is home to more than 400 licensed financial institutions, representing a rich mix of international, regional and local names. They cover the full range of financial services, with particular concentrations in wholesale banking, insurance and funds/asset management. The financial sector is now the most important sector of the economy accounting for more than 27% of GDP. The financial sector is also the largest single employer in Bahrain, with Bahrainis representing over 80% of the work-force. The sector is regulated and supervised by the Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB).

Bahrain's banking system consists of both conventional and Islamic banks and is the largest component of the financial system, accounting for over 85% of total financial assets.

o VISA REQUIREMENTS

Visa requirements is regulated by The General Directorate of Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs, which allows visitors and business individuals visiting the Kingdom of Bahrain to apply for an eVisa with the ability to check the status of their submitted applications.

Procedures for getting a visa to enter the Kingdom of Bahrain are relatively simple and hassle-free and if all documents are in order, then the visa is issued within 72 hours. In urgent cases, visas are also issued within a day.

These services also allow business organizations and government entities to apply for No Objection Certificate (NOC) to allow entry for their employees' family members, tourists and other visitors with the ability to check status of their applications.

A visa must be applied for before the visitor enters the country either through their respective embassy, a local Bahraini sponsor or a local hotel or a travel agent. Visit visa is issued for people who are sponsored by a company operating in Bahrain. It is valid for two months from the date of arrival, with the option of being renewed for one more month. A Transit Visa is issued to individuals at the request of any licensed company such as hotels or trading companies who hold an authorization for applying for this visa. It is valid for 14 days and its renewal varies according to each individual case. An eVisa can be applied on www.evisa.gov.bh, by providing nationality, purpose for visit, and current place of residence.



INDIAN EMBASSY INFORMATION:

The Indian Embassy in the Kingdom of Bahrain is located in Adliya. The contact details are:

Embassy of India, Bahrain Address

Building 182, Road 2608, Block 326
Al-Adliya, Manama PO Box 26106
Kingdom of Bahrain

Phone: +973-17712785, 17712683, 17712649

Fax: +973 1771 5527

Email: hoc.bahrainmea.gov.in

Visa and Passport Application Centre Address

IVS Global Services
Indian Passport & Visa Application Centre
2nd Floor, Yateem Centre, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain

Phone: +973 17211388

Email : info.bahrain@ivsglobal.in

IVS Global Services exclusively manages the administrative function of the Visa and Passport applications process.



ABOUT THE CHAPTER

The Bahrain Chapter of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (BCICAI) was conceived in 1985 and held its first official program in April 1986. Over the years the BCICAI has grown from strength to strength and now has over 400 members making it the largest organized professional body of Indians in



Since its resurrection in 1998, BCICAI has provided an excellent platform for its members to acquire and disseminate knowledge. BCICAI encourages and facilitates its members to contribute to the economic development of the Kingdom of Bahrain. BCICAI is affiliated to the Bahrain Accountants Association.

The main highlights of BCICAI are:

- Active paid membership strength of 400+ members.
- Presence of Indian Chartered Accountants across wide section of Industry from Banks / FI's / Insurance / Consultancy Firms / Industries / Corporates.
- More than 20% holding CFO/Director/Top Management Positions.
- More than 60% holding Middle Management to Senior Management positions.
- Average participation in each program by 200+ members with the participation in mega events reaching up to 400 members.
- High quality, professional speakers from across the globe addressing BCICAI seminars.
- All the events of BCICAI get extensive media coverage and most programs in five star properties.

• ACTIVITIES OF THE CHAPTER

The members of the BCICAI are spread over industry, audit and consulting organizations in Bahrain. Many government, quasi-government, public and private organizations who employ our members place great reliance on their high level of professional competence and their contribution to the decision making process.

The BCICAI also undertakes the responsibility of co-ordinating with ICAI and the Embassy of India, Kingdom of Bahrain in the conduct of the ICAI's CPT examinations in Bahrain when suitable number of candidates is present. Articleship training has also recently started in Bahrain.

Technical Seminars

The BCICAI continually holds seminars and events such that our members can enhance their technical skills, personal and professional development and obtain their required Continuing Professional Education credits. These are sessions of technical and professional interests to the Chapter members and address their knowledge upgrade needs.

Analysis of Indian Budget

Every year, after the Union Budget is presented, BCICAI invites eminent luminaries from India to provide their insights on the Indian Budget. This session deals with in-depth analysis of the Budget and is followed by an exhaustive question and answer session.

Annual International Conference

BCICAI organizes an annual International Conference to share knowledge and increase interaction between members in different countries.

Family Day

BCICAI annually organizes a fun-filled event called "Family Day", inviting the families of its members. This is a joyful and 'must-enjoy event' for all ages. Throughout the year various activities are arranged for families as well.

Personality Development initiatives

"All work and no play make a jack, a dull" and hence, BCICAI invites leading NLP Trainers, Success Coaches, successful and eminent personalities to rejuvenate its members to make them realize their full potential and assist them in reaching their goals.

Communication Skill Development

In order to provide an all-round development to its members, BCICAI patronizes "ICAB Toastmasters Club" which concentrates on developing communication and leadership skills of fellow Chartered Accountants and their family members.

Executive Committee

The BCICAI is managed by an Executive Committee of nine elected and two nominated members. The members of the committee are elected by the chapter members on an annual basis. The elected members of the committee unanimously nominate the other two other members, to assist in the functioning of the BCICAI.



Chapter Contact Details

Executive Committee Bahrain (2015-16)

Chairman CA Kapil Batra Tel.: +973 39901701 Email: batrakk@yahoo.com	Treasurer CA Sumit Dhadha Tel.: +973 33042042 Email: Dhadda.sumit@gmail.com
Vice Chairman C A Vivek Kapoor Tel.: +973 39050845 Email: vivekkapoor7@yahoo.com	Joint Secretary CA Raunaq Desai Tel.: +973 39469776 Email: raunaq@icai.org
Secretary CA Maheshkumar Naraynan Tel.: +973 33221229 Email: secretary.bcica@gmail.com	Joint Treasurer CA Clifford D'Souza Tel.: +973 37746403 Email: cliffordasia@gmail.com

Position	Name	Phone	E-Mail
Excom Member	CA Santhosh TV	+973 32265451	santhoshtv@gmail.com
Excom Member	C A SharmilaShet	+973 36797832	shet.sharmila@gmail.com
Excom Member	CA Nisha Sharma Kotwani	+973 39095789	nishakotwani@gmail.com
Excom Member	CA Sumit Pandey	+973 36481574	sumitpca@gmail.com
Excom Member	CA Sthanumurthy Viswanathan	+973 34083081	v.sthanu@gmail.com

BCICAI ADDRESS

P. O. Box No. 10924
Manama, Bahrain
Email : icaibahrain@gmail.com
Contact : +973 39901701
Website : www.bahrain-icai.org

Disclaimer:

Though all attempts are made to make the information provided in the E-KIT up to date; it is likely that some information may become obsolete or change over a period time and hence readers are requested to make their own independent inquiries, about all the specific information that they may need, from other available sources.

Basic Arabic Phrases

English	Arabic
Hello!	Marhaba
Welcome!	AhlanwaSahlan
Hello ("Peace be upon you")	As-SalaamuAlaykum
Response ("and peace upon you too")	WaAlaykum as-Salaam
Goodbye	Ma'a as-Salaama
Good Morning!	Sab-bah Al Khair
Response "and Good Morning to you!"	Sab-bah an Noor
Good Afternoon/Evening!	Masaa' al-Khair
Response "and Good Afternoon to you!"	Masaa' an-Noor
How are you?	Kayf al-haal?
I'm fine, and you?	Anaa bi-khair Al Hum-du-lil-lah Wa anti (f)/anta (m)?
Please (m)	Min-fad-lak
Please (f)	Min-fad-lich
Thank you	Mesh-kour / Shukran
You are welcome	Lil a'fou / A'af-wan
My name is...	Ismii...
What is your name? (to a male)	Maaismak?
What is your name? (to a female)	Maaismik?
Where are you (m) from	Min ayna anta?
Where are you (f) from?	Min ayna anti?
I do not speak Arabic very well	ana ma 'a a-te-takal-lam arabizein



Information Resource

MoU/MRA

Moving Towards Qualification Reciprocity to promote Global mobility

The Institute of Chartered Accountants in India (ICAI) to provide mobility to its accountants has entered into MoUs/MRAs on reciprocal membership arrangements with the foreign accounting bodies and accordingly members of one body are eligible for membership in the other. ICAI has entered into MoUs/MRAs with the following accounting bodies:

1. The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales
2. Chartered Accountants - Australia & New Zealand
3. CPA Canada (Under Renewal)
4. CPA Australia
5. CPA Ireland (Under Renewal)
6. Association of International Accountants

