Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on “Unit Scheme” of Intermediate (IPC) Examination

Please note that this paper is merely an attempt to provide answers to questions on the subject, posed to us, by the candidates from time to time, to the extent possible and with reference to the extant scheme of examination. However, this compilation is neither exhaustive not does it purport to be a source of complete information on the subject. Hence, candidates are advised, in their own interest, to refer to the “Guidance Notes” supplied along with the examination application form, besides referring to the Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1988.

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1. **What is this Unit scheme?**

A candidate who has passed **one of the groups** of

a) Erstwhile Intermediate Examination under the syllabus as specified in paragraph 2A of Schedule B of Chartered Accountants Regulations 1988 (i.e. Nov. 1994 or later)

or

b) Professional Education (Examination II)

or

c) Professional Competence Examination (PCE)

and desirous of pursuing the CA course shall necessarily be required to convert to Intermediate (IPC) Course, of education, training and examination, (since exams under the erstwhile Intermediate, PE II and PCE courses have been discontinued) and appear in the Intermediate (IPC) Unit Scheme of Examination, in order to complete Intermediate (IPC) course.

However, a candidate already registered for the erstwhile Intermediate Course or PE II course or PCC course and have not passed any group and desirous of pursuing the course shall also be required to apply for conversion to Intermediate (IPC) Course, in the prescribed form along with fee, as applicable and is not covered under Intermediate (IPC) Unit Scheme of Examination. In other words, such a candidate will have to appear and pass both groups of Intermediate (IPC) examination but the articleship done, if any, shall be treated as valid.

Since group wise composition of papers in erstwhile Intermediate Examination under Para 2A of Schedule B of CA Regulations 1988(i.e Nov 1994 or later) /PE II/PCE are not the same as those in the respective Group/s of Intermediate (IPC) Examination, a candidate, upon conversion to Intermediate (IPC) Examination , is required to appear and pass the papers in combinations, specified under the “Unit Scheme” in one sitting so as to pass either one or both the groups of Intermediate (IPC) examination, as the case may be.

Group wise composition of corresponding papers is given below:

Erstwhile Intermediate Examination as per Paragraph 2A to Schedule B (i.e. November 1994 or later)	Professional Education (Examination II)	Professional Competence Examination	Intermediate (IPC) exam/Accounting Technician Exam.
Group I	**Group I**	**Group I**	**Group I**
Paper I: Advanced Accounting	Paper I: Accounting	Paper I: Advanced Accounting	Paper I: Accounting
Paper 2: Auditing	Paper 2: Auditing	Paper 2: Auditing and Assurance	Paper 2: Business Law, Communication and Ethics
Paper 3: Corporate and Other laws	Paper 3: Business and Corporate laws	Paper 3: Law, Ethics and Communication	Paper 3: Cost Accounting and Financial Management
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Group II	**Group II**	**Group II**	**Group II**
Paper 4: Cost Accounting	Paper 4: Cost Accounting and Financial Management	Paper 4: Cost Accounting and Financial Management	Paper 5: Advanced Accounting
Paper 5: Income Tax and Central Sales Tax	Paper 5: Income Tax and Central Sales Tax	Paper 5: Taxation	Paper 6: Auditing and Assurance
Paper 6: Organisation and Management and Fundamentals of Electronic Data Processing	Paper 6: Information Technology	Paper 6: Information Technology and Strategic Management	Paper 7: Information Technology and Strategic Management

Thus, “Unit scheme” refers to different combinations of papers of Intermediate (IPC) Examination which are required to be passed in one sitting (like a Group), designed to facilitate the candidates who have passed one of the groups in the erstwhile Intermediate Examination under the syllabus specified under Paragraph 2A of Schedule B of Chartered Accountants Regulations 1988 (i.e. Nov. 1994 or later) /PE II/ PCE in order to complete either one or both the groups of Intermediate (IPC) Examination.

