

GLOBAL CAREER E-KIT

ICAI Doha (Qatar) Chapter



**THE INSTITUTE OF
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA**





GLOBAL CAREER E-KIT

ICAI Doha (Qatar) Chapter

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IMPORTANT NOTES



This welcome pack is prepared with a view to furnish you with important information that a member may need when he/she arrives in Qatar to take up an employment or to set up his professional firm. The contents should be construed in conjunction with the regulations or laws that are in force in the country.

The socio-economic parameters constantly change in this vibrant economy. The information included in this welcome pack is based on factors as on 30th September 2025. The reader is requested to discuss the facts with the concerned authorities to understand the changes, if any, that may have taken place past the date of publishing this booklet.

Information contained in this document is purely for internal circulation and meant for ICAI members to give them an overview of the activities of the Chapter and to facilitate and guide the members.

This document does not promote Qatar either for practice/employment. The users of this information need to update the requirements before taking any decision in this regard. The benchmark of success of individual members may differ between individual members depending upon the skills, aptitude and professional dexterity.



GLOBAL CAREER E-KIT
ICAI Doha (Qatar) Chapter

About ICAI

THE ICAI - AN OVERVIEW



The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) is a statutory body established by the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 for regulation and development of the profession of Chartered Accountants. The Institute, functions under the administrative supervision of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India. The ICAI is the largest professional body of Chartered Accountants in the world, with a strong tradition of service to the Indian economy in public interest.

The affairs of the ICAI are managed by a Council in accordance with the provisions of the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 and the Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1988.

The Council constitutes of 40 members of whom 32 are elected by the Chartered Accountants and remaining 8 are nominated by the Central Government generally representing the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Securities and Exchange Board of India, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Ministry of Finance and other stakeholders.

Over a period of time the ICAI has achieved recognition as a premier accounting body not only in the country but also globally, for maintaining the highest standards in technical, ethical areas and for sustaining stringent examination and education standards. Since 1949, the profession has grown leaps and bounds in terms of members and student base.

Mission

- ▶ The Indian Chartered Accountancy profession will be the Valued Trustees of World Class Financial Competencies, Good Governance and Competitiveness.

Vision

- ▶ Recognise the changes in Economy/Business Environment such as focus on value, dynamic business and organisation structures, developments in Information Technology and Telecommunication, new Government policies, globalisation of business and competitive pressures.
- ▶ Recognise the path to success by adapting to the changes, knowledge management and acquiring skills to work with future environment influenced by technological and other changes.
- ▶ Recognise the opportunities for Chartered Accountants in the emerging areas such as new audit and assurance needs, performance measurement services, change management services, strategy management, general practice specialisation and servicing global organisations.
- ▶ Recognise the Institute's role as a proactive, innovative and flexible organisation, in equipping Chartered Accountants with top quality education and values.
- ▶ Recognise the need to be known as World Class Advisor.

**THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA
NEW DELHI**



MOTTO

Ya esa suptesu jagarti kamam kamam Puruso nirmimanah |
Tadeva sukarm tad brahma tadevamrtamucyate |
Tasminlokah sritah sarve tadu natyeti Kascan | etad vai tat |

य एष सुप्तेषु जागति किमं कामं पुरुषो वीक्ष्मिणः ।
तदेव शुक्रं तद् ब्रह्म तदेवमृतमुच्यते ।
तमिं ल्लोकाः निताः सवे तदु नात्येति कश्चन । एतद् वै तत् ।

(That person who is awake in those that sleep, shaping desire after desire, that, indeed, is the pure. That is Brahman, that, indeed, is called the immortal. In it all the worlds rest and no one ever goes beyond it. This, verily, is that, kamam kamam: desire after desire, really objects of desire. Even dream objects like objects of waking consciousness are due to the Supreme Person. Even dream consciousness is a proof of the existence of the self. No one ever goes beyond it : of. Eckhart : 'On reaching God all progress ends')

