

Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting

The Independent Institute of Education (The IIE)

The IIE Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting provides candidates with a thorough theoretical grounding and knowledge base in the key principles of financial accounting, taxation, management accounting and financial management, corporate governance and auditing. Graduates will develop a wide range of highly sought-after professional skills that are founded in the underlying theory but also in the practical hands-on application of the theoretical knowledge.

The outcomes for this qualification were identified as critical to drive a successful career in accountancy, management accounting, taxation and/or internal and external auditing, providing competent highly qualified chartered accountants in the private and the public sectors. By understanding business processes in the context of the related subject disciplines, graduates will be able to solve complex business problems and meet business needs through application of legislation and sound business practice, such as International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) and International Standards of Auditing (ISAs). Graduates will also be suitably prepared to demonstrate competencies in knowledge integration, and to contribute to the economic well-being of their organisations in a responsible and ethical manner.

What is this Postgraduate Diploma's accreditation status?

The IIE Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting (PGDip (Accounting)) is accredited by the Council on Higher Education (CHE) and is registered by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) as a 120-credit qualification on level 8 (SAQA ID: 88609). The Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting is also accredited by the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA).

Who is the Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting aimed at?

This IIE Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting (PGDip (Accounting)) is aimed at students who are interested in becoming chartered accountants (CAs (SA)). Successful completion of the Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting allows graduates to enrol for the Initial Test of Competence (ITC) of the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA).

What entry requirements will I need to meet to gain admission to the Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting?

Minimum Admission Requirements	Notes
FIRST ATTEMPT STUDENTS	Any first-time applicant from The IIE and other institutions who does not meet these entry requirements, will have to complete The IIE's Professional Certificate in Accountancy (PCA) bridging course first.
<p>Students from an IIE SAICA accredited undergraduate degree: A SAICA-accredited undergraduate degree at The IIE successfully completed within a maximum time frame of 4 years. The learner must have completed all 4 major 3rd year subjects with an average of 55% or more in the year immediately preceding the year in which he/she applies for admission into the PGDip (Accounting), OR A successfully completed IIE accountancy bridging programme <u>Professional Certificate in Accountancy (PCA)</u>, having completed all 4 major subjects in the year immediately preceding the year in which the learner applies for admission into the PGDip (Accounting). NOTE: Where IIE students were unable to complete the 4 major subjects in the previous year due to the way the programme was offered, exceptions may apply.</p>	
<p>Students from SAICA accredited undergraduate degrees at other institutions:</p> <p>A SAICA-accredited undergraduate degree, successfully completed within a maximum time frame of 4 years. The learner must have completed all 4 major 3rd year subjects with an average of 55% or more in the year immediately preceding the year in which he/she applies for admission into the PGDip (Accounting), OR A successfully completed accountancy bridging programme <u>Professional Certificate in Accountancy (PCA)</u> having completed all 4 major subjects, with an average of 55% or more, in the year immediately preceding the year in which the learner applies for admission into the PGDip (Accounting).</p>	
REPEAT ATTEMPT STUDENTS	<p>Note: Students who have unsuccessfully attempted their PGDip (Accounting) or equivalent CTA two times or more at either The IIE or any other higher education provider, will not be admitted into The IIE's PGDip (Accounting) programme – such students would first have to complete The IIE's Professional Certificate in Accountancy (PCA) bridging course to be considered for the PGDip (Accounting) at The IIE again.</p>
<p>Students who attempted the IIE's PGDip (Accounting) programme in no later than the previous two academic years but were unsuccessful in completing the programme, shall be granted provisional entry into The IIE's 2021 PGDip (Accounting).</p>	

International	A SAQA Evaluation Certificate with NQF L7 equivalence in an appropriate field	
Senate Discretionary Admission	Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)	Where candidates do not satisfy the formal admission requirements for this qualification, The IIE may consider an admission application in terms of the Credit Accumulation and Transfer, Recognition of Prior Learning and Qualification Completion Policy (IIE010).

Please note, requirements for entry to this qualification are correct at the time of printing, however, these may change.

How is this Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting structured at IIE MSA?

The IIE Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting is a one-year postgraduate diploma. The academic year runs from February to November. The modules are delivered on a full-time basis (with lectures and tutorials being scheduled during the day from Monday to Friday).

Please note that in line with academic practice, The IIE's curriculum is reviewed annually and thus changes may occur in module structure and sequence in order to ensure that the qualification remains relevant. The exit level outcomes of the programme do not change. Registered students receive an updated programme curriculum on an annual basis.

What about timetables?

As far as possible timetabling is designed to accommodate student needs, but timetables remain subject to change throughout the year. Unfortunately, there is no guarantee that timetable structures will remain the same during the course of your studies. Class attendance is compulsory.

What must I pass in order to graduate with this Postgraduate Diploma?

The IIE Post Graduate Diploma in Accounting comprises four compulsory full-year modules and no elective modules. To be awarded this qualification, you must have achieved a minimum final year mark of fifty percent (50%) for each of the four core modules of the programme.

How long do I have to complete this qualification?

Students have a maximum of 3 years to complete this qualification.

With what qualification will I graduate?

You will graduate with The IIE Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting (SAQA ID: 88609).

Career opportunities: what career areas can I pursue once I have completed this Postgraduate Diploma?

This postgraduate diploma will open up an attractive range of career options. The Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting is a perfect steppingstone to a diverse and exciting range of career opportunities, such as:

- Chartered accountancy;
- External auditing;
- Consulting in Taxation, Management Accounting, IFRS, Auditing, etc.;
- Finance functions, such as Financial Manager (FM), Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO);
- Academia (teaching and learning, research and community-based involvement).

Would it be possible to study further and obtain another postgraduate qualification once I have completed The IIE Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting?

The IIE Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting is accredited by the Council on Higher Education (CHE) and is registered by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) at level 8 - the same level as other postgraduate qualifications at both private and public South African institutes of higher education. The opportunity to apply for another postgraduate certificate/diploma or Master's degree at any South African university or higher education institution exists subject to meeting their specific programme entrance criteria.

It is important to remember that your academic results remain a key factor when applying for further studies.

Call the IIE MSA campus to discuss your career options with one of our Student Advisors.

Tel: +27 11 950 4009 or email enquiries@iiemsaco.za

Disclaimer: Please note that this fact sheet is accurate at the time of publication. The Independent Institute of Education (The IIE) reserves the right to alter any of the content prior to commencement of registration due to changes in regulation, policy, market requirements or any other valid reason.

British Accreditation Council

The IIE is not only accredited in South Africa but its dedication to providing quality education also led to it being accredited by the British Accreditation Council (BAC) in 2014. The British Accreditation Council is an independent authority in the United Kingdom that accredits private providers globally, including Greece, Switzerland, Singapore, India, Mauritius and the United Arab Emirates. In 2017 The IIE had its accreditation status confirmed by the BAC as an Independent Higher Education Institution confirming our confidence in the international comparability of our standards.



“South African students need to know, when they select a private higher education institution, that

the standards offered are equivalent to those of a public University. Our students get this from our extensive local accreditation and registration. The students also benefit from knowing that we meet international standards too. The IIE is accredited as an Independent Higher Education Institution by the British Accreditation Council. Locally and internationally we have demonstrated the quality of what we offer," said Dr Coughlan, Director, The Independent Institute of Education.

IIE MSA students can be confident that their IIE learning experience meets international best practice standards.