

Working at Saffery Champness

Trainee Chartered Accountants

As a top 20 UK accountancy firm and adviser to some of the UK's wealthiest individuals, Saffery Champness is a dynamic and exciting place to launch your career.

As one of our graduate trainees, you can play a major part in our ongoing success story. From early on in your time with us, you will be entrusted with real client assignments and real responsibilities. In return, we will support you with our first-class training and development programme, designed to lay the foundations for an exceptional career.

About us

Saffery Champness is one of the UK's top 20 accountancy practices with a network of nine offices in the UK plus offices in Dubai, Guernsey, Dublin, Geneva and Zurich. The firm is independent, but maintains a network of affiliate firms in over 100 countries across the globe via membership of Nexia International.

With over 80 UK partners and more than 600 employees, we are recognised as one of the UK's leading firms of private client advisers, specialising in providing advice to a broad range of individuals, their families, businesses and wider interests. The sectors in which we operate include: private wealth; owner-managed businesses; landed estates and rural businesses; sports and entertainment; not-for-profit organisations; corporate finance and professional firms and consulting businesses.

Our style is personal and we value our strong client relationships and genuinely partner-led service. Staff and partners alike demonstrate our shared values of Excellence and Integrity in all that we do and being Enthusiastic and Collegiate in the way that we do it. Providing excellent training and development opportunities for staff is an important part of what we do, as our long-standing Investors in People accreditation demonstrates. We are also very proud to have been named as one of 'Britain's Top Employers' for every consecutive year since 2004.



On the job training

We offer 3-5 year training contracts across our offices with a view to becoming an ACA/CA qualified accountant. Qualifying is not just about passing your exams; gaining a variety of experiences in a range of business environments is of equal importance. We offer exciting development opportunities, with the chance to build your knowledge in many of the sectors in which we operate, combined with excellent training and support. You will work in a friendly and progressive environment, within teams of varying sizes on audits and accounts preparation assignments. From day one you will be given your own area of responsibility. You may be dealing with private clients, individuals from the entertainment world, family estates or charities.

We use first-class tuition centres, alongside our own internally developed technical training programmes, to help you prepare for your examinations. This is supported by our dedicated training team who will monitor your progress throughout your studies. We expect our prospective trainees to have gained a thorough understanding of what the exams will involve, so please ensure that you have researched the ACA/CA qualification thoroughly and can convince us that you know what you're letting yourself in for.

Qualification

We offer a 3-5 year training contract to our trainees with a view to becoming an ACA qualified accountant. We offer a mixture of study routes to help you pass your exams.

As an apprentice levy paying employer, the firm will be utilising some of this levy on all students coming into the firm to study towards the ACA qualification. However, you won't be an apprentice for all levels, in fact you will only study as an apprentice to complete the certificate level (known as CFAB). This is level 4 of the ACA qualification.

Studying as an apprentice won't impact the time it takes you to complete the qualification, it just means that there is a defined study pathway in place to ensure you have the best success. Not only will you gain technical knowledge through the course of the apprenticeship, it will introduce early on the key skills and behaviours required to help you develop in your role.

The individual

The successful applicant will be outgoing and resilient, with excellent interpersonal and organisational skills. Candidates should be self-motivated, display a positive approach to work and have the ability to get things done. In addition, they should possess the confidence and professionalism to establish credibility at all levels, be commercially minded and be able to develop a clear perception of business requirements, having an awareness of the wider economic context that our clients operate in.

Requirements

Applicants must have a 2:1 degree (expected or obtained in any discipline and at least 120 UCAS points or equivalent, gained at one sitting, plus excellent GCSE results with a minimum grade B or 6 in English and Maths.

We also consider applications for trainee accountant positions from school leavers with excellent GCSE and A-level results.

What we can offer you

- High quality training and development.
- Varied work experience/early responsibility from the beginning of your career.
- A structured development programme.
- Excellent career progression.
- A competitive salary.
- The opportunity to work in specialist markets such as private clients.
- A friendly and supportive working environment.
- Access to senior management/partners.
- The opportunity to be rewarded for hard work - if you are ambitious and want to succeed, you can.
- Bi-annual reviews in April and October each year, with opportunities for salary progression.
- Good long-term career prospects.
- The opportunity to work in a team of all round business advisers, not just a team of auditors.

[Visit the careers section of our website to find out more about working for us.](#)

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