Source : Kathopanishad



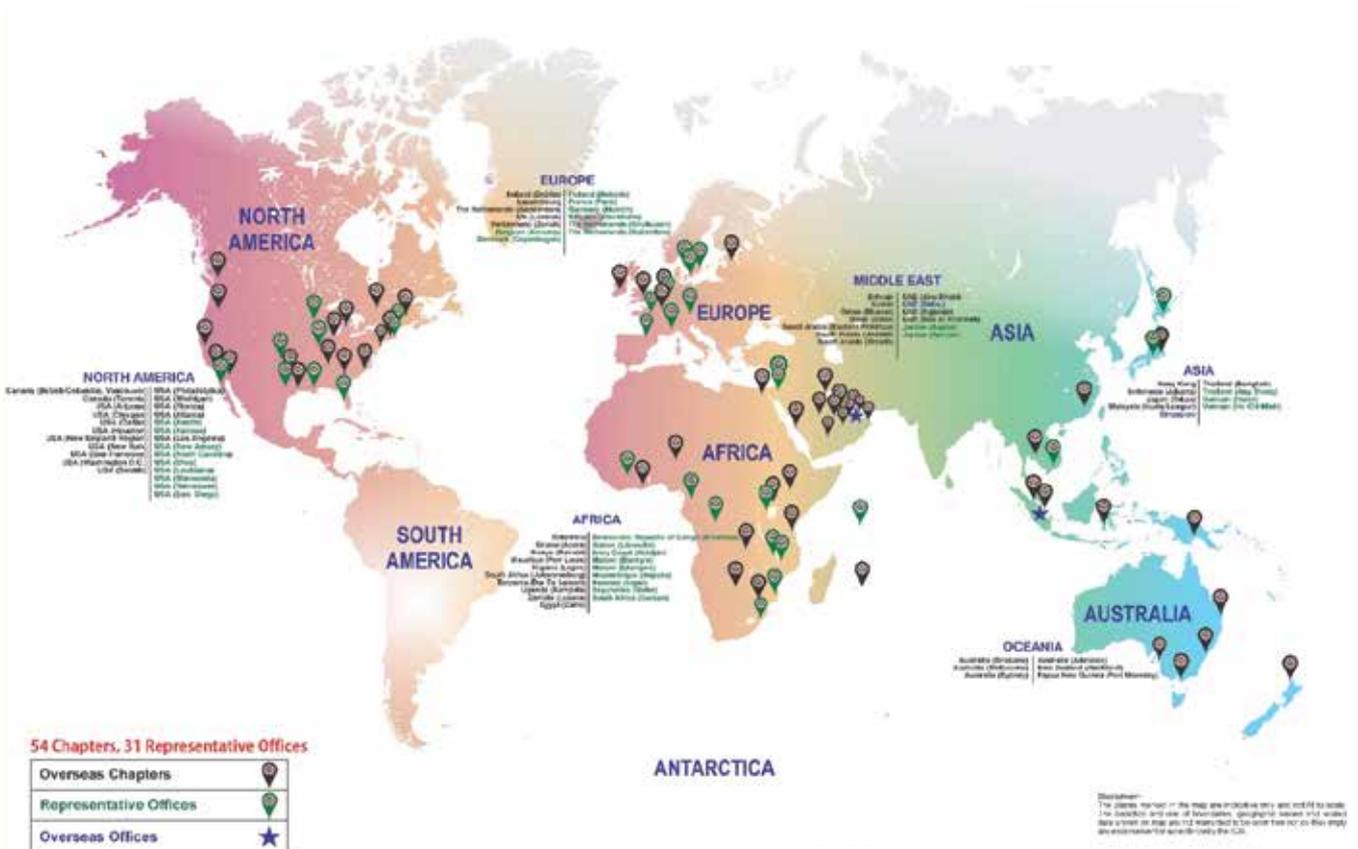
ICAI Presence

Headquarters	New Delhi
Regional Offices	5 (Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Kanpur, New Delhi)
Domestic Branches	185

Global Footprints:

No. of chapters	54
Representative Offices	31
Overseas Offices	2
No. of Countries	47
Global Cities	85

ICAI International Network



Presence in 85 Global Cities in 47 Countries

as on 04th June, 2025



GLOBAL CAREER E-KIT
ICAI Doha (Qatar) Chapter

Messages



President's **MESSAGE**

CA. Charanjot Singh Nanda
President, ICAI

As the world becomes increasingly interconnected through unprecedented global integration, the accountancy profession continues to transcend geographical boundaries. Over the years, the profession has advanced remarkably, continually adapting to an ever-dynamic environment. ICAI, the world's largest professional accounting body, has significantly expanded its international footprints, now comprising 54 Chapters and 31 Representative Offices across 85 cities in 47 countries, a testament to its global influence. ICAI's members are recognized worldwide for their pursuit of excellence, independence of judgment, and steadfast commitment to ethical and professional standards. Their credibility and competence have strengthened the international demand for Chartered Accountants.

As the regulator of the Chartered Accountancy profession, ICAI remains committed to supporting its members, across both domestic and international spheres. This commitment has led to development of a comprehensive Global E-Kit, an integrated resource designed to address the queries of the members seeking to explore professional opportunities overseas.

The updated E-Kit includes detailed guidance on topics such as securing articleship positions overseas, registering audit firms in Doha, and understanding the local business and regulatory environment. It also provides insights into the accounting and auditing landscape in Doha, auditor registration procedures, employment opportunities, and a compilation of frequently asked questions related to articleship abroad. Serving as a one-stop knowledge repository, this E-Kit is an invaluable resource for members seeking to establish or advance their careers internationally.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to the ICAI-Doha (Qatar) Chapter for curating this Global Career E-Kit, which offers members practical information to support their professional pursuits in Doha.