Details of Subjects to be cleared for

Membership under MoU/MRA

Sl. No.	Accounting Bodies	Subjects to be cleared by members of ICAI	Subjects to be cleared by members of Foreign Accounting body
1	ICAEW Members	ICAI members will be eligible to apply for ICAEW membership subject to passing the ICAEW's Advanced Level examinations (Corporate Reporting, Strategic Business Management and Case Study) and by completing the ICAEW's Ethics Learning Programme, or an alternative ethics programme agreed by ICAEW to be equivalent.	ICAI membership will be open to all appropriately qualified ICAEW members subject to passing the ICAI examinations for the modules: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Auditing and Assurance; Law; ▶ Ethics & Communication; ▶ Information Technology & Strategic Management; ▶ Direct Tax Laws and ▶ Indirect Tax Laws.
2	CPA Australia Members	An Indian member would be required to pass: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ the required CPA Program professional level segment ▶ Global Strategy & Leadership and Better Practice in Governance and Accountability (a CPD course assignment) delivered and assessed by CPA Australia. 	CPA Australia members would be required to Successfully complete: Corporate and Allied Laws; Taxation; either Advanced Audit and Assurance or Assurance Services & Auditing (pre 2010) as an elective in the CPA Program or Advanced Auditing and Professional Ethics in the ICAI Examinations; and either Financial Reporting as a compulsory segment in the CPA Program (post 2010) or Financial Reporting & Disclosure as an elective in the CPA Program (prior to 2010) or Financial Reporting in the ICAI Examinations

3	CAANZ Members (Under Renewal)	ICAI members must complete the final module of CAANZ's Chartered Accountants Program (Capstone) to be eligible for the CA designation	ICAI members must complete the final module of CAANZ's Chartered Accountants Program (Capstone) to be eligible for the CA designation
4	CPA Ireland Members (Under Renewal)	<p>For an ICAI member seeking admission to CPA Ireland that he should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be the holder of a recognized degree or if not have at least five year work experience in Professional Accounting. 2. Have successfully completed : The ICAI examination and practical experience requirements 3. complete the CPA Ireland final stage examination in strategy & leadership and online CPD course "overview of iris TAX and LAW" 	<p>CPA Ireland member seeking admission to ICAI that he should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be the holder of a recognized degree or if not, have at least five year work experience in Professional accounting 2. Have successfully completed: the CPA Ireland examination and practical experience requirements 3. Have successfully completed: Corporate and allied laws, Direct and Indirect taxes. <p>Either</p> <p>Strategic corporate finance as an elective in the CAP examination or specialized module of strategic financial management in the ICAI examination.</p> <p>Either</p> <p>Audit Practice and Assurance Service as an elective in the CPA examination or specialized module of advance auditing & Professional ethics in the ICAI examination</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. ICAI is not obliged to admit as its members, any member of CPA Ireland who is having any other mutual recognition arrangement with other professional body.

For further information please visit:
http://www.icaiprofessional.org/new_post.html?post_id=5617&c_id=80



Revised Guidelines for Training of Articled Assistants Outside India

- ▶ A Chartered Accountant is eligible to train an articled assistant provided his main occupation is the practice of the profession of Accountancy at the time of engaging articled assistants as well as in each of the qualifying years on the basis of which he claims eligibility to train articled assistants.
- ▶ Any member engaged in any other business, occupation or holding part time certificate of practice is not entitled to train articled assistant.
- ▶ Any member employed as a Paid Assistant or engaged as a partner in a foreign firm of Chartered Accountants will also be eligible to train articled assistants at par with the paid assistants with a firm of Chartered Accountants in India. All conditions applicable to the Paid Assistants in India would be applicable to them as well. However, in case of a foreign firm, such a foreign firm shall have at least one partner who is either a member of the Institute or who is eligible to become a member of the Institute, in terms of MRA.

Provided that every Chartered Accountant from ICAI who is registered as an auditor and obtained a license and registration number from the appropriate competent authority abroad to establish a professional firm and carry out the attest function and who meets the international/local experience and expertise criteria laid down by the law shall be eligible to train articled assistants as under:

Category	Period of continuous practice	Entitlement of articled assistant or assistants
(i)	An associate or fellow in continuous practice for a period up to 3 years	1
(ii)	An associate or fellow in continuous practice for any period from 3 years to 5 years	2
(iii)	An associate or fellow in continuous practice for any period from 5 years to 10 years	4

(iv)	An associate or fellow in continuous practice for any period from 10 years	5
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It would also be essential for such member abroad to produce the copy of License and certificate of registration issued by the competent authority abroad to him as individual member and to the professional firm with whom he is affiliated to the Institute with current validity at the time of registration of articlehip.

Further where an Indian Chartered Accountant is working as paid assistant in a firm where there is no Indian CA as a partner such paid assistant shall not be entitled to train any articled assistant

- ▶ The members shall provide a professional address as envisaged in Regulation 2(1)(xiii) as well as an address in India.
(As per the said Regulation, professional address means: -
 - ▶ an address of the place where the member is carrying on his profession (or where he is carrying on his profession at more than one place, the principal place), or
 - ▶ if a member is employed, the place of employment or at his option the place of his residence
 - ▶ the place of residence, if the member neither carried on the profession nor is employed.

It may please be noted that an address in India is essential in any of the situation)

- ▶ Since there is full time employment visa instead of Trainee Visa for students who wish to register their articleship with chartered accountants abroad according to the immigration laws of Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Countries, so such employees shall be treated at par with the articled assistants registered in India.

It would be essential for such articled assistants abroad to produce the copy of such visa and immigration details along with a copy of passport at the time of registration of articleship. The terms and conditions that may be made applicable for training articled assistant in India from time to time shall mutates mutandis apply for training of articled assistant abroad.

- ▶ The period of practical training shall be 3 years or 3 ½ years, as applicable, under a practising chartered accountant abroad. However, the articled / audit assistants should have an option to undergo industrial training in accordance with the Regulations 51 & 72 of the Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1988 during the last one year of training.
- ▶ The Industrial Training may be imparted by the Chartered Accountants working abroad in a financial, commercial or industrial undertaking with minimum fixed assets & minimum total turnover or minimum paid up capital as may be specified by the Council (whatever the value specified in terms of Indian currency may be deemed as applicable in foreign countries in their respective currencies) or such other organization or institution approved by the Council. In case of a member employed outside India, and eligible to impart Industrial training outside India, is unable to submit Annual Report/Balance sheet of the corporate/undertaking the member is working with, the member may submit a self declaration about the particulars of the undertaking alongwith the application.
- ▶ The terms & conditions contained in Regulation 54 and Regulation 54A dealing with secondment shall be applicable to the articled assistants receiving training abroad.
- ▶ The Principal shall send training reports as prescribed alongwith the service certificate to be issued in Form 109 & 108 as the case may be.
- ▶ The principal shall impart training in accordance with the guidelines contained in Training Guide. He shall maintain a record of practical training imparted by him to the articled assistant and report to the Council in the form prescribed in the training guide.
- ▶ The rates, terms and conditions of stipend prescribed as payable to the articled assistants receiving training in India shall be applicable to the articled assistants receiving training aboard except that the same rate of stipend in equivalent terms specified in respective national currencies of the countries concerned instead of Indian rupees.
- ▶ Regulation of training in terms of office hours and working days holidays will be applicable as per local office timings and laws. However,

requirements of total training hours will be the same as applicable in India, the terms of which are given hereunder: -

- ▶ The working hours for the articled assistants shall be 35 hours in a week excluding the lunch break.
- ▶ The office hours of the Principal for providing article training to the articled assistant shall not be generally before 9.00 a.m. or after 7.00 p.m.
- ▶ The normal working hours for the articled assistant shall not start after 11.00 a.m. or end before 5.00 p.m.
- ▶ The working hours for the articled assistants should not exceed 35 hours in a week excluding the lunch break and normally an articled assistant be required to work during the normal working hours fixed for articled assistants.
- ▶ In case of exigencies of work with Principal, an article assistant may be required to work beyond his / her normal working hours. However, under such circumstances, the aggregate number of working hours shall not exceed 45 hours per week. The requirement to work beyond 35 hours in a week should not be a practice but only in exceptional circumstances.

Further, where the articled assistant is required to work beyond normal working hours, and aggregate of such hours exceed 35 hours per week, he / she shall be entitled to compensatory leave calculated with reference to number of completed working hours, over and above, 35 hours per week.

Further conduct of training will be regulated as per provisions of the relevant

Regulations as follows: -

Regulation 60: Working hours of an Articled Assistant

“Subject to such directions as may be issued by the Council, the working hours of an articled assistant shall be 35 hours per week to be regulated by the Principal from time to time”.