2. It is meant for whom?

Unit scheme is meant for those candidates who have passed one of the groups in any of the following exams:

- Erstwhile Intermediate under Para 2A of Schedule B of CA Regulations 1988(i.e Nov 1994 or later); or
- PE II ; or

- PCE

who have converted to Intermediate (IPC) Course.

3. **Where do I get the details of the different Units of the Intermediate (IPC) Examination?**

   The details of the subjects/papers relating to Units are available in Intermediate (IPC) course Prospectus and are also hosted in the Board of Studies Announcements in the Students Section on website www.icai.org. They are also available in the Intermediate (IPC) Examination application forms.

   Details of the Unit Scheme are given below:

Unit Scheme for candidates appearing in Intermediate (IPC) Group I Exam/Accounting Technician Examination (ATE)

Group Passed under Paragraph 2A to Schedule B or Professional Education (Examination II) or Professional Competence Examination	**Exemption in the corresponding paper(s)to which the candidate is entitled in accordance with Regulation 37C (6) of the Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1988, in Accounting Technician Examination (ATE)**	**Details of papers in which candidates are required to appear and pass in one sitting as a Unit in ATE**
Group I Paper 1: Advanced Accounting/ Accounting Paper 2: Auditing/Auditing and Assurance Paper 3: Corporate and Other laws/Business and Corporate Laws/Law, Ethics and Communication	**Group I** Paper I: Accounting **Group I** Paper 2: Business Laws, Ethics and Communication	**Unit 1-ATE** **Group I** Paper 3: Cost Accounting and Financial Management **Group I** Paper 4: Taxation
Group II Paper 4: Cost Accounting Paper 5: Income Tax and Central Sales Tax Paper 6: Organisation and Management and Fundamentals of Electronic Data Processing	**Group I** Paper 3: Cost Accounting and Financial Management **Group I** Paper 4: Taxation	**Unit 2- ATE** **Group I** Paper 1: Accounting **Group I** Paper 2: Business Laws, Ethics and Communication

Unit Scheme for candidates appearing in Intermediate (IPC) Examination

Group Passed under Paragraph 2A to Schedule B or Professional Education (Examination	**Exemption in the corresponding paper(s)to which the candidate is entitled in accordance with**	**Details of papers in which candidates are required to appear and pass in one sitting as a Unit in**

II) or Professional Competence Examination	**Regulation 37C (6) of the Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1988, in Intermediate (IPC) Exam**	**Intermediate (IPC) Exam**
Group I Paper I: Advanced Accounting/Accounting Paper 2: Auditing/Auditing and Assurance Paper 3: Corporate and Other laws/Business and Corporate Laws/Law, Ethics and Communication **AND** **Candidate after passing Group I of Intermediate(IPC) Examination or ATC** **Group I:** Paper 3: Cost Accounting and Financial Management **Group I** Paper 4: Taxation	**Group I** Paper I: Accounting **AND** **Group II** Paper 5: Advanced Accounting **Group II** Paper 6: Auditing and Assurance **Group I** Paper 2: Business Laws, Ethics and Communication **Group I** Paper 3: Cost Accounting and Financial Management **Group I** Paper 4: Taxation	**Unit 3** **Group II** Paper 7: Information Technology and Strategic Management
Group I **(Group I passed and opts for Group I in Intermediate (IPC)** Paper I: Advanced Accounting/Accounting Paper 2: Auditing/Auditing and Assurance Paper 3: Corporate and Other laws/Business and Corporate Laws/Law, Ethics and Communication	**Group I** Paper 1 Accounting **Group I** Paper 2: Business Laws, Ethics and Communication	**Unit 4** **Group I** Paper 3: Cost Accounting and Financial Management **Group I** Paper 4: Taxation
Group II **(Group II passed and opts for Group II in Intermediate (IPC)** Paper 4: Cost Accounting Paper 5: Income Tax and Central Sales Tax/Taxation Paper 6: Organisation and Management and Fundamentals of Electronic Data Processing/Information Technology/ Information Technology and Strategic Management	**Group II** Paper 7: Information Technology and Strategic Management	**Unit 5** **Group II** Paper 5: Advanced Accounting **Group II** Paper 6: Auditing and Assurance
Group I	**Group II** Paper 5 Advanced	**UNIT 6**