I am confident that this e-kit will serve as a practical and insightful companion for Chartered Accountants seeking to broaden their global presence.



Chairperson's MESSAGE

CA. Kishore Alex

Chairperson

ICAI Doha (Qatar) Chapter

As the first overseas chapter of ICAI, established over four decades ago in 1981, the ICAI Doha (Qatar) Chapter has consistently set benchmarks for excellence—propelled by the dedication and vision of our past leaders and members. Our chapter has long been a pioneer of innovation, and it remains our shared mission to continue raising the bar while proudly upholding the ICAI legacy across borders.

We are delighted to present the Global Career E-Kit—an initiative designed to support our fellow Chartered Accountants as they embark on their professional journey in Qatar. This welcome guide has been carefully curated to provide essential information for members arriving in Qatar, whether to pursue employment or to establish their own practice. We hope it serves as a valuable companion in navigating both your career and professional endeavors in this vibrant nation.

One of our foremost priorities is to enhance the visibility and reputation of Chartered Accountants in Qatar. We aspire to strengthen the “CA” brand as a hallmark of professional excellence, integrity, and trust—qualities that empower our members to assume leadership roles and make

meaningful contributions to their organizations and to the nation’s growth.

Looking ahead, we aim to foster deeper collaboration among ICAI Overseas Chapters and strengthen our connection with our alma mater. Our vision is to create a truly global platform where members can engage, network, and share knowledge seamlessly across borders. In an increasingly interconnected world, such a platform is vital for continued professional growth and the exchange of ideas.

As we step ahead, we do so with optimism and enthusiasm for the opportunities that lie ahead. Building on the momentum of landmark events, we foresee an expanding landscape of opportunities for Chartered Accountants in this dynamic economy. Qatar’s evolving market offers a fertile ground for professionals like us to contribute, grow, & excel.

With the steadfast support of our dynamic and motivated Executive Committee—united by a common purpose—I am confident that we will elevate our Chapter to even greater heights. Together, we will continue to serve our members with distinction and uphold the values that define us as a truly global profession.



Vice-Chairperson's **MESSAGE**

CA. Arun Somanath
Vice Chairperson
ICAI Doha (Qatar) Chapter

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Qatar and to our esteemed association. This welcome pack has been thoughtfully curated to equip you with essential information to help you settle in smoothly—whether you are commencing employment or establishing your professional practice. We recognize that transitioning to a new country presents both opportunities and challenges, and our aim is to make this process seamless by providing a comprehensive guide to support your professional journey in Qatar. This resource offers valuable insights into both the country and the activities of our Chapter.

As the Vice Chairperson of the Doha Chapter of ICAI - it is a privilege to address you on behalf of an institution that has, over the past four decades, evolved into a vibrant center of professional excellence. Our success is built upon the vision of our past leaders, the unwavering commitment of our members, and the forward-looking initiatives that have enabled us to thrive amid an ever-changing financial landscape.

In recent years, our Chapter has demonstrated remarkable agility in adapting to new challenges, particularly through digital transformation, ensuring that we continue to deliver value and engagement to our members. As Warren Buffett aptly said, “Someone’s sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago.” This sentiment perfectly captures our Chapter’s enduring philosophy—our collective efforts over the years have laid a strong foundation for the continued growth and resilience we enjoy today.

Looking ahead, my focus remains on further enhancing the Chapter’s portfolio of services to ensure that our members derive meaningful professional growth, networking opportunities, and long-term value from their association with us. Together, by nurturing both our financial and intellectual capital, we will continue to raise the bar of excellence and take our Chapter to even greater heights.

Thank you for your continued trust and support.



GLOBAL CAREER E-KIT

ICAI Doha (Qatar) Chapter



About ICAI Doha (Qatar) Chapter

ICAI Doha (Qatar) Chapter was established in the year 1981 and is the oldest among the 54 overseas Chapters of the ICAI. The membership of the Chapter has grown steadily since its founding days and presently has over 400 members who hold key positions in various private and public companies and are actively involved in support and development of the accounting profession in Qatar.

The Chapter is actively involved in enhancing and updating the professional knowledge of its members and to meet this objective, periodically organizes professional lectures and seminars. The Chapter is affiliated to Indian Cultural Center under the aegis of Indian Embassy in Qatar. ICAI Doha (Qatar) Chapter is registered under Qatar Financial Center (QFC) laws. The Chapter is the first professional membership body to be licensed in QFC.

