



FACT SHEET

The CA Profession

Recognized worldwide, the CA designation represents financial expertise, strategic thinking, business insight and leadership. As highly valued professionals, CAs are leaders in all segments of the Canadian marketplace, and their influence is felt in every corner of the nation's economy. CAs work as CEOs, CFOs and other corporate executives and managers; they are partners and specialists in tax, audit, forensic and other advisory services in accounting firms of all sizes; they are government officials and university professors; and they are entrepreneurs. CAs hold all of these occupations and many more. Without a doubt, the CA is considered the premium professional accounting designation and CAs are in demand as never before.

The CA Advantage

The majority of CAs work in the corporate world—public and private—developing and evaluating their company's financial and business policies, managing and directing departments and contributing, in many other ways, their skills and expertise to overall success. In recent years, 60 per cent of the Report on Business magazine's Top 1000 Companies has had at least one CA on the executive team. Moreover, the ROB listing points to a direct correlation between companies with a CA as their CFO and success, measured through a higher Return on Equity and Return on Capital. In addition to these business roles, many CAs are entrepreneurs, heading-up successful self-owned companies. Others work in not-for-profit organizations, contributing their valuable business and financial skills to arts, sports, environmental, healthcare and other groups.

CAs in public accounting work for a wide variety and size of firms—from global to local. These CAs steer businesses toward success, providing auditing, tax and business advisory services to clients ranging in scope from large, international public corporations to small, owner-managed private enterprises, and in task from planning mergers and acquisitions to developing business plans. CAs can also be specialists in fields like business valuation, investigative and forensic accounting, insolvency restructuring, information technology and others.

CAs are also present in the public sector, both in government and education. In government, CAs are elected officials as well as senior administrators. Many of Canada's top academics are CAs, contributing to advanced accounting education and post-doctoral research.

CA School of Business

Established in 2000, the CA School of Business (CASB) provides the pre-qualification program of study for all CA Students in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and the Territories. CAs undergo a combined articling and education program that includes study (through CASB) and a 30-month, on-the-job experience requirement. The demanding program culminates in the national uniform evaluation (UFE)—considered to be one of the most rigorous professional exams in the world. The innovative, competency-based CASB program utilizes online learning modules and face-to-face sessions to ensure students develop a broad range of knowledge, skills, and abilities. By embracing this enhanced qualification process—one that is in sync with the demands of the marketplace—CASB graduates are business-ready CAs.

Learn more about becoming a CA, visit the CASB website at www.casb.com

At-a-glance

- The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Saskatchewan started in 1908 with 7 members. Today there are over 2,200 members and students.
- The Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, together with the provincial and territorial Institutes/Ordre, represents a membership of more than 75,000 CAs and 12,000 students in Canada and Bermuda.
- Research indicated that more than 60% of companies listed in the Report on Business ROB 1000 for the past several years have had at least one CA in the top six positions – Chair, CEO, President, CFO, COO or Corporate Secretary.
- Of the top 20 companies in Saskatchewan Business Magazine’s Top 100 Companies, only two did not have a CA in their employ.
- 50% of the companies in Saskatchewan Business Magazine’s Top 100 Companies had CAs in their employ in top positions.
- CAs with the prescribed education and experience may register as specialists in:
 - Investigative and Forensic Accounting CA•IFA
 - Business Valuation CA•CBV
 - Internal Audit CA•CIA
 - Information Systems Auditing CA•CISA
 - Insolvency and Restructuring CA•CIRP
 - Information Technology CA•IT

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