Regulation 65: Articled assistant not to engage in any other occupation

“Without the previous permission of the Council, obtained on application made in the



*approved form, no articled assistant shall, during the period of his service as an articled assistant, take any other course of study or training, whether academic or professional, or engage in any business or occupation.”

Regulation 66: Enquiries against articled assistant

“(1) Where a complaint or information of any misconduct or breach of Regulation 65 or breach of any of the covenants contained in the articles is received against an articled assistant from his principal or any other person, the President or the Vice-President as the Executive Committee may decide from time to time, may cause an investigation to be made

(2) The Executive Committee may, on a consideration of the report of the investigation and after giving the articled assistant an opportunity of being heard, make any of the following orders, namely;-

- i. direct that the papers be filed and the complaint be dismissed, if the Executive Committee finds that the articled assistant is not guilty of any misconduct or breach of Regulation 65 or breach of any of the covenants contained in the articles; or
- ii. if the articled assistant is found guilty, reprimand the articled assistant or cancel the registration of articles or direct that any period already served under such articles shall not be reckoned as service for the purpose of the period of practical training specified in Regulation 50.

(3) The articled assistant, the registration of whose articles has been cancelled under his regulation, shall not, except with the permission of the Executive Committee be retained or taken as an articled assistant or audit assistant by any member”.

Regulation 67: Complaint against the Principal

1) Where an articled assistant makes a complaint against his principal on a matter concerning his training as an articled assistant, the President or the Vice- President as the Executive Committee may decide from time to time, may cause an investigation to be made and submit a report to the Executive Committee.

2) The Executive Committee shall submit the report of the investigation to the Council with its recommendations.

3) The Council may, on a consideration of the report of the Executive Committee, pass such order as it may consider expedient, including an order withdrawing the entitlement of the principal to train one or more articled assistants either permanently or for a specified period:

4) The President or the Vice-President as the Executive Committee may decide from time to time, may, pending an investigation of the complaint, either terminate or suspend the articles and allow the articled assistant to be accepted as additional articled assistant by a member, notwithstanding anything contained in Regulation 43.

FAQs for Members Located Outside India

Many of our members have made the Institute proud by excelling themselves professionally at foreign lands. The Institute has all along been for espousing the cause of members and all the members including the members based overseas have a special place for the Institute. Being a part of a profession, which is regulated under the Indian enactment, a member is required to follow certain set guidelines and procedures. For the sake of brevity and ease in accessibility of information, an effort has been made to compile the usual queries of a Indian Member based overseas so that he has readymade information/ clarification on doubts on procedural issues pertaining to the regulatory requirement at a glance.

While the illustrative queries and their clarification have been listed herein under; members may like to send us more areas of the queries which would be included in the section for wider benefit. This being a continuous updating process, efforts would be made to consolidate and update this portion on a continuous basis. Newer queries and your feedback on extent and range of queries would be welcome.

Frequently Asked Questions:

- ▶ What is the procedure to be followed by a member of the Institute residing abroad to keep his membership active?
 - A member of the Institute is currently required to pay a sum of Rs. 800/- if he is an Associate member and Rs. 2200/- if he is a Fellow member as the renewal fees for the membership every year. However for a members who is senior citizen having attained the age of 60 year, the fee shall be Rs. 600/- if is an Associate member and Rs. 1,600/- if he is a Fellow members. The payment of membership fee becomes due on 1st of April, every year and is payable by 30th of September of that year. A member residing abroad can keep his membership active by remitting the annual membership fee through Payment Gateway or by demand draft to the concerned DCO. Membership fee can be paid in advance for a period of three years. Members are informed of the payment of Annual membership / C.O.P fee through a Circular letter issued in the month of March.

An announcement regarding the payment of fee is also hoisted on the Web-site.

- ▶ What is the currency and the manner in which membership fees can be paid by members residing abroad ?
 - The amount of membership fee has been fixed in Indian rupees. Information on the fee structure and method of payment is available on the Institute's website at the link http://www.icai.org/members/pay_ann_fee.html. This link also provides information on advance payment of fee. However the fee can also be paid in US \$ at the prevailing exchange rate. The normal method of payment is by way of Demand Draft/ Local cheque in favour of the Secretary, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India payable at respective places where the concerned decentralized offices are situated. You or your representative in India can also deposit the payment on your behalf by putting a local cheque for clearing. The Payment through credit card can also be made.

Scale of Annual Membership Fee/Certificate of Practice Fee as on 01st April, 2014

For Members below age of 60 years

Associate Membership Fee	800/-
Fellow Membership Fee	2200/-
Certificate of Practice Fee	2000/-

For Members above age of 60 years

Associate Membership Fee	600/-
Fellow Membership Fee	1600/-
Certificate of Practice Fee	1500/-

- ▶ Can the members pay their fees Online?
 - The Institute has provided this facility to all members and a link of 'Online Payment of Fee' is available on the Home Page of the website. Members may follow the instructions there at and make the payment of fees. The payment through this mode can be made not only for annual membership fees but also for cases like restoration fee, fellow admission fee, COP fees and condonation fee whenever applicable.
- ▶ Can the members submit the relevant forms by



email?

- Yes. Members can submit certain forms viz. form 6 - for grant of COP, form 9 - for restoration of membership, form 117- for firm name approval and form 18- for registration of firm (to be digitally signed by all authorized partners) through email authenticated by digital signatures alongwith requisite fees wherever applicable using payment gateway.

▶ What are the consequences if the annual membership fee is not paid within the stipulated time

- If the membership fee is not remitted before 30th September the name of the member would be removed/certificate of practice cancelled with effect from 1st October of the year concerned. The member cannot use the designation Chartered Accountant or the qualification ACA or FCA as the case may be. In the case of members holding certificate of Practice his right of practice will cease and his association, if any, with firm of Chartered Accountants in India as a partner etc will also come to end.

▶ In the event of removal of membership, what is the procedure for restoration of membership?

- A member, whose name has been removed from the Register of Members, and desirous of Restoration of name in Register of Members -is required to apply in Form No.9 which can be downloaded from (please click here for further details) and is to be submitted along with :

- o Membership fee for the year during which his name was removed from Register of Members.
- o Membership fee for the year in which restoration is sought.
- o Restoration fee of Rs. 1,200/-
- o C.O.P. fee, if intends to hold C.O.P.

The application for Restoration of name in the Register of Members has to be filed with the Decentralized office (please click here for full details of Decentralised offices) where your address falls i.e. in case before moving overseas your physical records are with, say eastern region; you shall apply to Eastern India Regional Office for filing the required documentation.

On compliance of above requirements, the name will be restored w.e.f. the date of receipt of Form 9 with Restoration fee of Rs. 1,200/- and prescribed fee, in the respective Decentralized Office. The forms/documents may be sent by post/courier. It may also be sent through email with digitally signed form no. 9 with remittance made through Payment Gateway. On compliance of the above requirements the name will be restored w.e.f. the date of receipt of Form '9'.

Restoration of name with retrospective effect will be made provided application for restoration in Form 9 along with membership fee and C.O.P. fee (if you intend to hold C.O.P.) and restoration fee is received within the same financial year.

▶ Whether an Associate Member of the Institute practicing abroad is eligible to become Fellow Member ? Whether a member's service as a paid assistant outside India with a firm of chartered accountants can be recognized for the purpose of fellowship ?

- No. Only members who being associates and who have been in continuous practice in India for atleast five years are eligible to apply for admission to fellowship on payment of prescribed fee and submission of Form '3' [Section 5(3) of the Chartered Accountant Act, 1949].

- If an associate member applies for fellow membership, requires to pay additionally Rs. 1800/- as fellow conversion fee along with fellow membership fee or balance fee if associate membership fee for the year is already paid.

- The member working as a paid assistant with a foreign firm of accountants outside India is eligible for admission as a fellow member provided the firm is having atleast one partner who is/was either the member of the ICAI or who is/was eligible to become its member under Section 4(1)(v) of the Chartered accountants Act.

▶ Whether an Associate Member employed in Industry abroad is eligible to become fellow member ?

- An associate member serving in an industry abroad for a continuous period of not less

than 5 years in one or more posts carrying duties relating to accounts, cost accounts, audit, finance, taxation, company law and/or secretarial work, is eligible to become a fellow member.

If there is a break in the continuity of service, the same can be condoned for a period not exceeding one year so however that the actual period of service shall not be less than 5 years [Regulation 5(3)]

▶ What is the procedure to be followed to become a fellow member ?