(Group I passed and opts for Group II in Intermediate (IPC) Paper I: Advanced Accounting/Accounting Paper 2: Auditing/Auditing and Assurance Paper 3: Corporate and Other laws/Business and Corporate Laws/Law, Ethics and Communication	Accounting **Group II** Paper 6 Auditing and Assurance	**Group II** Paper 7: Information Technology and Strategic Management
Group II **(Group II passed and opts for Group I in Intermediate (IPC)** Paper 4: Cost Accounting Paper 5: Income Tax and Central Sales Tax/Taxation Paper 6: Organisation and Management and Fundamentals of Electronic Data Processing/Information Technology/ Information Technology and Strategic Management	**Group I** Paper 3 Cost Accounting and Financial Management **Group I** Paper 4: Taxation	**Unit 7** **Group I** Paper 1: Accounting **Group I** Paper 2: Business Laws, Ethics and Communication
Group I **(Group I passed and opts for both the groups in Intermediate (IPC)** Paper I: Advanced Accounting/Accounting Paper 2: Auditing/Auditing and Assurance Paper 3: Corporate and Other laws/Business and Corporate Laws/Law, Ethics and Communication	**Group I** Paper 1: Accounting AND Group II Paper 5: Advanced Accounting Group II Paper 6: Auditing and Assurance Group I Paper 2: Business Laws, Ethics and Communication	**Unit 8** **Group I** Paper 3: Cost Accounting and Financial Management **Group I** Paper 4: Taxation **Group II** Paper 7: Information Technology and Strategic Management
Group II **(Group II passed and opts for both the groups in Intermediate (IPC)** Paper 4: Cost Accounting Paper 5: Income Tax and Central Sales Tax/Taxation Paper 6: Organisation and Management and Fundamentals of Electronic Data Processing/Information Technology/ Information Technology and Strategic	**Group I** Paper 3: Cost Accounting and Financial Management **Group I** Paper 4: Taxation **Group II** Paper 7: Information Technology and Strategic Management	**UNIT 9** **Group I** Paper 1: Accounting **Group I** Paper 2: Business Laws, Ethics and Communication **Group II** Paper 5: Advanced Accounting **Group II** Paper 6: Auditing and Assurance

Management		

4. **I have earlier passed one group of the erstwhile Intermediate Examination in May 1994. I did not continue thereafter. I am desirous of pursuing the CA course further. How do I proceed?**

   You need to apply for conversion to Intermediate (IPC) course in the prescribed form and pay the requisite fee. Your passing one group of Intermediate prior to November 1994 is no more valid. However the period of articleship served shall remain valid.

5. **I have earlier passed one of the groups of the erstwhile Intermediate Examination in November 1994. I did not continue thereafter. I am desirous of pursuing the CA course further. How do I proceed?**

   Any candidate who has passed one of the groups of Intermediate examination in November 1994 or later is eligible for conversion to Intermediate (IPC) course and may apply for conversion as a student of Intermediate (IPC) course and will be covered under the Unit Scheme of Examination. For details, please visit the Board of Studies Announcements within the students section of the website www.icai.org

6. **I have earlier passed one of the groups of PE II or PCE. I did not continue thereafter. I am desirous of pursuing the CA course further. How do I proceed?**

   Any candidate who has passed one of the groups of PE II / PCE is eligible for conversion to Intermediate (IPC) course and may apply for conversion as a student of Intermediate (IPC) course. For details, please visit the Board of Studies Announcements within the students section of the website www.icai.org

7. **I have earlier passed Group I of the erstwhile Intermediate examination (held in November 1994 or later) / PE II / PCE. I did not continue thereafter. I want to convert to Intermediate (IPC) course and pursue the CA course. Will I be exempted from appearing in the Group which I had passed earlier?**

   Group-wise exemption in Intermediate (IPC) course by virtue of having passed one group in CA Intermediate under the syllabus specified under Paragraph 2A of Schedule B of Chartered Accountants Regulations 1988 (i.e. November 1994 or later) or PE II or PCE **is not available** in Intermediate (IPC) course because the composition of papers in each group of Intermediate (IPC) Examination is different from that of erstwhile Intermediate/ PE II / PCE.

