



Professional Year Program

Skilled Migration Internship Program: Accounting (SMIPA)



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Skilled Migration Internship Program: Accounting (SMIPA) Overview

SMIPA is a professional year program approved by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) (formerly known as the Department of Immigration and Citizenship), available to overseas students who have an Australian accounting degree qualification as a result of at least two years' study in Australia.

SMIPA involves:

- 44-week training, including a 12-week internship placement with a relevant host company
- professional development and practical hands-on learning, with an emphasis on workplace preparation: culture, ethics and expectations
- recognition as a pathway for 485 graduate visa holders seeking permanent residency under general skilled migration (GSM)

Successful completion of the **SMIPA program** may attract additional points under the General Skilled Migration points test. **The SMIPA framework** has been developed by the professional accounting bodies (CPA Australia, Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand and the Institute of Public Accountants) and has been delivered only by approved providers.



AAPOLY Skilled Migration Internship Program: Accounting (SMIPA)

Skilled Migration Internship Program – Accounting (SMIPA) at AAPoly

The rationale of the SMIPA program at Academies Australasia Polytechnic (AAPoly) is to provide professional development and enhance workplace communication skills relevant to the Australian business context and the Accounting profession. A combination of formal education and a structured internship placement in an accounting role will provide participants with an integrated and practical application of their skills.

SMIPA Program Outline

The SMIPA program is divided into the following 6 areas:

1. Orientation

The program Orientation will provide participants with an overview of course elements, objectives, expectations and participants' responsibilities.

2. Workplace Culture and Communication Skills

During the classroom training and internship, participants will develop skills in:

- Verbal and non-verbal communication
- Written business communications
- Group dynamics
- Business ethics and conflict management
- Career planning and personal development

3. Formal Training

The core learning outcomes will be delivered by highly experienced trainers/facilitators. Key focus areas are:

- Australian workplace culture and workplace relationships including work, health and safety
- Performance in business meetings and workplace communication
- Making presentations, reporting to managers
- Business writing and working in a team
- Applying for jobs and preparing for job interviews

4. 12-week Professional Internship

Each participant will gain valuable work experience through an industry placement in an accounting role. Participants will be supported by the Program Coordinator throughout the internship. Internship will be no less than 220 hours in total.

5. Evaluation & Conclusion

At the end of the program, participants will provide feedback on industry placements, address final queries or issues, discuss support services and resources available and investigate current employment opportunities.

6. Completion & Qualification

On successful completion of the AAPoly Professional Year program, participants:

- Will obtain a Professional Year Certificate that is endorsed by the three accounting professional bodies
- May be eligible for points in the Points Test Assessment for General Skills Migration (GSM) visas. Individuals should contact DIBP for specific and current information.



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SMIPA Skills Assessment Requirements

1. Accounting Skills Assessment report

Participants must

- hold, or has applied for, a migration skills assessment from one of the professional accounting bodies (CPA, CAANZ or IPA), or
- hold a migration skills assessment from Vetassess under the code of Internal Auditor.

2. English Language Competency

English language test result of IELTS 6 or equivalent in each band.

3. Visa Eligibility

Anyone with the right to work and study in Australia independently for at least 12 months can be enrolled in a Professional Year (PY) program.

This includes:

- 1) Australian citizens or permanent residents
- 2) New Zealand citizens
- 3) Holders of visa subclass 485 – both graduate and post study* streams
- 4) Holders of visa subclass 476
- 5) Holders of bridging visas with full work and study rights
- 6) Secondary visa holders – these are people who are dependent family members of a principal visa holder and some of these visa holders have unlimited work and study rights (such as secondary subclass 457 visa holders)

*Post study stream 485 visa holders must have a skills assessment from one of the Accounting Bodies



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Health Requirements

You need to ensure you have the appropriate health insurance cover unless you are covered by Medicare.

You are responsible for all your health costs while you are in Australia. You must have adequate health insurance unless you are covered by Medicare. You need to ensure that your health insurance will provide at least the level of coverage required for the purpose of your stay. Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) is acceptable health insurance if you are still on a student visa when you lodge your application for a Temporary Graduate visa (subclass 485). OSHC is not acceptable if you no longer hold a student visa (for example, if you are granted a bridging visa during the visa processing period or if you are granted a Temporary Graduate visa).

Attendance

You are required to attend 100% of the SMIPA classes, except where there is a legitimate reason for non-attendance that is acceptable to AAPoly. You must provide evidence of legitimate reason such as a medical certificate for absences of two or more days.

SMIPA Intake Dates

Intakes every month - Enrol now to secure a place and complete the course in 44 weeks!

2017: 10 July | 31 July | 28 August | 9 October | 23 October | 06 November

2018: 02 January | 22 January | 12 February | 5 March | 26 March

Timetable

Saturday & Sunday classes (Between 9:30am and 17:00pm, maximum of 9 hours each weekend)

Study Location

Academies Australasia Polytechnic

Level 8, 628 Bourke Street, Melbourne VIC 3000, Australia

Program Fees

Skilled Migration Internship Program – Accounting	Amount (AUD)
Application, non-refundable fee	\$100
Course fee [#]	\$10,000
Total	\$10,100
Building access card deposit *	\$ 100

[#]AAPoly graduate is entitled to \$1,000 scholarship

*Deposit is refundable at the end of the Program when the card is returned



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Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Skilled Migration Internship Program – Accounting?

The Skilled Migration Internship Program – Accounting is a 44-week ‘job-readiness’ program introduced to assist Accounting graduates in obtaining relevant workplace skills in their chosen occupation and effectively increase their employability, in turn helping to address Australia’s skill shortages in the Accounting industry.

Who can apply to do the Skilled Migration Internship Program – Accounting?

Refer to SMIPA Skills Assessment Requirements on page 3.

Does completion of the Skilled Migration Internship Program – Accounting guarantee permanent residency?

No, but a person who successfully completes the program may be eligible for points in the Points Test Assessment for the General Skills Migration (GSM) visas. Individuals should contact DIBP for specific and current information.

Does successful completion of the Skilled Migration Internship Program – Accounting guarantee employment?

No. The aim of the program is to prepare recent accounting graduates with the professional skills required for a career in Australia. It does not guarantee employment. However, SMIPA will improve the graduates’ employability skills and employment potentials.

How is the Skilled Migration Internship Program – Accounting structured?

The program is delivered over 44 weeks, with a 12-week Professional Internship.



AAPOLY Skilled Migration Internship Program: Accounting (SMIPA)

How to Apply

Step 1

Complete the **SMIPA** application form.

Step 2

Ensure you attach the following necessary documents

- Copy of 485 visa (Other visa holders may apply. Refer to Visa Eligibility on page 3)
- Certified Accounting skills assessment report (provisional accepted)
- Certified copies of previous academic results and completion certificates
- Certified IELTS result showing at least 6.0 in all bands or equivalent
- Curriculum Vitae
- Copy of passport

Step 3

By mail:

Send your application and required documents to:

Academies Australasia Polytechnic (AAPoly)
Level 7, 628 Bourke Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000, Australia

By fax:

+61 3 8610 4199

By E-mail:

Scan your application and required documents and forward to:

enquiries@aapoly.edu.au

In person:

Come to AAPoly's office to fill in and submit your application.

If your application is successful, you will receive a letter of offer from AAPoly. When you accept this offer, you will be welcomed as a valued participant of the Skilled Migration Internship Program – Accounting.