The day-to-day affairs of the Chapter are managed through its Constitution and by an elected eight-member executive committee headed by the Chairperson. Successive Chairpersons and their executive committees have worked tirelessly to ensure the growth of the Chapter and the satisfaction of members' professional needs.

The highlight of the annual events calendar is the two-day annual conference, presented each year by eminent personalities from different fields of accounting, taxation and auditing. Also keenly awaited each year is the annual CA Cricket Fiesta, a fun day for the CA fraternity to enjoy with their families.

ICAI Doha (Qatar) Chapter aspires to evolve and grow as a professional body, advancing the cause and building up the profile of Indian Chartered Accountants in Qatar. It organizes various events of professional interest that help the members to build skills, promote quality of services and in the process encourage them to adhere to the highest ethical standards and professional integrity.

Apart from the distinction of being the first overseas Chapter of ICAI, the Chapter also has the distinction of being the first overseas Chapter to elect a lady as Chairperson, when Ms. Leena Dasani was elected Chairperson in 1999. First time in the history of the chapter, for the term 2018, the chairperson and vice-chairpersons were women. This is very much aligned with the objective of Inclusion, which is fostered in the Chapter at all levels.





Objectives of ICAI Doha (Qatar) Chapter

- ▶ To serve as a medium for facilitating sharing of professional knowledge and expertise among members and CA Students including in the fields of accountancy, auditing and allied subjects contributing to professional, social and personality development
- ▶ To help in better equipping members of ICAI Doha (Qatar) Chapter in discharging their duties
- ▶ To carry out applicable and agreed directives, policies, guidelines and initiatives of the ICAI.
- ▶ To assist members in developing matters relating to accountancy, auditing and allied subjects of professional, social and personality development interest
- ▶ To facilitate employment opportunities for the members
- ▶ To organize social events for the members and their families and to provide a platform for them to interact socially and network as part of the ICAI social responsibility initiative
- ▶ To provide a platform to strive and reach out to global recognition through mutual effort and understanding along the pathway of professional excellence.
- ▶ To do all acts and undertake all activities necessary, conducive, incidental or ancillary to attain the above-mentioned objectives and are in the interest of the members of the Chapter and our profession in general.

Chapter Support

The ICAI-Doha (Qatar) Chapter keeps its members regularly informed about regulatory developments through periodic newsletters, professional seminars, and digital discussion platforms. These forums enable members to stay updated on regulatory changes, share practical insights, seek clarifications, and exchange best practices, thereby enhancing professional competence and compliance readiness.

Mentorship Activities

- ▶ Mentors support new members
- ▶ Informal guidance on regulations
- ▶ Peer experience-sharing forums
- ▶ Career and interview guidance
- ▶ Flexible one-on-one mentorship

Networking Opportunities

- ▶ Regular networking and opportunity meetings
- ▶ Professional workshops with experts
- ▶ Community-building social gatherings
- ▶ Active digital member platforms
- ▶ Collaboration with local institutions

Practical Support & Results

- ▶ Smooth settlement for newcomers
- ▶ Collective support for challenges
- ▶ Measurable networking outcomes
- ▶ Action-oriented member assistance

In addition, the ICAI-Doha (Qatar) Chapter proactively engages with local regulators and professional institutions through structured dialogues, meetings, and formal representations. This continuous engagement helps articulate members' concerns, address practical challenges faced by Chartered Accountants in Qatar, and contribute to constructive solutions in alignment with local regulatory requirements.



Key Activities of ICAI Doha (Qatar) Chapter

CPE Events: The Doha Chapter regularly organizes seminars, workshops and professional development events throughout the year for the benefit of its members. The Doha Chapter organizes CPE events on varied conventional and unconventional topics ranging from Indian Budget to Sportsmanship, Leadership and Corporate Synergy, Cyber Security and Financial Crimes, Robotics, Estate Planning and Blockchain.

CA Examination: Since December 2016, ICAI Doha (Qatar) Chapter works with ICAI, New Delhi and the Embassy of India in Qatar to hold the CA CPT, Intermediate and Final Examinations in Qatar. ICAI Doha (Qatar) Chapter is involved in getting the examination center approved, ensuring smooth conduct of CA Exams, meet all requirements of ICAI for conduct of exams at an overseas chapter and act as examination observer on the days of exams.

Sporting and Social Events: The Doha Chapter organizes various social events such as musical concerts, family fun day, cultural events, soccer, cricket tournaments etc. These events along with entertainment provide the members and their families a platform to meet and bond.

CSR Activities and Social Work: Collaboration with local entities such as Indian Embassy, IBPC, ICBF, Hospitals and other institutions to design, implement, and promote socially responsible initiatives that benefit the community, environment, and economy. It acts as a bridge, ensuring alignment with CSR goals and societal needs. It also provides an opportunity to the members to provide community service opportunities.