   However, exemption in corresponding paper(s) in Intermediate (IPC) exam is available for the papers comprised in a group passed in erstwhile Intermediate/PE II/ PCE

   Details of paper wise exemption/s available are given below:

Group of erstwhile Intermediate/PE II passed	Group of PCE passed	Paper-wise exemption in Intermediate(IPC)/ATE

Group I	Group I	
Paper 1 Accounting Paper 2: Auditing Paper 3: Business and Corporate Laws	Paper 1: Advanced Accounting Paper 2: Auditing and Assurance Paper 3: Law, Ethics and Communication	Group I Paper 1: Accounting and Group II Paper 5: Advanced Accounting Group II Paper 6: Auditing and Assurance Group I Paper 2: Business Law, Communication and Ethics
Group II	**Group II**	
Paper 4: Cost Accounting and Financial Management Paper 5: Income tax and Central Sales Tax Paper 6: Information Technology	Paper 4: Cost Accounting and Financial Management Paper 5: Taxation Paper 6: Information Technology and Strategic Management	Group I Paper 3: Cost Accounting and Financial Management Group 1 Paper 4: Taxation Group II Paper 7: Information Technology and Strategic Management

You have the following options, for completing Intermediate (IPC) Exam:

- Pass Unit 4 in one sitting and Unit 6 in another sitting separately; or
- Pass Unit 8 in one sitting

You will be declared to have passed in Group I of Intermediate (IPC) Examination, if you have appeared and passed Unit 4 in one sitting.

You will be declared to have passed in Group II of Intermediate (IPC) Examination, if you have appeared and passed Unit 6 in one sitting.

You will be declared to have passed in Intermediate (IPC) Examination in its entirety, if you appear and pass Unit 4 in one sitting and Unit 6 in another sitting separately or Unit 8 in a single sitting. (It may be noted that unit 8 is a combination of the papers in Unit 4 and Unit 6).

8. **I have earlier passed Group II of the erstwhile Intermediate examination (held in November 1994 or later) / PE II / PCE. I did not continue thereafter. I want to convert to Intermediate (IPC) course and pursue the CA course. Will I be exempted from appearing in the Group which I had passed earlier?**

Group-wise exemption in by virtue of having passed one group in the erstwhile Intermediate under the syllabus specified under Paragraph 2A of Schedule B of Chartered Accountants Regulations 1988 (i.e. Nov. 1994 or later) or PE II or PCE **is not available** in Intermediate (IPC) Examination because the composition of papers in each group of Intermediate (IPC) Examination is different from that of Intermediate/ PE II / PCE.

However, exemption in corresponding paper(s) in Intermediate (IPC) Examination is available for the papers comprised in a group passed in the erstwhile Intermediate/PE II/ PCE

Details of paper wise exemption/s available are given below:

Group of erstwhile Intermediate/PE II passed	**Group of PCE passed**	**Paper-wise exemption in Intermediate (IPC) Examination /ATE**
Group I	**Group I**	
Paper 1 Accounting Paper 2: Auditing Paper 3: Business and Corporate Laws	Paper 1: Advanced Accounting Paper 2: Auditing and Assurance Paper 3: Law, Ethics and Communication	Group I Paper 1: Accounting and Group II Paper 5: Advanced Accounting Group II Paper 6: Auditing and Assurance Group I Paper 2: Business Law, Communication and Ethics
Group II	**Group II**	
Paper 4: Cost Accounting and Financial Management Paper 5: Income tax and Central Sales Tax Paper 6: Information Technology	Paper 4: Cost Accounting and Financial Management Paper 5: Taxation Paper 6: Information Technology and Strategic Management	Group I Paper 3: Cost Accounting and Financial Management Group 1 Paper 4: Taxation Group II Paper 7: Information Technology and Strategic Management

