

ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN COURSE

The ICAI has launched the Accounting Technician Course to meet the following requirements of the Indian economy:

- a. To provide junior and middle level accounting personnel to meet the needs of medium and small scale enterprises.
- b. To connect the accounting value chain from a lower level to the higher level where chartered accountants are involved.
- c. To provide the necessary work force in the area of accounting when the agricultural sector would be slowly integrated with the industrial sector.
- d. To provide a viable qualification for students who may not be able to complete the chartered accountancy course.

HOW TO BECOME AN ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN

The following are the stages for becoming an accounting technician:

- a. Enroll for Common Proficiency Test (CPT) after passing Class 10th examination.
- b. Sit in the CPT Examination after appearing in 10+2 examination.
- c. Pass 10+2 examination & Pass CPT examination.
- d. Enroll for Accounting Technician course (ATC)
- e. Undergo 9 months of Study Course
- f. Undergo orientation Course of one week spanning over 35 hours and covering topics, such as personality development, communication skills, office procedures, business environment, general commercial knowledge, etc.
- g. Undergo Information Technology Training (IIT) or Computer Training Programme.
- h. Appear in Accounting Technician Course Examination.
- i. Accounting Technician Course Examination is composed of four papers –
 - i. Accounting
 - ii. Business Laws, Ethics and Communication
 - iii. Cost Accounting and Financial Management
 - iv. Taxation
- j. Undergo one year work experience under a chartered accountant in practice or in industry.
- k. Get Accounting Technician Course Certificate.
- l. Designate as Accounting Technician.

OPTION TO PURSUE CA AFTER QUALIFYING AS ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN

If after getting the qualification of Accounting Technician, a student wants to become a Chartered Accountant he has to take the following steps:

- a. Enroll for Group II of Integrated Professional Competence Course (IPCC) and register as Articled Assistant for a period of 3 years.
- b. Pass Group II of IPCC.
- c. Appear in Final Examination during last 6 months of 3 years of articled training
- d. Pass both the Groups of Final examination
- e. Get Final Examination Pass Certificate
- f. Complete remaining period of articled training, if applicable
- g. Successfully complete the Course on General Management and Communication Skills
- h. Enroll as a member of ICAI and designate as “Chartered Accountant”

SOURCE: ICAI STUDENTS NEWS LETTER JAN 2009.