- An Associate Member who is eligible to become Fellow as pointed out in question no.(7) & (8) above, is required to submit (i) Form no. 3 duly filled in and signed (ii) admission fee of Rs. 1,800/- plus the fellowship fee of Rs. 2200/- (Rs. 1,600/- in case of a senior citizen member), if fee of Rs.800/- (Rs. 600/- in case of a senior citizen member) as Associate Member is already paid then the differential fee of Rs. 1,400/- (Rs. 1000/- in case he is a senior citizen member) (iii) a certificate of employment for a period of 5 years or more showing the nature of duties performed were of supervisory in nature, issued by the competent authority. If he intends to obtain Certificate of Practice, he is additionally required to submit Form '6' along with Fee of Rs. 2,000/- (Rs. 1,500/- in case of Senior Citizen member). He can submit relevant form and remit a prescribed fee through E-mail/ payment gateway as pointed out in Q. No. 3 & 4.

▶ If a member holding Certificate of Practice wants to surrender the Certificate of Practice. How can he do that?

- The member desirous of surrendering his certificate of practice should make a request in writing indicating the date from which he wishes to surrender COP. The original script for certificate of practice should be surrendered for cancellation The COP fee however will have to be paid for the relevant financial year before it is cancelled at his request. However no fee would be required to be paid if he wishes to surrender his COP w.e.f. 1st April provided he makes the request with the original COP by 30th April of that year.

▶ What is the procedure for restoration of Certificate of Practice?

- Members can renew Certificate of Practice by paying the prescribed fees by 30th of September every year. Those members who have not remitted COP fee by 30th of September, Certificate of Practice would be cancelled w.e.f. 1st October of the relevant year.

Members whose Certificate of Practice has been cancelled on account of non-payment of Certificate of Practice fee for the relevant year are required to comply with the following –

- An application in Form 101 duly filled in and signed along with Certificate of Practice fee for the relevant year. (Form 101 can be downloaded from website)

- Annual Membership fee has been paid on or before 30th September of the relevant year.

- A letter restoring Certificate of Practice with retrospective effect will be issued on receipt of above by 31st March of the relevant financial year.

▶ Can a member in Salaried employment abroad hold C.O.P.?

- Yes, he can hold C.O.P but his status would be treated as a member in part-time practice.

▶ Can a member of the Institute holding Certificate of Practice residing outside India, do any attest functions?

- Yes. He can do attest functions outside India, subject to the local laws permitting him to do so.

Members holding Certificate of Practice and employed outside India are also permitted to undertake attest functions outside India so long as they reside outside India and during such stay period their status also continue to be '2' (part time COP) in the Institute's record.

▶ Can a Member working abroad have a Proprietary Firm in India?

- A member working abroad can have a proprietary firm in India provided the firm in India is under the charge of a member of the Institute who should be a full time paid



assistant. This is a mandatory requirement under Section 27 of the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949.

- ▶ Can a member having a proprietary firm in India and recently shifted from India, continue to be a proprietor of a firm in India?
 - The member can continue to be a proprietor of the firm in India if the member himself is actively associated with the firm by residing in India for a period of not less than 182 days as provided in Appendix 10 of the Chartered Accountants Act 1949 [page 51].
- ▶ Whether a member residing abroad can be a partner of a firm of chartered accountants in India?
 - Yes, a member can be a partner in a firm of Chartered Accountants in India provided he holds C.O.
- ▶ Can a member holding Certificate of Practice and residing abroad be in charge of the branch office of the firm outside India ?
 - Yes, a member can be in charge of the branch office of the firm outside India provided the Head Office of the firm is registered in India. He can be in charge of the branch office in his capacity either as a paid assistant or partner of the firm.
- ▶ Can a member practicing outside India impart articles training under the Chartered Accountants Act and Regulations?
 - As per the proviso to Regulation 43(i) of the Chartered Accountants Regulations 1988 as amended by the Chartered Accountants (Amendments) Regulations 2007, a member practicing outside India is also eligible to engage an articled assistant subject to such additional terms and conditions as the Council may impose.

Moreover, if a firm of chartered accountants has an office in India and also an office abroad (not being a separate partnership) a partner or the proprietor thereof would be permitted to train articled assistant in India or outside the country, provided that the member concerned could ensure that proper training, in accordance with the requirements of the

Regulations, is imparted to the articled assistants

- ▶ What is meant by Certificate of Good Standing and how it can be obtained ?
 - A certificate of good standing means a certificate issued to a member of the Institute at his request for specific purpose stating the details of his articled-ship exam passed, membership etc and indicating that nothing adverse about him has come to the notice of the Institute . A good standing certificate is required to the purpose of joining employment, immigration and also for visa purpose. In order to obtain Certificate of Good Standing the member concerned :- may submit a request for issue of certificate of good standing, stating the purpose for which certificate of good standing is required and submit the communication of the concerned body/ institution requiring the same. However, request of members for issue of certificate of good standing will also be considered if the requirement of body/ institution specified on the website, in application form or prospectus is produced. The request could be either a signed written request in prescribed application form available at Institute's site (Form No. 27 and 28) or an e-mail in the personal e-mail id of the member.

The certificate of good standing will be issued to concerned body/ institution in respect of any member if the request is directly received by the institute from the concerned body/ institution.

The name of the member should be active (not removed) in Register of Members of the Institute. The concerned member has paid annual membership/ certificate of practice fees (if holds certificate of practice) for the current year within the specified time.

Request is to be sent to: goodstanding@icai.in under your signature or Scanned copy of request may accompany the other documentation.

- ▶ What is the procedure for obtaining duplicate certificate of Membership/Certificate of Practice
 - A member who has lost/misplaced his original certificates of Membership/Certificate of Practice, is required to apply and submit a written request to the concerned Decentralised Office for obtaining duplicate membership

certificate/certificate of practice as an Associate or a Fellow member as the case may be. He is required to pay charges for duplicate certificate @ Rs.50/- or equivalent amount in US Dollar per certificate. He is also required to submit an affidavit in the prescribed format duly sworn-in before a Notary/First Class Magistrate or an affidavit on a plain paper and get the same attested from the authorized office of Indian Embassy/Consular General's Office. In case the member submits original certificate he is not required to execute the affidavit in the prescribed format.

► What is the procedure for obtaining duplicate Marks Statements/Passing Certificates?

- The member who has lost his Marks Statement/ Passing Certificate may apply for duplicate marksheet/pass certificate by sending a request under his signature mentioning his roll number, month and year of passing. The fee for issue of duplicate marksheet is Rs. 10/- and the fee for issue of duplicate pass/rank certificate is Rs. 25/-. The fee should be remitted through Demand Draft in favour of the Secretary, The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, payable at New Delhi.

The member is required to send an affidavit on a plain paper and get the same attested from the authorized office of Indian Embassy/Consular General's Office to the effect that he was in possession of Pass Certificate or Rank Certificate and he had lost it and undertake to return the duplicate Pass Certificate or Rank Certificate if the original Pass Certificate or Rank Certificate is traced/received by him in future and indemnify the ICAI for any loss etc. that ICAI may suffer if the duplicate certificate is issued by ICAI.

The request may please be sent to:

Jt. Secretary (Exams)

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India

C-1, Sector 1, Noida - 201301

Mail : - exam@icai.org,.

Phone No. +91-120-2535437; 2535305;2552643

► How a member can get his certificates attested in partial fulfillment of requirements of foreign Universities in pursuit of higher studies ?

- The members intending to pursue higher studies in foreign Universities can get the copies of their certificates of membership, Certificate of Practice, Pass Certificate and Marks sheet attested by sending the originals thereof alongwith the copies together with a requisition letter to the concerned Decentralised Offices requesting for attestation.

► What is Transcripts and how a member can obtain Transcripts?

- A Transcript is a Certificate describing the appearances and passing details with subjects and statement of marks of the exams of Chartered Accountancy in respect of the student concerned including his membership details if he has become a member of the Institute. For obtaining transcript the member concerned is required to provide a request duly signed by him for issue of Transcripts accompanied by following:

A fee of Rs. 500/- (Rupees five hundred only or equivalent in US Dollars) for one set of transcript/s (for any one or all examinations viz. Foundation/PE-I, Inter/PE-II and Final) remitted through Demand Draft or Pay Order in favour of The Secretary, The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, Payable at New Delhi - 110002

Attested copies of Entrance / Foundation / PE I / PE II / Intermediate / Final examination mark sheet/s (both front and reverse side) as applicable Attested copies of Rank Certificate issued by ICAI, if any.

Attested copy of Membership Certificate along with the proof for having paid the current year Membership fee or COP fee, as applicable

Prescribed Form for admission duly filled in by him, along with the envelope/s received from Foreign University/ies / Management Institution/s as applicable and

Copy of the Appointment Letter issued by the Foreign Body as applicable

The transcripts are issued normally within ten days from the date of receipt of request, complete in all respects.

The request along with the requisite fees / documents may please be sent to:



Jt. Secretary (Exams)

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India

C-1, Sector 1, Noida - 201 301

Mail : - exam@icai.org,

- ▶ Whether the Institute is conducting Post Qualification Courses for the members of the Institute? Which are those courses and what are the requirements for appearing in the examinations ?