GLOBAL CAREER E-KIT
ICAI Doha (Qatar) Chapter

About Qatar





About The Country

Qatar is a country in West Asia which occupies the Qatar Peninsula on the northeastern coast of the Arabian Peninsula in the Middle East; it shares its sole land border with Saudi Arabia to the south, with the rest of its territory surrounded by the Persian Gulf. The Gulf of Bahrain, an inlet of the Persian Gulf, separates Qatar from nearby Bahrain. The capital is Doha, home to majority of the country's inhabitants, and the land area is mostly made up of flat, low-lying desert. The country covers an area of 11,581 square kilometers and the population of the country was 3,115,889 as of September 30, 2025, of which 330,000 were Qatari nationals. For details please visit: <https://mofa.gov.qa/en/state-of-qatar>.

Qatar - pronounced 'kuh-TAR' - is located on the Arabian Peninsula, jutting into the Persian Gulf. The first evidence of human settlement dates to the 6th millennium BCE. For centuries, Qatar was largely populated by Bedouin tribes and a few fishing villages, shaped by the rule of Arab tribes, Portuguese explorers, Ottoman leaders and the esteemed al-Thani family, whose leadership has significantly influenced the nation's heritage. Qatar's destiny changed when oil was first discovered in the Dukhan Field in 1940, transforming its economy from pearling, fishing and trade to one of the wealthiest nations in the world.





MAJOR CITIES



Doha

Doha is the capital and most populous city of the State of Qatar. A spectacular skyline welcomes you to Doha, Qatar's thriving coastal capital on the Arabian Peninsula. It offers an experience of the Middle East's most enchanting cities and feel more than ever before. Doha is a melting pot of over 94 nationalities that welcomes visitors with open arms. It is an ideal place to start your journey of exploring all that Qatar has to offer. Doha is Qatar's fastest growing city, with majority nation's population living in Doha or its surrounding suburbs, and it is also the economic center of the country.

Doha was founded in the 1820s as an offshoot of Al Bidda. It was officially declared as the country's capital in 1971, when Qatar gained independence. As the commercial capital of Qatar and one of the emergent financial centers in the Middle East, Doha is considered a world city by the Globalization and World Cities Research Network. Doha accommodates Education City, an area devoted to research and education.

The city was host to the first ministerial-level meeting of the Doha Development Round of World Trade Organization negotiations. It was also selected as host city of a number of sporting events, including the 2006 Asian Games, the 2011 Pan Arab Games and most of the games at the 2011 AFC Asian Cup. In December 2011,

the World Petroleum Council held the 20th World Petroleum Conference in Doha. Most notably, the city hosted the 2012 UNFCCC Climate Negotiations and hosted a large number of venues for the 2022 FIFA World Cup.

In May 2015, Doha was officially recognized as one of the New7Wonders Cities together with Vigan, La Paz, Durban, Havana, Beirut, and Kuala Lumpur.

Qatar is not just about its capital city Doha, and the way it's held on to its heritage even while moving towards the contemporary. It's not just about modern structures and high-rise buildings; it's not just about museums and beaches; it's not just about man-made islands or purpose-built hills. There's a lot more to this small, but happening, country. With a long pristine and beautiful coastal line and plenty of sunshine all year round, Qatar is a destination where you can have it all.

Apart from Doha, Qatar is dotted by other small cities and towns, and while some are port towns, others are more significant as they represent the oil and gas industry which thrives in these areas. Visitors will discover dilapidated and abandoned villages, archaeological sites that give a little peak into the area's history; inlets; islands; natural mangroves; golden sands; blue-green waters; and a lot more.



Al Khor



Al Khor is a city in Qatar located in the north. It's the capital of the Al Khor and Al Thakira Municipality, and one of Qatar's main hubs of the oil and gas industry. The city was established in 1972, and, at the time, pearl trading was one of Qatar's main sources of income.

Al Khor started off as a small and isolated settlement that earned its income from fishing

and pearl diving, but today, it's approximately 16,000 square meters and one of Qatar's main cities after Doha. Al Khor is a treasure trove of exciting things to do and see. It has some of Qatar's vibrant natural wonders like the ancient Ain Hleetan Well and the Al Khor Towers, the Thakira Mangroves, Purple Island, Al Farkiah Beach the Al Khor Park and Zoo.

Dukhan



Dukhan is an industrial city in Qatar's western region that became popular when oil was discovered there. Almost all the people who live there are employees of Qatar Energy.

The city is off limits for others and photography is not allowed within Dukhan. The area around Dukhan is, however, very popular with visitors as there are lots of interesting sites and attraction to see in the area.