You have the following options, for completing Intermediate (IPC) Examination:

- Pass Unit 5 in one sitting and Unit 7 in another sitting separately
- Pass Unit 9 in one sitting

You will be declared to have passed Group I of Intermediate (IPC) Examination, if you appear and pass Unit 7 in one sitting.

You will be declared to have passed Group II of Intermediate (IPC) Examination, if you appear and pass Unit 5 in one sitting.

You will be declared to have passed in Intermediate (IPC) Examination, in its entirety, if you appear and pass Unit 5 in one sitting and Unit 7 in another sitting separately or Unit 9 in a single sitting. (It may be noted that Unit 9 is a combination of Unit 5 and Unit 7)

9. I have passed one of the groups of erstwhile Intermediate in May 1994. I am interested in pursuing the Accounting Technician Course. How do I proceed?

You need to apply for conversion to Accounting Technician Course in the prescribed form and the pay the requisite fees. **Your passing one group of erstwhile Intermediate prior to November 1994 is no more valid.**

10. I have passed Group I of erstwhile Intermediate under Para 2A of Schedule B to CA Regulations 1988(i.e. November 1994 or later) or PE II or PCE. I am interested in pursuing the Accounting Technician Course. How do I proceed?

You are eligible for enrolment/conversion to ATC and register yourself as a student of ATC. For more details, please visit Board of Studies Announcements in the Students Section of the website www.icai.org.

Composition of papers in ATE is different from that of erstwhile Intermediate/ PE II / PCE. You will be exempt from appearing in those paper(s) in ATE, for the corresponding papers comprised in a group passed in erstwhile Intermediate/PE II/ PCE

You need to appear and pass Paper No 3 (Cost Accounting and Financial Management) and Paper 4 (Taxation) comprised in ATE (i.e Unit 1), in one sitting, in order to pass ATE.

However, for award of Accounting Technician Certificate, you will also have to fulfill other requirements such as practical training/work experience for the prescribed period in approved organizations etc.

11. I have passed Group II of erstwhile Intermediate under Para 2A of Schedule B to CA Regulations 1988 (i.e Nov 1994 or later) or PE II or PCE. I am interested in pursuing the Accounting Technician Course. How do I proceed?

You are eligible for enrolment/conversion to ATC and register yourself as a student of ATC. For more details, please visit Board of Studies Announcements in the Students Section of the website www.icai.org.

Composition of papers in ATE is different from that of erstwhile Intermediate/ PE II / PCE. You will be exempt from appearing in those paper(s) in ATE, for the corresponding papers comprised in a group passed in erstwhile Intermediate/PE II/ PCE

You will be exempt from appearing in those paper(s) in ATE, for the corresponding papers comprised in a group passed in erstwhile Intermediate/ PE II/PCE.

You need to appear and pass Paper No 1 (Accounting) and Paper 2 (Business Laws, Ethics and Communication) comprised in ATE (i.e Unit 2), in one sitting, in order to pass ATE.

However, for award of Accounting Technician Certificate, you will also have to fulfill other requirements such as practical training/work experience for the prescribed period in approved organizations etc.

12. What is the passing criteria in Unit scheme?

A candidate shall be declared to have passed in Group I level or Group II level or Unit as the case may be, if he secures at one sitting a minimum of 40 percent marks in each paper of the Group/Unit and a minimum of 50 percent marks in the aggregate of all the papers of that Group/Unit.

However, a candidate who appears in a Unit comprising a single paper, shall be declared to have passed in that Unit, if he secures at one sitting a minimum of 40 percent marks in that Unit.