- The Institute is conducting Post Qualification Courses for the members of the Institute. The courses currently conducted are as under :-

- ▶ Post Qualification course in Management Accountancy
- ▶ Post Qualification course in Corporate Management
- ▶ Post Qualification course in Tax Management
- ▶ Post Qualification course in Information System audit
- ▶ Post Qualification course in Insurance & Risk Management.
- ▶ Post Qualification course in International Trade Laws and WTO

The members of the Institute are eligible to register for the above courses and appear in the examination conducted by the Institute. The members can straightway appear for examination for the courses at Sl. no. 1, 2 and 3 above and no formal registration would be necessary. Exam for Management Accountancy Course are held twice a year in the months of May and November. Exam for Corporate Management and Tax Management Courses are held in the month of May every year. For more details e mail pqc@icai.org.

The Exams for Information System Audit course are held in the months of March, June, September and December. The members who have registered and obtained eligibility certificate from IT Directorate can take up this exam. The eligibility certificates issued are valid for four exams in a span of two years. Details about this course are available at the official Web-site of the Institute at www.icai.org under courses I S A.

The Exam for Insurance and WTO Courses are held twice a year in the months of May and November. Members who have registered for Insurance course and obtain eligibility certificate can take up this exam. For more information about this course please mail to Secretary, Committee on Insurance at insurance@icai.org. As regards the exam for WTO and Trade Laws members are eligible to appear for Part 1 Exam to the course only after 6 months of registration and would be required to produce a minimum attendance record of 80% in the personal contract programmes failing which they would not be entitled to appear for the examination. Further information about this course can be had from the Secretary, Committee on Trade laws and WTO by sending e-mail to : diti@icai.org.

Registration for Post Qualification courses in ISA, Insurance and WTO is open through out the year. (Please click here for details)

- ▶ Want to have a Chapter of Institute. How that can be established?
 - The Institute encourages its members overseas to consolidate their synergies by creating a formal Chapter. In the Institute's parlance this formal network is a 'Chapter' of the Institute. Any place which has more than 20 Indian members; they can all join together to form a chapter of the Institute. This chapter can be used by them acting as a programme organizing unit for the various CPE programmes. The chapter would be a unique forum for promoting.
 - bonhomie far away from your motherland and would enable your families and accomplices as well to come closer and foster goodwill.

Guidelines for setting up of Overseas chapters are available at Chapters outside India are functioning at Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, Botswana, Doha, Dubai, Indonesia, Jeddah, London, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia and Zambia, The details of current Chapters of the institute in various countries along with their contact details are available on the Institute's website at www.icai.org . Efforts are also on by members in Canada and Kuwait to formally organise such chapters.

- ▶ What is the importance of Chartered Accountant Journal ?

- The Chartered Accountant Journal is an important communication for the Institute and keeps the members updated on the professional front, It is expected that each member should be going through every issue of the Journal. The Chartered Accountant is a monthly publication from Institute and after publication is immediately put on the website of the Institute. It is also sent physically every month and each dispatch is through a recorded delivery to all active members.

▶ Can a member residing abroad get Journal by Air Mail?

- Normally Journals to the members abroad are being sent by Air Mail. However a member can opt for getting journals by Airmail in which case he is required to pay the air mail charges for receiving the Journal by airmail at his foreign address. Currently the charges for sending Journal by airmail is Rs. 21/- Annually.

▶ Can a member residing abroad get the Journal at his Indian address?

- As per regulation 187 of CA Regulations every member in practice shall have a professional address in India in his own charge or in charge of another member. A member not in practice may specify a place which shall be deemed to be his professional address for the purpose of Section 21 and also CA Regulations. In view of the above, every member has to specify one address which will be taken in the Institute's record as professional address for all purposes and also for correspondence. Accordingly Journal's, Regional News letters etc. can be sent to the professional address in India if so indicated by the member.

In the event of delayed/non-receipt, please correspond at journal@icai.org or ebsecretariat@icai.org giving exact details of your full mailing address with Pin/ Zip code, if possible also specifying a landmark as part of address. It would speed up chances of early reach of journal and communication to you.

▶ How a member residing abroad can buy a publication from the Institute?

- The publications of the Institute available for sale are indicated in the updated list hoisted

on the Website. The rates and postal charges payable thereto are also stated therein. For details visit :<http://www.icai.org/publications/Ins-pub.html>.

A member interested in buying any publication(s) as indicated in the list can either send his remittance in advance for such publications including the postal charges or make payment on line to purchase a publication concerned. Alternatively, an imprest amount (USD 300) could be deposited with the Institute and under such a scheme, a member shall have an access to the recent publications which could be continued to send by the Institute till the time the imprest amount is exhausted.

For faster communication a member can always reach the Institute at e-mail castoresnoida@rediffmail.com or Fax No. +91-120-2518539,

Tel. No. +91-120-2552142, 2551279.

▶ What is the importance of Updating e-mail Id with the Institute ?

- The Institute very shortly would be moving to a Virtual stage whereby large number of transactions/ communications would be done electronically. This would warrant availability of correct e-mail id so that one gets communication from the Institute with regard to CPE programmes/ other events of interest in time

While e-mail particulars could be updated by sending a simple mail, any communication having regulatory angle would require signed communication from his end for which fax / scanned copy will have to be sent.

The Institute would be regularly coming out with E Newsletter, which has been targeted as a tool for disseminating information to Indian Members abroad and to come closer to them and address their requirements speedily, on quarterly basis which would be a two way communication channel between the Institute and the foreign members. This again necessitates the need to have the e-mail particulars in the records of the Institute for ensuring receipt of e mails. Please update your e-mails id with Institute's record.

▶ Why a member should Update his address and other particulars?



- By being a member of the Institute he has a continuity and access to developments of Indian profession and it needs no exaggeration that updating his correct particulars would do a lot good in his being professionally updated. The Institute every year while sending the circulars for fee reminders also attach an Entry on Record containing his particulars. It would be the earnest request of the Institute to the members to give utmost priority in updating of information containing in the entry on record wherever necessary. This is also necessary as a part of regulatory requirements

As the professional and other particulars have a bearing for future and there are certain areas wherein due caution needs to be observed; certain request like change in address needs to be accompanied under your signatures so as to ensure authenticity of such a request.

- ▶ What are the areas where a member can Contribute to the profession ?
 - There are many areas in which esteemed members can contribute to the professional activities of the Institute. The range is varied and the list indicated herein under in just illustrative and he could think of more such avenues for joining in the work being done by the Institute.

Some of such areas are -

Associating as a constituent of brand promotion. The Institute is in the process of consolidating its brand image not only in India but in other countries also where a sizeable Indian population/sufficient number of Indian members are there. Promoting Indian Chartered Accountant as a brand would provide fillip to boosting his professional avenues. He need to share with us ways and means in which this needs to be accomplished. He can send his valuable suggestions on the basis of country specific issues so that while formulating its approach, the Institute could suitably include them in its pursuits.

Help take up issues of concern with the respective authorities in those countries /promoting the Indian qualification in terms of services which can be provided by a member of ICAI.

Associating in providing synergies by creating a formal

network - The Institute feels that the consolidation of efforts would be a welcome step and the Institute would request the members to form chapter of ICAI wherever more than 20 members are there. (For further details please click here)

Information about the need of Chartered Accountants in your country - This would enable the members intending to take opportunity abroad. Such information can be mailed at foreigndesk@icai.org to be placed suitably on the web page of the Institute. This way the member would be doing a yeoman service for Indian members to such global market and globalisation of Indian Chartered Accountant. The member abroad can also pass on the addresses of major placement consultants/ organizations which need professional chartered accountant so that Institute could approach them for benefit of everybody.

Contributing to the Exposure drafts, Research projects and in journal of the Institute - The Institute needs perspective and contribution from the member abroad on technical issues. They are welcome to contribute articles / their view point for inclusion in the journal so that there is a wide sharing of information and their views are put to synthesis and analysis by a cross section of members thus, adding to their utility in an over all context.

Help dependents of your fellow professionals by being part of CA Benevolent Fund - Uncertainty knows no bounds and it is for uncertain times that the Institute have decided to create a corpus of funds by way of voluntary contribution from members to help the families of bereaved chartered accountants who are in distress and need a helping hand. The details on the objectives of the CA Benevolent Fund, procedure for becoming member, extent of assistance available and the procedure for availing assistance are available on the Institute's website at the following link: http://www.icai.org/members/ca_benevolentfund.html

- ▶ What is the importance of Updating the particulars of members residing abroad in the Entry on Record?
 - The Institute would soon be coming with a Member Directory separately for foreign members. Given the fact, that developments internationally make the Institute need to have an immediate reaction/ update on

certain country specific / sector specific issues; knowing the members who are to be addressed by the Institute for eliciting response on such information would come in handy. Members contribution would be something which will add value to the professional stance being taken by the Institute at different levels. We would request a member to update their following particulars with the decentralized office wherein their correspondence address falls and the Foreign Desk at head office with the following details on regular intervals so as to update the records, as and when there is such change so that Institute could approach them wherever there is such need. The information would also come in handy when the Institute's delegations visit their country and a need for interaction is felt with them.