Mesaieed is another oil and gas hub in Qatar and during the 20th century was recognized as an area of prime importance. In 1949 it became QatarEnergy's tanker terminal, to grow Qatar's oil industry, because of the deep waters that surrounded the area, and also because it was close to Doha. Located in the southeast of Qatar, it houses employees of QatarEnergy, but that isn't its only claim to fame. Mesaieed is surrounded by beautiful beaches and golden sand dunes.



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Al Wakrah, one of Qatar's oldest cities, beautifully blends heritage with modernity. Once a humble fishing and pearling village, it has transformed into a vibrant coastal city while preserving its traditional charm. The Al Wakrah Souq and family-friendly Corniche reflect its cultural and social spirit. With its scenic beaches and proximity to Doha, Al Wakrah stands as a symbol of Qatar's seamless balance between the past and the present.



Qatar's most stunning World Cup venues. Designed by the late architect Zaha Hadid, its unique roof structure was inspired by the sails of traditional Qatari dhow boats, reflecting the city's maritime heritage. The stadium can host over 40,000 spectators and features state-of-the-art cooling technology for year-round comfort. Surrounded by lush parks and community facilities, Al Janoub Stadium stands as a modern architectural masterpiece and a symbol of Al Wakrah's growth and pride.

Al Janoub Stadium, located in Al Wakrah, is one of



Lusail

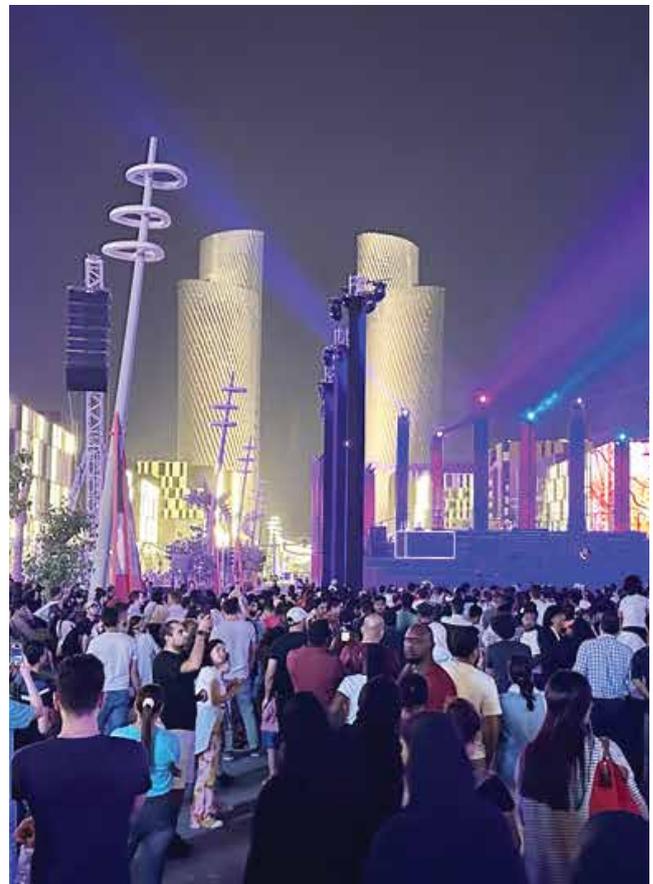


Lusail City is a futuristic, purpose-built urban development located just north of Doha, covering approximately 38 km² and including four man-made islands and nineteen mixed-use districts.

Designed with sustainability, smart-city infrastructure and modern lifestyle in mind, the city features advanced transport systems, energy-efficient buildings, extensive waterfront promenades and large green spaces like the Crescent Park and Wadi Park.

Lusail Stadium is a landmark venue in the planned city of Lusail City, located just north of Doha.

Its architectural design draws inspiration from traditional Arab motifs like the “fanar” lantern and woven bowls – blending modern engineering with cultural heritage. Importantly, it hosted the tournament final where Argentina defeated France, thereby etching itself into football-history as the stage for one of the sport’s greatest matches





MAJOR ATTRACTIONS

Beaches

Qatar's neighborhoods boast waterfront views, sandy beaches, retail, exhibition spaces and eateries, reflecting the rich diversity of this compact state.



BEACHES OF QATAR

MAP KEY

- FAMILY BEACH
- PUBLIC BEACH

Locations marked on the map: Fuwairit, Azerbaijan, Al Forkiah, Zekreet, Simaisima, Dukhan, Katara, Umm Bab, Al Wakra, Sealine, Inland Sea.

Qatar has some of the most amazing beaches in the region, with clear water and pristine views. There is plenty of marine life that can be seen, especially on the northern and eastern side. Beaches are mostly clean and are safe for families and children. These beaches are maintained by the respective municipalities and offers facilities such as barbeque areas, washrooms, changing rooms and shaded seating areas. The beaches are strictly no-driving zones and not crowded.

