

FAQs for CPA Australia Members

1. Is CPA Australia or CPA Canada (under unification, CGA Canada merged into CPA Canada) making the MRA publicly available?

Public comment may be made in relation to this MRA, but the document is confidential.

2. What is the term of this MRA?

The initial term was for five years, commencing April 8, 2008 and was renewed in March 2013. It will be revisited for possible renewal near the end of the term. Members acquiring CPA, CGA membership under this MRA will be able to maintain their membership should the MRA not be renewed.

3. Why should I become a Canadian CPA member?

The MRA provides members of CPA Australia with increased recognition in Canada, Bermuda, the nations of the Caribbean, the People's Republic of China and Hong Kong and, therefore, increased international profile and mobility.

4. Why become members of both organizations?

Dual members will benefit from the international exposure and worldwide resources of two leading designations. By leveraging on the expertise of two distinguished accounting bodies, dual members will be able to avail themselves of the best of both worlds.

5. Will my CPA, CGA designation be recognized in other countries?

The CPA, CGA designation is recognized in Bermuda, the nations of the Caribbean, the People's Republic of China and Hong Kong. However, members admitted under the terms of this MRA are not eligible for membership in other bodies under other MRAs signed by either organization.

6. What are the fees for CPA, CGAs?

The membership application fee is \$300 CAD. This fee may vary by province.

Annual membership dues vary by province, but average \$800 CAD per year. For Offshore membership fees, please contact CPA British Columbia at CGA-BCInternationalInquiries@bccpa.ca.

7. If I apply for membership with a provincial CPA body under this MRA must I keep my CPA Australia membership?

Yes. Members of both bodies are required to keep their original designation if they are accepted as a member of the other body.

8. If I am already a CGA, do I have to do anything?

No. Individuals who are currently members of both CPA Australia and the Canadian CPA profession only need to ensure each designation's requirements are maintained to remain a member of both.

9. Do CPA Australia members need to pass any exams or take any courses before they can become eligible for CPA, CGA membership?

Yes. CPA Australia members must complete the online CPD course, [Overview of Canadian Tax and Law](#) (an exemption may be granted). See Question #19 for additional information.

10. Does the MRA cover members regardless of where they reside?

The agreement applies to members of both bodies wherever they are located in the world, except for the province of Quebec. CPA Australia members residing in Canada must apply through the [CPA provincial body](#) where they reside. CPA Australia members residing outside of Canada must apply through CPA British Columbia and can contact them at CGA-BCInternationalInquiries@bccpa.ca.

11. Are Associate (ASA) members eligible for Canadian CPA, CGA membership?

No. You must complete both the CPA Program and Mentor Program to be eligible to apply.

12. Am I eligible to join Canadian CPA, CGA membership through the MRA if I gained membership of the CPA Australia through my membership with another body?

No.

13. I do not have a degree but have more than 15 years of experience. What is senior level experience?

Senior level experience means that you have held a senior position in an organization for at least five years, including supervision of staff and the authority to sign-off financial statements. The following position titles are an indication of senior level experience:

- CEO
- President
- Vice-President
- CFO
- Financial Controller
- General Manager
- Manager
- Partner – Public Practice
- Sole Practitioner – Public Practice
- Partner in Non-Accounting Practice (e.g. law firm)
- Self-Employed / Owner of Business
- Academic / Teacher

14. If I am a CPA Australia member wanting to apply for CPA, CGA membership, what documents will I need to submit?

- a) Complete the Initial Application Form:
 - i. Offshore applicants and those residing in British Columbia, please download and complete [this form](#).
 - ii. Residents of Canada please download and complete [this form](#).
- b) Contact CPA Australia and request a Letter of Good Standing.
- c) If you are applying for membership under the 15 years of experience provision and you are not an FCPA, provide a copy of your resume.
- d) Submit the Initial Application Form, Letter of Good Standing and your resume (if required) directly to the appropriate [CPA provincial body](#).
- e) Contact your post-secondary institution to have an official sealed transcript of your degree sent directly to the appropriate [CPA provincial body](#).

15. How long will it take for my application for Canadian CPA, CGA membership (based on my CPA Australia qualifications) to be processed?

Approximately 4-6 weeks.

16. How long will CPA Australia members have to complete the additional education requirements?

Two years.

17. What subject matter will the CPA Australia members need to cover?

An overview of Canadian tax and law.

18. Will there be any exemptions available to CPA Australia members with regard to additional education requirements?

Yes. An exemption may be granted if CPA Australia members completed TX1 through the legacy CGA or an equivalent transfer credit course (with a passing grade) from a Canadian post-secondary institution within five years of application. Please note that the TX1 course is no longer offered.

19. How do I arrange to take the additional educational requirements?

Complete the CPD course, [Overview of Canadian Tax and Law](#), and submit the certificate of completion. Transfer credit may be granted to applicants who have completed an equivalent course from a Canadian post-secondary institution approved by the CPA provincial/regional body or school. For information about a transfer credit, contact the appropriate [CPA provincial body](#).

20. What sort of practical experience do members of each body require to be eligible for membership?

While some differences are expected between the bodies' requirements, practical experience should be in the spirit of the International Federation of Accountants' International Education on Practical Experience, see www.ifac.org

21. Does CPA Canada recognize completion of CPA Australia's Mentor Program as relevant work experience?

Yes, CPA Australia's Mentor Program complies with the International Education Standard on Practical Experience.

22. Do members of each body have to complete extra CPD?

No, just the CPD hours stipulated by each body, which is in accordance with IFAC – see www.ifac.org.

23. If I complete my CPA Australia CPD requirements, will this count towards my CPA Canada CPD requirements?

Yes, completion of CPA Australia's CPD requirements will satisfy the CPD requirements set by CPA Canada. However, you will be required to report annually to both your provincial CPA body and CPA Australia.

24. Does the MRA confer the right to practice public accounting in Canada?

No, members wishing to register in public practice must meet the entry to public practice requirements specified by the province in which they reside. Visit your provincial CPA body or the [CPA Canada website](#) for additional information.