

CPA PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION  
PROGRAM

# SYLLABUS

Core 1 Module

## Purpose

The purpose of this syllabus is to provide information about the Core 1 module. This document has been produced for current and potential candidates and those who advise them; and others in the professional, academic, and general community.

## Module Overview

### Module objectives

The objective of the Core 1 module is to provide candidates with a complete understanding of the most fundamental concepts in financial accounting and reporting. Technically complex accounting issues are introduced. The module provides many opportunities for candidates to consider the audit, tax, finance, and performance management implications of financial accounting and reporting issues. Candidates gain an appreciation of how financial accounting integrates with decision-making and strategies through case scenarios that provide a rich professional context.

### Resources

See the Candidate Guide for a comprehensive list of module resources.

### Grading

See the Candidate Guide for the module grading structure.

## Unit Outline

The following activities are included in each unit.

### Units 1-8

- **Technical review with the eBook**
  - Each unit covers several eBook chapters. Each chapter includes a snapshot, written instruction, examples, e-lessons on select technical topics, summary problems, and practice multiple-choice questions.
- **Test yourself with a quiz**
  - The quiz consists of 25 multiple-choice questions that have been selected to test your understanding of the technical topics in each unit.
- **Watch the webinars (optional)**
  - These optional webinars cover a variety of topics, including advice on writing objective-format questions, case planning, case writing, analyzing financial reporting issues, analyzing other Core 1 competencies, debriefing, and preparing for the exam.
- **Apply what you have learned to an integrated problem**
  - Integrated problems draw from the technical topics covered in each unit and provide an opportunity to practise applying technical knowledge in an integrated manner.
- **Write a practice case**
  - Practice cases provide an opportunity to hone your case-writing skills and apply technical knowledge in a 60-minute scenario. The practice case is designed to be written in exam-like conditions within the suggested time noted in the case. For strategies on how to write a practice case, refer to the case-writing tutorial.
- **Write a retired exam case (optional)**
  - Retired exam cases are cases that were included on a past module exam. Writing this retired exam case is optional; however, you are strongly encouraged to write the case for practice under time-constrained exam conditions.
- **Write a retired exam set (Unit 8 — optional)**
  - The retired exam set is a set of multiple-choice questions and a case that were included on a past module exam. Writing this retired exam set is optional; however, you are strongly encouraged to write the set for practice under time-constrained exam conditions.

- **Debrief**
  - You will perform a self-debrief using the solutions and feedback guides received after submitting your integrated problems and practice cases from the previous unit.
  - You will perform a facilitator feedback debrief after your facilitator has returned feedback on your integrated problem and practice case submissions from the previous unit using the feedback received.
- **Participate in the orientation workshop and module workshop**
  - You will participate in two two-day workshops during which you will work through several activities led by a session leader. The orientation workshop introduces you to the Professional Education Program and the Core 1 module. The module workshop provides an opportunity to practise your enabling and technical competencies.

## Topics Covered

The following chapters from the eBook volumes are the recommended readings for the module. Chapters that are tagged with an asterisk (\*) contain topics that are commonly tested in this module.

### Unit 1

#### Financial Reporting eBook

- Chapter 3 — Accounting Principles, Assumptions and Concepts
- Chapter 4 — The Conceptual Framework
- Chapter 5 — Accounting Standards
- Chapter 6 — CPA Canada Handbook
- Chapter 17 — Revenue — ASPE\*
- Chapter 18 — Revenue — IFRS\*
- Chapter 19 — Revenue — Specific Applications
- Chapter 26 — Inventory\*
- Chapter 29 — Property, Plant, and Equipment\*
- Chapter 31 — Impairment of Assets\*
- Chapter 36 — Current Liabilities\*

#### Assurance eBook

- Chapter 1 — Assurance and Audit Defined
- Chapter 2 — The Regulatory Framework for Assurance
- Chapter 5 — Client Acceptance and Continuance\*
- Chapter 6 — Planning — Introduction to Audit Planning
- Chapter 7 — Planning — Risk Assessment\*
- Chapter 8 — Planning — Going Concern Considerations
- Chapter 9 — Planning — Fraud and Other Risk Considerations
- Chapter 10 — Planning — Approach and Strategy Considerations\*
- Chapter 11 — Planning — Materiality\*

#### Enabling Competencies eBook

- Chapter 7 — Financial Reporting Issues

### Unit 2

#### Financial Reporting eBook

- Chapter 7 — Ethics and Financial Reporting
- Chapter 16 — Financial Statement Analysis
- Chapter 20 — Cash and Cash Equivalents
- Chapter 22 — Trade Receivables\*
- Chapter 23 — Notes Receivable
- Chapter 27 — Understanding Investments
- Chapter 28 — Passive Investments in Financial Assets
- Chapter 33 — Government Grants
- Chapter 65 — Related Party Transactions\*

**Assurance eBook**

- Chapter 3 — Codes of Professional Conduct
- Chapter 4 — Ethics and Legal Considerations
- Chapter 12 — Planning — Assertions and Procedures\*
- Chapter 13 — Planning — Evidence and Documentation
- Chapter 14 — Internal Controls\*
- Chapter 16 — Execution — Substantive Procedures\*