With rich cultural history, world-class art and food scenes, spectacular natural wonders and the world's best shopping and wellness destinations to be discovered, Qatar provides the perfect experience.

You will meet a new generation of curators, chefs and explorers who keep Qatar's heritage, crafts and local cuisine alive. Young travelers from all around the world can be inspired by Qatar's youth, who share exciting ways to engage with local culture, from exploring interactive museums to meeting falcons at the souq and tasting delicious Qatari foods.





Souq Waqif

Souq Waqif or "the standing market") is a market-place (souq) in Doha, in the state of Qatar. The souq sells traditional garments, spices, handi-crafts, and souvenirs.

It is also home to restaurants and shisha lounges. The original building dates back to the late 19th to early 20th centuries in a traditional Qatari architectural style. It was renovated in 2006.



Museum of Islamic Art

It is commonly regarded as the most impressive and important cultural attraction in Qatar, the Museum of Islamic Arts welcomes thousands of visitors each week. The collections inside the museum originate from local artists, not to mention artwork from other Islamic artists from across the Muslim world. The top two floors are set aside for permanent exhibitions, while the ground floor is where much of the temporary displays are held.





Sealine Resort's unique location offers the widest variety of activities available only in this place in the State of Qatar. Coastal pursuits, desert safari Qatar experiences, and Sealine camping are just some of the many activities available nearby, accessible to all of our guests, and all managed by an experienced team of welcoming professionals.



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On the northwest coast of Qatar, Al Zubarah Fort stands guard over the remains of a once-thriving pearling and trading hub. Established in the 18th century, Al Zubarah was among several independent settlements outside the control of major empires vying for influence in the region. Now hidden beneath desert sands, it tells the story of a pivotal moment in world history that contributed to the rise of modern Gulf states.

The Al Zubarah Archaeological Site features ruins from a significant 18th-century settlement, a 19th-century village, and the iconic 20th-century fort that dominates the desert horizon. In July 2013, UNESCO recognized the site for its preservation and significance, adding it to the World Heritage List. Visitors can explore the fort's new exhibit, which showcases the site's history, environment, and ongoing research.



Some Useful Information



Climate

The spring season in March is warm and pleasant with occasional thunderstorms. The frequent winds from the northwest are cold in winter and spring and hot in summer. Southeasterly winds, usually hot and damp, spring up between July and October; hot and dry south winds prevail in spring and early summer. The shamal, a north westerly wind common during May, June and July, causes dramatic sandstorms.

Language

Qatar's official language is Arabic; however, English is widely understood and often used as a business language. Other languages spoken by the large expatriate community are Urdu, Hindi, Malayalam, Bengali, Tagalog (Filipino), Persian, Punjabi, Pushto, etc.



Religion

Qatar is an Islamic state with multi-religious minorities like most of the Persian Gulf countries with waves of migration over the last 30 years. The official state religion is Sunni Islam. The community is made up of Sunni and Shi'a Muslims, Christians, Hindus, and small groups of Buddhists and Baha'is. Qatar is also home to numerous other religions mostly from the Middle East and Asia. The country has also hosted numerous interfaith dialogue conferences.

Major Customs & Practices

The influence of Islamic and Arab Culture on Qatar's architecture, music, attire, cuisine and lifestyle is prominent as well. The most distinctive characteristic of local Qatari culture is Diwaniya, which involves large reception rooms used for male social gatherings attended mostly by family members and close friends.

Seafood has been the mainstay of the Qatari diet for centuries. The Arabs in the Persian Gulf region played a crucial role in the spice trade between India and Europe, and spices have remained an important ingredient of Qatari cuisine.

Before the discovery of oil, Pearl hunting was a crucial part of Qatar's economy. Pearl fishery, known as Ghaus, suffered decline after the advent of Japanese pearl farming. However, Qatar's pearl industry laid the foundation of its rich maritime history. Dhows, large wooden ships made from teak wood imported from India, became an indistinct part of Qatar's maritime fleet and dhow building is still practiced.

Qatari clothing is similar to other Persian Gulf countries, typically consisting of a ghutra, agal, and thawb for men, and an abaya and shayla for women. Face veils, usually either a niqāb or burqa, are sometimes worn by women.

Currency

The local currency is the Qatari Riyal ("QR") which is freely convertible. Money can easily be changed at multiple exchange houses. ATMs are acceptable at malls, petrol stations, supermarkets and marketplaces. Credit cards are widely accepted.

Healthcare

Healthcare in Qatar is excellent and there are no special immunization requirements to enter but a good insurance cover is recommended. Driving in Qatar is on the right. Visitors with an international license can hire a car but should be mindful of steep fines for exceeding speed limits.