13. I have already passed one group in PCE and converted to Intermediate (IPC) Examination. I am now a Unit candidate under Intermediate (IPC) Examination. Will I get the benefit of the exemption in a paper (s) secured by me in PCE, on the basis of having secured a minimum of 60% marks, in the said paper(s), in the corresponding papers of Intermediate (IPC) Examination-Unit scheme?

Yes. The exemption to appear in a paper or papers granted earlier, (on the basis of having secured a minimum of 60% marks) , to a candidate who has passed in any one but not in both the groups of PCE shall continue, in the corresponding paper or papers under the Intermediate (IPC) Examination/ATE/Unit scheme, **for the unexpired chances. For details visit the Students/Examination/FAQs section of the Institute's website www.icai.org.**

14. What are the rules relating to exemption in a paper(s) comprised in a Unit?

A candidate who has appeared in all the papers comprised in a group/unit and fails in one or more papers comprised in that group/unit and but secures a minimum of 60% of the marks in any paper or papers of that group/unit shall be eligible for exemption in that paper or papers in the next three following examinations. He shall not be eligible for any further exemption in the remaining paper(s) of that group/unit until he has exhausted the exemption already granted to him in that group/unit.

The implications of the above paragraph are clarified below:

- You must have appeared in all the papers of the unit.
- You must have failed in the unit and should have secured a minimum of 60 percent marks in any paper/s of the unit.
- The exemption is automatic and will be found indicated in the statement of marks issued by the Institute.
- An exemption is valid for three immediate succeeding exams and will be carried forward automatically for the next three examinations.
- A candidate shall be declared to have passed in a unit, if he secures at one sitting a minimum of 40 percent marks in each paper of the unit and a minimum of 50 percent marks in the aggregate of all the papers of that unit. For the purpose of arriving at the aggregate marks, 60 percent or more marks in a paper(s), secured earlier will also be taken into consideration.
- As long as exemptions in one or more paper(s) of a group/unit, brought forward from an earlier attempt is/are subsisting, no further exemption in any paper in that group/unit will be given, even if you secure 60% or more marks in any paper in that group/unit.

For more details on "Exemptions" , please refer to the "Guidance Notes" supplied along with the examination application form, or visit the Students/Examination section of www.icai.org besides referring to the Chartered Accountants Regulations 1988

15. Does a candidate who has passed one group in the erstwhile Intermediate under Para 2A of Schedule B to CA Regulations 1988 (i.e. Nov. 1994 or later) /PE II or PCE and converted to Intermediate (IPC) Examination, have to necessarily go through the Unit Scheme or he can take Intermediate (IPC) Examination?

Yes. Such a candidate has to necessarily go through unit scheme and apply for conversion to Intermediate (IPC) Examination in the prescribed form and pay the requisite fee.

17. I have already passed one group of the erstwhile Intermediate under Para 2A of Schedule B to CA Regulations 1988 (i.e Nov 1994 or later) /PE II/ PCE and am a unit candidate. However, if I appear in Intermediate (IPC) Examination paper/s not relevant for the unit papers in which I should have appeared, through oversight or lack of information/knowledge about the Unit Scheme, what will be the outcome?

If a unit candidate appears in Intermediate (IPC) Examination paper/s not relevant for the unit papers in which he should have appeared, through oversight or lack of information/knowledge about the Unit Scheme**,** marks obtained by him in those papers not relevant will be ignored.

18. Do I get a passing certificate after passing any Unit exam?

Intermediate (IPC) Examination Passing certificate will be issued only to those candidates who have passed any of the following units:

Unit 4 and Unit 6 or
Unit 8 or
Unit 5 and Unit 7 or
Unit 9

ATC Passing certificate will be issued to those who pass Unit 1 or Unit 2, after undergoing prescribed period of practical training/work experience in an approved organization.

However, mark sheets will be issued to all those who appear in any Unit exam.

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19. For any further clarifications, you may contact us at:

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