**Enabling Competencies eBook**

- Chapter 8 — Audit Issues
- Chapter 11— Financial Statement Analysis

**Unit 3****Financial Reporting eBook**

- Chapter 32 — Non-monetary Transactions
- Chapter 49 — Leases — Lessee Accounting\*
- Chapter 50 — Leases — Lessor Accounting
- Chapter 61 — Discontinued Operations
- Chapter 62 — Non-current Assets Held for Sale
- Chapter 69 — Information Technology in Accounting, Overview
- Chapter 70 — Information Technology in Accounting, In-depth

**Assurance eBook**

- Chapter 18 — Execution — Audit of Cash Balances and Investments\*
- Chapter 19 — Execution — Audit of the Revenue Receivables Receipts Cycle\*
- Chapter 20 — Execution — Audit of the Purchases Payables Payments Cycle\*
- Chapter 21 — Audit of the Inventory and Distribution Cycle\*
- Chapter 22 — Execution — Audit of the Property, Plant, and Equipment Cycle\*
- Chapter 23 — Execution — Audit of the Payroll Cycle\*

**Enabling Competencies eBook**

- Chapter 10 — Critiques (WIR)

**Unit 4****Financial Reporting eBook**

- Chapter 30 — Intangible Assets\*
- Chapter 37 — Contingencies
- Chapter 38 — Onerous Contracts
- Chapter 39 — Long-Term Financial Liabilities
- Chapter 40 — Complex Financial Instruments — Overview
- Chapter 56 — Investment Property
- Chapter 63 — Foreign Currency Transactions\*

**Taxation eBook**

- Chapter 29 — Purchase and Sale of a Business

**Finance eBook**

- Chapter 9 — Investment and Portfolio Diversification — Risk and Return
- Chapter 10 — Investing and Portfolio Diversification — Making the Investment Decision
- Chapter 11 — Making Strategic Investments and Alliances
- Chapter 29 — Valuations — Big Picture
- Chapter 30 — Valuations — Asset-Based Approaches\*
- Chapter 31 — Valuations — Income, Cash Flow & Market-Based Approaches\*
- Chapter 32 — Valuations — Tangible and Intangible Assets
- Chapter 36 — Purchase, Expansion, or Sale of a Business — Overview
- Chapter 37 — Purchase, Expansion, or Sale of a Business — In-depth\*

**Enabling Competencies eBook**

- Chapter 12 — Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis

**Unit 5****Financial Reporting eBook**

- Chapter 34 — Decommissioning Provisions and Costs
- Chapter 46 — Current Income Taxes
- Chapter 47 — Deferred Income Taxes
- Chapter 54 — Investments in Associates — Overview\*
- Chapter 55 — Investments in Associates — In-depth\*

**Taxation eBook**

- Chapter 1 — Canadian Tax System — Overview
- Chapter 8 — Capital Cost Allowance\*
- Chapter 9 — Business Income or Loss\*
- Chapter 24 — Taxable Income for a Corporation\*
- Chapter 25 — Taxes Payable for a Corporation\*
- Chapter 26 — Taxes Payable for a Corporation — Special Topics
- Chapter 27 — Taxes Payable on Investment Income for a CCPC

**Enabling Competencies eBook**

- Chapter 9 — Tax Issues

**Unit 6****Financial Reporting eBook**

- Chapter 43 — Share-Based Compensation Plans
- Chapter 48 — Pension Plans and Other Employee Future Benefits

### Taxation eBook

- Chapter 4 — Administration
- Chapter 5 — Personal Sources of Income\*
- Chapter 6 — Employee versus Contractor
- Chapter 7 — Employment Income\*
- Chapter 10 — Property Income
- Chapter 11 — Capital Gains and Losses
- Chapter 13 — Other Personal Income and Other Deductions
- Chapter 14 — Taxable Income for an Individual\*
- Chapter 15 — Taxes Payable for an Individual\*
- Chapter 16 — Taxes Payable for an Individual — Special Topics
- Chapter 21 — Deferred Income Plans

## Unit 7

### Financial Reporting eBook

- Chapter 15 — Other Statements and Reports
- Chapter 42 — Hedging
- Chapter 44 — Basic Earnings Per Share
- Chapter 45 — Diluted Earnings Per Share
- Chapter 51 — Accounting for Changes
- Chapter 52 — Accounting for Errors
- Chapter 53 — Events After the Reporting Period
- Chapter 57 — Investments in Subsidiaries — Date of Acquisition
- Chapter 58 — Investments in Subsidiaries — After Acquisition
- Chapter 71 — Additional Considerations — PEP Candidates

## Unit 8

### Financial Reporting eBook

- Chapter 59 — Joint Arrangements
- Chapter 64 — Foreign Currency Translation
- Chapter 67 — Accounting for Not-For-Profit Organizations\*
- Chapter 68 — Public Sector Accounting

### Assurance eBook

- Chapter 27 — Reviews and Compilations

### Taxation eBook

- Chapter 34 — Goods and Services Tax — Overview and Compliance
- Chapter 35 — Goods and Services Tax