1. Name and membership No.
2. Current employment
3. Current charge/ designation
4. Type of industry
5. Correct postal address
6. Contact address in India
7. Phone numbers - office and residential
8. Fax Nos.
9. E-mail id

The above information would also facilitate in coming out with the Directory of Foreign members.

- ▶ Do the members abroad want to know about more professional avenues in India ?
 - While the members have moved to foreign destinations, there would be many a occasion when they would have felt the need of an information contact in India, in such situations, please feel free to write to foreigndesk@icai.org and the Institute would be glad to provide them the weblink of information which they may be wanting to have from India.
- ▶ If any member has any suggestion on different issues how can he send that?
 - Members may feel that they have different

ways of looking at the activities of the Institute. As an enabling outfit, the Institute would like to have suggestions from them on the way they feel certain things need to be carried out. They are invited to share their views at foreigndesk@icai.org

They can directly get in touch with the following Officers of the Institute whose area of work and contact details are given below:

Area of Work Official :

▶ **CA course and Education related matters**

Director Board of Studies

Phone : from Delhi: +91-120-3989398, 3054808

From out side Delhi: +91-120-3989398

E-mail:- bosnoida@icai.org

▶ **Technical Questions, issues on Accounting Standards and Expert Opinion**

Technical Director

Phone: +91-11-39893989 (D), 30110582

E-mail:- tdte@icai.org

Secretary EAC

Phone: +91-11-39893989 (D), 30110467

E-mail: eac@icai.org

▶ **Technical Questions and issues in Auditing**

Secretary

Auditing and Assurance Standards Board and Assurance Standards

Phone: +91-120-3054815 (D), (011) 30110468

E-mail:- aasb@icai.org

▶ **For Continuing Professional Education and Professional Development**

Director CPE

Phone : +91-120-3045957

E-mail:- cpe@icai.org ; cpeadmin@icai.org



► **For In-Company Programmes**

Secretary CPEC

Phone: +91-11-39893989 (D), 30110438

Email:- cpe@icai.org

► **Examination related queries**

Joint Secretary (Exams)

Phone : +91-120-3989398 (D), 3054822

► **Peer Review Process**

Secretary, Peer Review Board

Phone: +91-120-3054815 (D), (011) 30110469

E-mail:- peerreviewboard@icai.org

► **Members & Students Services and payment of fee and other regulatory measures**

Joint Secretary, M&SS

Phone : +91-11-39893989

(D), +91-11-30110425, 30110426

E- mail :- mss@icai.org

► **General queries relating to publications**

Joint Secretary - NOIDA Stores

Phone : +91-11-3054802, 3054828

E-mail :- noidastores@icai.org

Any other matter; please write to foreigndesk@icai.org

► Is there a placement portal to provide employment assistance to the members? If so may we know more about that?

- The Committee for Members in Industry of the Institute has hosted an on-line Placement Portal with domain name www.placement_icai.org. The placement portal caters to the employment needs of the following categories of the Members/ students:

Campus Interviews Programme for Newly qualified Chartered Accountants.

All members and Semi-qualified accounting professionals(those who have completed only the Articleship component of the CA Course).

Both the candidates and the recruiting entities can register themselves on-line. This new technology based opportunity is a unique endeavor of the Institute and is the first such placement portal launched by any professional body in India.

Benefits:

The <http://www.placements-icai.org> is a single window recruitment system for organisations interested in recruiting Chartered Accountants from the Institute's vast talent pool of members and Semi-qualified accounting professionals.

Organisations registered in the portal can view the bio-data of the registered members / semi-qualified accounting professionals and approach the short listed candidates for various openings (in those organisations)

There is no need for applying for individual jobs repeatedly through the portal. Organisations who are interested the candidature of the members / semi-qualified accounting professionals would approach them directly.

The Placement Portal provides the facility to the members and semi-qualified accounting professionals to see various Job openings that have appeared in various leading newspapers and web sites of recruiting entities that are being posted - regularly - in the portal under the head "Notice Board: Job openings.

► How to Register on the Placement Portal?

- The Members/Semi-qualified Professionals intends to utilize the placement portal for registrations may undergo the following procedure:

Log on URL <http://www.placements-icai.org>

In the home page click on Qualified Chartered Accountants / Semi-qualified accounting professionals under the option New User

Once again go to the home page and choose Qualified Chartered Accountant or Semi-qualified

accounting professionals under the 'Registered Users' option and log in using your six digits [prefix appropriate number of '0' (zeros) if you don't have six digits ICAI membership number / Article registration number and password (already chosen by you while registering).

FAQs for Articleship abroad

Training of Articled Assistant outside India

A student staying abroad may seek admission in CA Course through qualifying CPT Examination or under Direct Entry Scheme in which a graduate/Post graduate student securing prescribed percentage of marks in respective examination may start articled training after passing one group of Intermediated Integrated Professional Course having completed orientation Programme & ITT. The details of CPT Course and Direct Entry Scheme of CA Course are available on the Institutes's website.- www.icai.org it is to note that CA Course examination, practical training and allied Course Curriculum for Indian students or students from abroad are the same.

Often students getting registration in CA Course in India or Abroad have such queries related to articled training which are of following nature. Hence an FAQs on training abroad are given below for information ;

► Can a student registered with the Institute get training outside India?

Ans.: Yes, a student registered with the Institute may enroll for training outside India under an eligible member of ICAI.

► Can a Chartered Accountant practicing abroad, train an articled assistant outside India?

Yes, a Chartered Accountant is eligible to train an articled assistant provided his/her main occupation is the practice of the profession of accountancy at the time of engaging articled assistants as well as in each of the qualifying years on the basis of which he claims eligibility to train articled assistants. Moreover, the members would be eligible to train articled assistant in accordance with Regulation 43. However, a member associated with foreign CA Firm in the capacity of partner or paid assistant may also train articled assistant under certain conditions.

► Is it necessary for a Chartered Accountant training articled assistants outside India to have a professional address in India?

Ans.: Till recently, it was mandatory for a member in practice to have a professional address in India in his own charge or in charge of another member. However in terms of the Council decision taken at its 291st meeting held in December 2009, a member shall provide a professional address as envisaged in Regulation 2(1)(xiii) as well as an address in India. As per the said Regulation, professional address means:

- an address of the place where the member is carrying on his profession (or where he is carrying on his profession at more than one place, the principal place), or
- if a member is employed, the place of employment or at his option the place of his residence
- the place of residence, if the member neither carried on the profession nor is employed.

(It may please be noted that an address in India is essential in any of the situation)

► Can a Chartered Accountant working abroad impart Industrial Training to an articled assistant abroad?

Ans.: The Industrial Training may be imparted by the Chartered Accountants working abroad in a financial commercial or industrial undertaking with minimum fixed assets & minimum total turnover or minimum paid up capital as specified by the Council (whatever the value specified in terms of Indian currency may be deemed as applicable in foreign countries in their respective currencies) or such other organization or institution approved by the Council. Moreover, the members would be eligible to impart Industrial training in accordance with Regulation 51 and 72.

In addition to above, an organization eligible to impart training outside India which is not yet registered with the Institute may submit an application (format of application is available on our website www.icai.org) alongwith a self declaration (in absence of Annual report) regarding minimum fixed assets & minimum total turnover or minimum paid up capital of the organization about the particulars of the undertaking.



- ▶ Can a Chartered Accountant employed as a Paid Assistant or engaged as a partner in a foreign firm of Chartered Accountants eligible to train articled assistant outside India?

Ans.: A member employed as a Paid Assistant or engaged as a partner in a foreign firm of Chartered Accountants will also be eligible to train articled assistants at par with the paid assistants with a firm of Chartered Accountants in India. All conditions applicable to the Paid Assistants in India would be applicable to them as well. However, in case of a foreign firm, such a foreign firm shall have at least one partner who is either a member of the Institute or who is eligible to become a member of the Institute, in terms of MRA.

- ▶ What shall be the period of practical training?

Ans.: The period of practical training shall be 3 years, under a practising chartered accountant abroad. However, the articled / audit assistant have an option to undergo Industrial training in accordance with the Regulations 51 & 72 of the Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1988 during the last one year of training.

- ▶ What will be the stipend in respect of articled assistant receiving training abroad?

