



**CPA**

CHARTERED  
PROFESSIONAL  
ACCOUNTANTS  
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Take the lead in  
a changing world.

Become a Chartered Professional Accountant.

Be ready for tomorrow.

### Did you know?

You can earn money while gaining your 30 months of practical work experience.

Many employers will also **partially or fully subsidize** your tuition fees, which are approximately **\$12,000**.

## What is a CPA?

Chartered Professional Accountants (CPAs) are trusted business leaders and advisors. CPAs bring their education, expertise, and high ethical standards to organizations in every industry around the world.

The CPA designation is a key to a successful professional career in business and finance, as it provides skills you can use to create limitless opportunities and expand your career path.

## Why become a CPA?

- 1 **Be in demand:** CPAs are always in demand. Enjoy a secure and fulfilling career that will help you achieve your personal and career goals.
- 2 **Grow your earning potential:** Your earning potential grows with your experience. The median annual salary for CPAs in BC is approximately \$108,000.
- 3 **Make a difference:** Use your CPA experience to make a positive impact. CPAs are recognized for their high ethical standards and commitment to their community.
- 4 **Pursue endless opportunities:** Reach the top of the corporate ladder in any industry with your CPA designation. Or be your own boss and put a fresh spin on your business.

## What is the CPA Professional Education Program?

The CPA Professional Education Program (PEP) is a part-time graduate-level program. It takes approximately 2.5 years to complete the program, but you can shorten or lengthen your studies depending on your needs:



To shorten your studies, take the **Fast Track** option. Study full-time for your core and elective modules to shorten the time to complete the PEP program by 4 months.



Other time commitments? Take the **Extended Core** and **Extended Elective Module** option. You can complete each module in 16 weeks instead of the standard 8 weeks.

# How do I become a CPA?

## 1 Get an undergraduate degree

**TIP** Domestic and international degrees equivalent to 120 course credits in any concentration or major are accepted.

## 2 Meet the CPA prerequisite requirements

**TIP** If you've taken accounting courses in your undergraduate studies, you could be exempt from some of the prerequisite courses. Find out by creating a MyCPA Profile and requesting a transcript assessment at [my.cpawsb.ca](http://my.cpawsb.ca).

## 3 Complete the CPA Professional Education Program (PEP)

**TIP** Study anytime, anywhere. Courses are delivered online with some in-person components such as workshops and exams.

## 4 Pass the Common Final Examination

## 5 Meet the 30-month practical experience requirement

**TIP** Gain relevant accounting and finance work experience, which can be any combination of full-time, part-time, or co-op experience. Up to 12 months of previous relevant work experience can be counted towards the 30-month requirement.

## 6 Become a CPA!

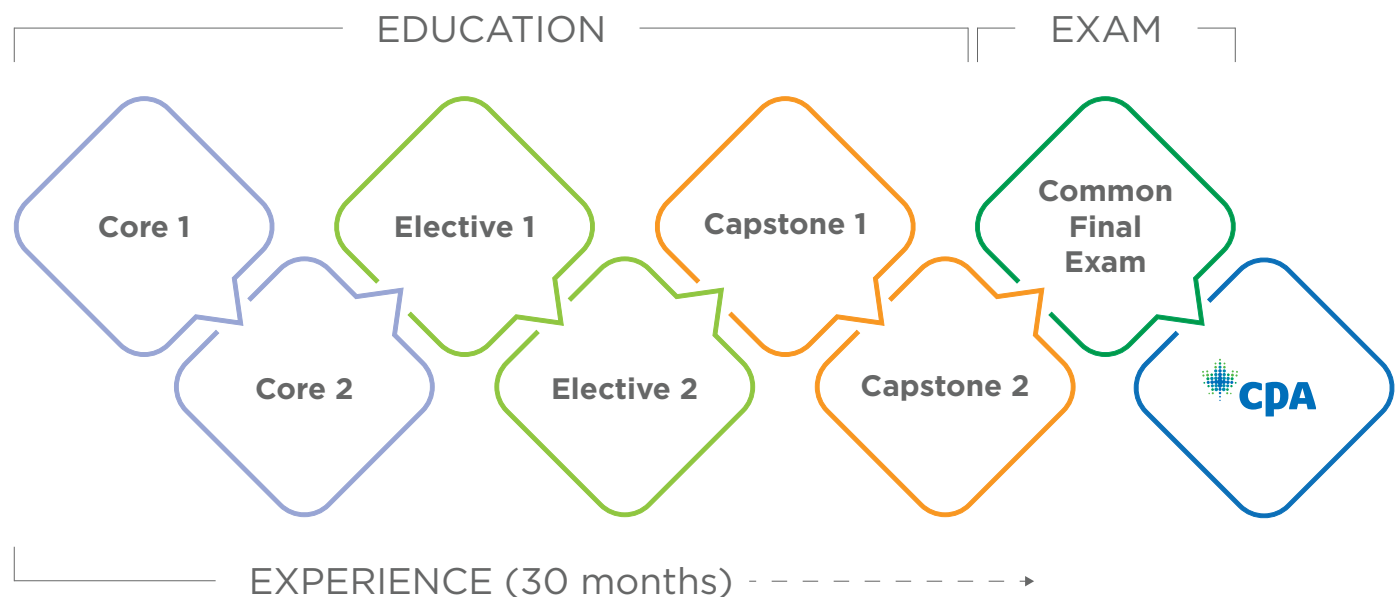
### CPA PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE ROUTES

#### PRE-APPROVED PROGRAM ROUTE

Candidates work at organizations with pre-approved training programs. See our list of Pre-Approved Program Offices at [gocpabc.ca/PPR](http://gocpabc.ca/PPR).

#### EXPERIENCE VERIFICATION ROUTE

Candidates work at the employer of their choice and submit relevant experience for evaluation directly to CPABC.



#### Core 1 & 2

cover the 6 integrated core competency areas: financial reporting, strategy & governance, management accounting, audit & assurance, finance, and taxation

#### Elective 1 & 2

can be chosen from: assurance\*, performance management, tax\*, and finance

\*public accounting candidates must take assurance and tax as their electives

#### Capstone 1

Capstone Integrative Module integrates learnings from the core and elective modules in a team-based business case

#### Capstone 2

Capstone Exam Preparation prepares candidates for the Common Final Exam (CFE) with practice case writing

## Your CPA Resources

**Attend an info session or upcoming event** to learn more about becoming a CPA. Visit [goCPAabc.ca](http://goCPAabc.ca).

**Book an advising appointment** for one-on-one advice. Email [recruitment@bccpa.ca](mailto:recruitment@bccpa.ca).

**Learn about financial support** with our scholarships and bursaries. Visit [bccpa.ca/cpaef](http://bccpa.ca/cpaef).

**Find your career** by accessing the CPABC Careers Site to search opportunities for CPAs and aspiring CPAs. Visit [careers.bccpa.ca](http://careers.bccpa.ca).

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## Contact Us

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W: [goCPAabc.ca](http://goCPAabc.ca)

## About Us

The Chartered Professional Accountants of British Columbia (CPABC) is the training, governing, and regulatory body for over 37,000 CPA members and 5,500 CPA students and candidates. CPABC carries out its primary mission to protect the public by enforcing the highest professional and ethical standards and contributing to the advancement of public policy.

