

ICPAR EXEMPTIONS GUIDANCE AND FEW FAQs.

What is an exemption?

If you already have some qualifications, you may not have to take all of the exams in the CPA and CAT Qualifications. These are called exemptions and means that you will start your studies at the right level for your knowledge and skill.

Why does ICPAR award exemptions?

The process of awarding exemptions is very strict as we need to ensure we are confident that the prior learning matches the skills and knowledge needed for the ICPAR Qualification.

There are several routes many students undertake prior learning which is equivalent to some ICPAR exams. Where appropriate, ICPAR wishes to ensure that students' entry points match the knowledge and skills they have acquired from their previous qualifications.

What types of qualification does ICPAR award exemptions to?

We offer exemptions considering various qualifications offered in recognized institutions worldwide ranging from diplomas, undergraduates' degrees, Masters and professional qualifications.

What exemptions are available?

At least a maximum of eight exams in foundation levels and one paper at intermediate level can be exempted for academic degree holders. To maintain the quality of the qualification we don't award exemptions in advanced level papers except those who have undertaken other equivalent accountancy professional courses in advanced levels as well. Certified Accounting Technician (CAT) qualified people from ICPAR will be exempted from CPA foundation level 1&2 exams except for F1.1. Business Mathematics and quantitative methods.

How can I find out what exemptions I'm entitled to?

You will navigate through ICPAR website and you will find an exemption policy that will help you to know the exact papers that you can be exempted from or you can use our online exemptions navigator to know tentative exemptions based on your prior qualifications or you may send your qualifications transcripts and wait for a response determining how many exemptions you are entitled to.

How can I apply for exemptions?

You can do it online and a confirmation email will be sent to you. Please send your documents through the following email exemptions@icparwanda.com.

When can I apply for exemptions?

You apply for exemptions before and after registration as an ICPAR student. If you have gained additional qualifications since you first registered as a student and believe you may be eligible for further exemptions, you can apply for these at any time. This will be done after verifying your academic papers, scanned copies can be sent through ICPAR students' platform (www.icparwanda.com). All the exempted papers will first be confirmed by ICPAR. Exemptions can be granted to papers that have not been attempted and failed.

What documents do I need to submit with my application for exemptions?

Copies of your academic/professional transcripts and certificates. Academic papers from foreign institutions should be taken to Higher Education Council (HEC), Workforce Development Authority (WDA) and Rwanda Education Board (REB) for an equivalence to Rwanda Education Qualifications Framework (REQF) and those that are not in English shall be translated in English languages to facilitate quick processing.

Do I pay for the application of exemptions?

No there is no fee associated with this application process.

Do I pay for the exempted exams?

Yes, the exempted exams are paid for at the same rate as the examination fee of that particular level/stage.

ICPAR CAT holders do not pay for exemptions while registering for CPA qualification.

How will I know if my exemption application has been approved?

ICPAR will send to you a response within a max period of five working days.

Do I need to have achieved a specified mark in my modules to claim individual exam exemptions?

ICPAR recognizes the module pass marks set by educational institutions for exemptions. If your institution has awarded a pass mark for a module, ICPAR will accept this for exemption purposes.

I have not completed my degree - can I apply for registration?

Yes. You will be registered using secondary certificates provided you scored the required points.