Ans.: The rates, terms and conditions of stipend prescribed as payable to the articled assistants receiving training in India shall be applicable to the articled assistant receiving training abroad except that the same rate of stipend in equivalent terms specified in respective national currencies of the countries concerned instead of Indian rupees.

- ▶ What will be the terms of office hours and working days holidays applicable to articled assistant working abroad?

Ans.: Regulation of training in terms of office hours and working days holidays will be applicable as per local office timings and laws. However, requirements of total training hours will be the same as applicable in India which are given hereunder:-

- a) The working hours for the articled assistants shall be 35 hours in a week excluding the lunch break.
- b) The office hours of the Principal for providing article training to the articled assistant shall

not be generally before 9.00 a.m. or after 7.00 p.m.

- c) The normal working hours for the articled assistant shall not start after 11.00 a.m. or end before 5.00 p.m.
- d) The working hours for the articled assistants should not exceed 35 hours in a week excluding the lunch break and normally the articled assistant be required to work during the normal working hours fixed for articled assistants.
- e) In case of exigencies of work with Principal, an article assistant may be required to work beyond his/ her normal working hours. However, under such circumstances, the aggregate number of working hours shall not exceed 45 hours per week. The requirement of work beyond 35 hours in a week should not be a practice but only in exceptional circumstances.

Further, where the articled assistant is required to work beyond normal working hours, and aggregate of such hours exceed 35 hours per week, he / she shall be entitled to compensatory leave calculated with reference to number of completed working hours, over and above 35 hours per week.

- ▶ What are the formalities to be complied by the articled assistant getting training abroad?

Ans.: Form 103 for registration of articles should be duly filled and submitted along with such documents as mentioned in the Instruction sheet of Form 103 along with registration fee should reach the respective Institute's office to which the member is attached within 30 days of commencement of training.

- ▶ What is the registration fee applicable to such articled assistant?

Ans.: The details of registration fees as applicable for articled assistant is given on link http://www.icai.org/resource_file/14707ipcc_enrolment_feestructure.pdf can be referred. The fee as applicable can be paid by way of Demand Draft drawn in favor of "The Secretary, The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India" payable at the concerned Decentralized office of the Institute.

- ▶ Where are the Forms required to be submitted?

Ans.: Form 103 is required to be submitted at the respective Decentralized office of the Institute (i.e. the decentralized office in whose jurisdiction the Indian address of the member falls).

- ▶ Will an articled assistant receiving training abroad be eligible for secondment?

Ans.: Yes. The terms and conditions contained in Regulation 54 and Regulation 54A dealing with secondment shall be applicable to the articled assistants receiving training abroad.

- ▶ Can a Principal depute an articled assistant for training under eligible members of accountancy institutions or bodies outside India (in accordance with Regulation 54A)

Ans.: Yes. A principal, with the consent of the articled assistant may depute the latter for training for a period not exceeding 6 months, under a member eligible to engage and train an articled assistant under the bye laws of an institution or body set up in the respective countries.

- ▶ Will such service be considered as part of practical training? (in accordance with Regulation 54A)

Ans.: Such training under members of accountancy institutions or bodies outside India, will be considered as part of practical training.

- ▶ Is the articled assistant eligible for stipend during such period of training? (in accordance with Regulation 54A)

Ans.: No. The provisions of stipend do not apply during such period of training.

- ▶ Should the articled assistant enter into a Deed of articles for this purpose? (in accordance with Regulation 54A)

Ans.: No. There is no need either for execution of deed of articles for such training or for any intimation to the Institute in this regard. However the Principal is required to include the particulars of such training in the report to the Council under Regulation 64.

- ▶ Can a member of the Institute engage and articled assistant under the bye laws of the accountancy institutions or bodies outside India?

Ans.: Members entitled to train articled assistants

shall not engage any articled assistant or articled assistant or apprentice under the bye laws of any other institutions or society or body unless the person concerned has been registered student with any of the accounting institutions or bodies whose training is recognized by the Council as equivalent to the training prescribed for the members of the Institute.

- ▶ What are the terms and conditions applicable for training articled assistant abroad?

Ans.: The principal shall impart training in accordance with the guidelines contained in Training Guide. He shall maintain a record of practical training imparted by him to the articled assistant and report to the Council in the form prescribed in the training guide.

Further, the terms and conditions that may be made applicable for training articled assistant in India from time to time shall mutates mutandis apply for training of articled assistant abroad.

In addition to above, the Principal and the articled assistant shall be bound by the provision of Chartered Accountants Act 1949 and Regulations framed thereunder and such other rules and guidelines and directions issued by the Council from time to time.

- ▶ Is it possible to take transfer after completion of 1 year of Practical Training? Do we need to give any proper reason to the Institute?

Ans.: Yes, In partial modification of the announcement dated 30th June 2009 regarding transfer/termination of articles the Council in its recent meeting has decided that the transfer/termination of articleship in terms of Regulation 56(1) of the Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1988 shall be permissible on the grounds as stated below:-

- I. Transfer /termination of articles is permitted without any restriction during the first year of articles.
- II. During rest of the articleship period on satisfying any one or more of the conditions as stated below: -
 1. Medical grounds requiring discontinuance of articles for a minimum period of three months (on production of a Medical Certificate issued by a Government Hospital).



2. Transfer of parent(s) to another city.
3. Misconduct involving moral turpitude.
4. Other justifiable circumstances / reasons: -
 - (ii) Grounds already permissible in the Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1988 (on submission of requisite proof of the act warranting transfer/ termination of articleship): -
 - a. Industrial Training (Regulation 51)
 - b. Secondment of articles (Regulation 54)
 - c. Conversion from PCC to IPCC (for termination of articles only. Re-registration of articles to be allowed only after passing Group-I of IPCC)
 - d. Death of Principal [Regulation 57(1)(c)]
 - e. Ceasing of practice by the Principal [Regulation 57(1)(a)]
 - f. Removal of name of the Principal from the Register of Member due to any reason [Regulation 57(1)(b)]
 - (iii) Marriage basis (only if there is relocation to another city involving distance of 50 kms).
 - (iv) Irregular payment or non payment of stipend with reference to Regulation 67.
 - (v) Articled assistant desires to serve balance period of training outside India.
 - (vi) Shifting by the Principal to another city involving distance more than 50 kms.

The articled assistants are required to get the consent of the Institute before getting Form 109 signed by the Principal in their own interest.

The request, on any one or more of the aforesaid grounds, of an articled assistant on a plain paper alongwith the recommendation/ consent of the Principal for transfer / termination of articleship accompanied by evidence/proof (self-attested by the articled assistant) to the satisfaction of the Institute be made. Request for transfer not accompanied by consent of Principal shall not be accepted. In case of dispute between principal and articled assistant, the matter be settled amicably among the articled assistant and the principal concerned and the Institute shall not interfere in such cases.

- ▶ If principal does not sign completion of articleship

certificate in Form 108, what we do?

Ans.: Please refer to Regulation 56 of the Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1988 and Prospectus of CA Course.

- ▶ Please guide us on articleship? What kind of firm should we join?

Ans.: A CA student is compulsorily required to undergo practical training i.e. articleship of 3 years. The students coming through CPT can join articleship only when they register for IPCC and clear its Group-I/Both Group and completing the Information Technology Training (ITT) and Orientation Course (OP). The students coming through direct entry route i.e. graduates and post-graduates with prescribed marks can commence their articleship after registering for Intermediate (IPC) and completing the Information Technology Training (ITT) and Orientation Course (OP). This training has to be done under a practicing Chartered Accountant. This training is very useful as it gives the trainee hands on experience on various aspects of chartered accountancy course i.e. Audit, Taxation, Accounts, Law etc. The selection of firm depends upon your choice of field in which you want to practice in future.

- ▶ Please provide, the basis for calculating leave during articleship.

Example;

Ans.: Case 1: An article completed 3 years of articleship till now. So,

Total working days: $365 \times 3 = 1,095$ days
Leaves Taken so far = 100 days
Actual period Served = 995 days
Leaves Earned = $1/6$ th on 995 = 165 days

Leave entitled (subject to sanction of leave by your Principal) = 65 days (165-100 days)

Case 2: An article having a total articleship period of 3.5 years. So, Total working days: $365 \times 3.5 = 1277$ days

Leaves Taken till now = 100 days
Actual Period Served = 1177 days
Leaves Earned = $1/6$ th on 1177 = 180 days (maximum)

Leaves entitled (subject to sanction of leave by your Principal) = 80 days (180-100)

- ▶ Those students who have registered IPCC with

ATC, do they need to do articleship for an additional year?

Ans.: students who have registered for IPCC alongwith ATC shall be required to complete either 12 months work experience or prescribed period of articulated training before applying for 'Accounting Technician Certificate'.

Further, it is clarified that partial completion of articulated training period cannot be treated as completion of 12 months work experience nor based on that 'Accounting Technician Certificate' shall be issued.

▶ Do we need to do articleship only under a CA who is practicing or can we do industrial training?

Ans.: As per Regulation 43 of the Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1988, practical training is imparted only by a member who is practicing the profession of chartered accountants in his individual name or as proprietor or as partner or member who is in full time salaried employee under a chartered accountant in practice or a firm of such chartered accountants.

Further, as per Regulation 51 of the Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1988, industrial training shall be received under a member of the Institute in any of the financial, commercial, industrial undertakings with minimum fixed assets or minimum total turnover or minimum paid up share capital as may be specified by the Council or such other institution or organization as may be approved by the Council from time to time for the period between nine months and twelve months during the last year of the prescribed period of practical training and after passing Intermediate examination/PE-II examination/PCE/IPCE by the articulated assistants.

▶ Is it compulsory to join articleship immediately after passing IPCC?

Ans.: Yes, it is compulsory because there is a condition of completion of minimum 2½ years of articleship before appearing in Final examination.

▶ Is deputation of articulated assistants at branches of the same firm allowed during articleship even after 1 year from starting it?

Ans.: Deputation of articulated assistants at branches of the same firm is allowed during articleship if the principal remains the same. If there is change in the principal, then the articulated assistant has to apply

for termination as per the announcement dated 2nd July 2010 regarding transfer/termination of articleship.

▶ I have temporarily discontinued my articleship, I am in first year, can I start my articleship again with another Principal abroad?

Ans.: Yes. If a student has taken a termination in the first year, he can commence articulated training later on with the member entitled to engage and train one or more articulated assistants notwithstanding anything contained in Regulation 43.

▶ Three years of articleship-Isn't this too long a tenure?

Ans.: No, three years of articleship is not too long tenure considering the fact that it grooms the CA student in all aspects of CA course. The period of articulated training is already reduced from 3.5 years to 3 years.

▶ How many total leaves are available during articleship?

Ans.: As per Regulation 59 of the Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1988, an articulated assistant shall earn leave at the rate of one sixth of the period for which he has actually served excluding from such period, the period for which he has been on leave subject to maximum of 180 days.

▶ Can we do articleship & Industrial training from abroad?

Ans.: i) Yes, A Chartered Accountant is eligible to train an articulated assistant provided his main occupation is the practice of the profession of Accountancy at the time of engaging articulated assistants as well as in each of the qualifying years on the basis of which he claims eligibility to train articulated assistants.

ii) Any member engaged in any other business, occupation or holding part time certificate of practice is not entitled to train articulated assistant.

iii) Any member employed as a Paid Assistant or engaged as a partner in a foreign firm of Chartered Accountants will also be eligible to train articulated assistants at par with the paid assistants with a firm of Chartered Accountants in India. All conditions applicable to the Paid



Assistants in India would be applicable to them as well. However, in case of a foreign firm, such a foreign firm shall have at least one partner who is either a member of the Institute or who is eligible to become a member of the Institute, in terms of MRA.

- iv) The members shall provide a professional address as envisaged in Regulation 2(1)(xiii) as well as an address in India.

(As per the said Regulation, professional address means: -

- a. an address of the place where the member is carrying on his profession (or where he is carrying on his profession at more than one place, the principal place), or b. if a member is employed, the place of employment or at his option the place of his residence c. the place of residence, if the member neither carried on the profession nor is employed. It may please be noted that an address in India is essential in any of the situation)
- v) The terms and conditions that may be made applicable for training articled assistant in India from time to time shall mutates mutandis apply for training of articled assistant abroad.
- vi) The period of practical training shall be 3 years, as applicable, under a practicing chartered accountant abroad. However, the articled / audit assistants should have an option to undergo industrial training in accordance with the Regulations 51 & 72 of the Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1988 during the last one year of training.
- vii) The Industrial Training may be imparted by the Chartered Accountants working abroad in a financial, commercial or industrial undertaking with minimum fixed assets & minimum total turnover or minimum paid up capital as may be specified by the Council (whatever the value specified in terms of Indian currency may be deemed as applicable in foreign countries in their respective currencies) or such other organization or institution approved by the Council. In case of a member employed outside India, and eligible to impart Industrial training outside India, is unable to submit Annual Report/Balance sheet of the corporate/undertaking the member is working with, the member may submit a self declaration

about the particulars of the undertaking along with the application.

- viii) The terms & conditions contained in Regulation 54 and Regulation 54A dealing with secondment shall be applicable to the articled assistants receiving training abroad.
- ix) The Principal shall send training reports as prescribed along with the service certificate to be issued in Form 109 & 108 as the case may be.
- x) The principal shall impart training in accordance with the guidelines contained in Training Guide. He shall maintain a record of practical training imparted by him to the articled assistant and report to the Council in the form prescribed in the training guide.
- xi) The rates, terms and conditions of stipend prescribed as payable to the articled assistants receiving training in India shall be applicable to the articled assistants receiving training aboard except that the same rate of stipend in equivalent terms specified in respective national currencies of the countries concerned instead of Indian rupees.
- xii) Regulation of training in terms of office hours and working days holidays will be applicable as per local office timings and laws. However, requirements of total training hours will be the same as applicable in India, the terms of which are given hereunder: -
- a. The working hours for the articled assistants shall be 35 hours in a week excluding the lunch break.
- b. The office hours of the Principal for providing article training to the articled assistant shall not be generally before 9.00 a.m. or after 7.00 p.m.
- c. The normal working hours for the articled assistant shall not start after 11.00 a.m. or end before 5.00 p.m.
- d. The working hours for the articled assistants should not exceed 35 hours in a week excluding the lunch break and normally an articled assistant be required to work during the normal working hours fixed for articled assistants.
- e. In case of exigencies of work with Principal, an article assistant may be required to work beyond his / her normal working hours. However, under such circumstances, the aggregate number of

working hours shall not exceed 45 hours per week.

The requirement to work beyond 35 hours in a week should not be a practice but only in exceptional circumstances.

Further, where the articled assistant is required to work beyond normal working hours, and aggregate of such hours exceed 35 hours per week, he / she shall be entitled to compensatory leave calculated with reference to number of completed working hours, over and above, 35 hours per week.

Further conduct of training will be regulated as per provisions of the relevant Regulations 60, 65, 66, 67 of the Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1988.

- ▶ What should be done if our CA is not giving stipend?

Ans.: It should be brought to the notice of the Institute and appropriate action will be taken in the matter under Regulation 67 of the Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1988.

- ▶ What are the requirements of getting articleship in big "articleship firms".

Ans.: Different firms have different criterion for selecting articles. There is no set criterion from Institute's side.

- ▶ Industrial training should be made compulsory and every corporate must keep a CA Final student as a trainee. Is it possible?

Ans.: We cannot impose any condition on any corporate to keep industrial trainees

- ▶ I want to go to industrial training before completing my articleship. Sir, what can one do for it?

Ans.: An industrial training can be done only after passing Intermediate examination/PE-II examination/PCE/IPCE and for the period between nine months and twelve months during the last year of the prescribed period of practical training. For this you have to approach companies which have been approved by the Council and already registered with ICAI for imparting industrial training.

- ▶ Why is there no transparency in the recruitment of articles. Despite the fact that why one has scored well in the exams still the reference is to be applied for training?

Ans.: The Institute does not have any role in placement of articles. However, for the convenience of students and firms the Institute has started On-line Article Placement Portal where firms desiring to keep articles and students desiring for doing articleship register themselves for placement. The selection procedure is entirely the domain of the registering firm in which the Institute does not have any role to play.

- ▶ I am unhappy with my training due to non availability of work in the office. Most of the time, we sit idle in the office. There is no work of any company Bank VAT & ST. We are busy only in few months when filing the ITR. We want to give more hour to training but want to learn company Audit, bank audit etc. What should we do?

Ans.: A student may opt for secondment, termination of articleship, Industrial training for gaining practical experience in different areas as per Regulation 54, 56 and 51 of the Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1988.

- ▶ What would be your advice to article assistants? How do we manage both studies and articleship?

Ans.: You have to plan out in a way that you are able to do justice to both articleship and studies. Chalk out a proper time table depending upon availability of time and your capabilities. Once properly framed, just adhere to it. For detailed guidance in this regard, please refer to the Institute's publication How to face CA examination.

- ▶ The Institute announced that articled students can find their firm through on-line Article Placement Portal.

Ans.: The Institute provides the facility of On Line Articles Placement Portal. This portal provides a platform to the firms of Chartered Accountants having vacancies for Articled Assistants to select eligible students and the candidates who are eligible for undergoing articled training. Both eligible firms and candidates have to register themselves online through the articles placement portal. Please visit <http://bosapp.icai.org> for details regarding this facility.

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