Economic Environment

Qatar has a GDP (PPP) of approximately US\$ 369 billion and a GDP per capita (PPP) of around US\$ 118,760, making it one of the richest countries in the world per capita – and the richest among Gulf nations. Liquefied Natural Gas is the most important export item. Qatar imports a wide range of products ranging from food products and textiles to machinery. Qatar's most important trading partners are Japan, United States, India, South Korea, Singapore, China, the European Union, and Saudi Arabia. Japan is the largest customer of Qatari oil followed by India, Singapore and South Korea.

Qatar is known for having a very strong economy and it is one of the world's wealthiest and fastest growing nations. Its economic policy is mainly focused on developing its natural gas reserves but other major industries in the country include liquefied natural gas, crude oil production and refining, ammonia, fertilizers, petrochemicals, the manufacture of steel reinforcing bars, cement and commercial ship repair.

Qatar's economic freedom score is 70.2, making its economy the 27th freest in the 2025 Index. Qatar is ranked 2nd among 14 countries in the Middle East and North Africa region, and its overall score is well above the regional and world averages. The "Arab Quartet" boycott's effect had dampened economic growth. The government was compelled to maintain a high level of spending. State-run institutions have launched initiatives aimed at diversifying and localizing aspects of operations, and the economy more broadly, over the next few years. These actions will not ameliorate the problems that dampen economic freedom in Qatar. With more than 25 billion barrels in proven oil reserves and the world's third-largest natural gas reserves and is the largest supplier of liquefied natural gas. Qatar proven natural gas reserves stand at approximately **25 trillion cubic meters**. Qatar has also strengthened sectors like manufacturing, construction, and financial services. After winning the bid to host the 2022 World Cup, the government expedited large infrastructure projects including roads, light rail transportation, a new port, stadiums, and other sporting facilities.

Though agriculture does not play a large role in Qatar's economy recent developments has forced the government to reduce its Agriculture imports. Various incentives have been given to agriculture-related start-ups. The government is keen on decreasing Qatar's dependence on oil to fuel its economy by transforming it into a regional trading and tourism hub.

Undeterred by the global economic slowdown, the economy of Qatar, one of the most prosperous and vibrant economies in the Middle East, has continued to perform strongly over the past years. The relatively high oil prices coupled with robust domestic demand maintained the stability of the local economy and boosted investor confidence, which hit rock bottom elsewhere in the world.

Due to its strong economy, working in Qatar can be a lucrative option. However, only those with special technical skills (such as CA) may indeed be able to establish a business / receive a generous salary when working in Qatar.

The economy relies mostly on income from natural resources like petroleum, with the Petro-chemical industry offering plenty of business and employment options for those working in Qatar. At the same time, the importance of other sectors like real estate, financial services, and construction is increasing.

Many large corporations and international companies have their presence in Qatar. Expats with specialized knowledge and good language skills often find work with these companies.²⁹



Financial and Business Ecosystem

Qatar Stock Exchange

The Qatar Stock Exchange is the principal stock market of Qatar. QSE is a full member of the World Federation of Exchanges and was recently upgraded by the MSCI and the S&P Dow Jones Indices.

The primary aim of the Qatar Stock Exchange is to support Qatar's economy by providing a venue for capital raising for Qatari companies as part of their corporate strategy and giving investors a platform through which they can trade a variety of products in a transparent and efficient manner. The Qatar Stock Exchange also provides the public with access to market information and ensures correct disclosure of information.

For more information, visit <https://www.qe.com.qa/>



Qatar Central Bank

The Qatar Central Bank is the central bank of Qatar. It was originally known as the Qatar Monetary Agency it was founded in 1973. Over its history the Qatar Central Bank has increasingly worked in association with other,

larger central banks to achieve a stable currency for the country, most recently and notably with the Monetary Authority of Singapore. For more information, visit <https://www.qcb.gov.qa/>





Qatar Financial Markets Authority (QFMA)

The QFMA was established to regulate and supervise the financial markets in Qatar by taking all the supervisory and regulatory powers needed to exercise its functions under this law. The QFMA officially undertook its responsibility on September of 2007, where the market, the listed companies and financial services companies were informed that the official functions of supervision and regulation were transferred from the market to the Authority after such functions were with the market for the last 10 years.

Key Functions of QFMA

- ▶ Regulate, control and supervise the financial markets.
- ▶ Regulate the dealing of the securities activities with fairness, competitiveness and transparency.
- ▶ Raise public awareness of securities activities and promote securities' investment and development.
- ▶ Monitor the investors' dealing rules governing activities related to trading of securities and other types.
- ▶ Implement disclosure policy in order to achieve fairness, transparency and prevent conflict of interests and internal information exploitation.



- ▶ Combat the causes of crimes related to the financial markets.
- ▶ Enhance liaison, communication and information exchange with foreign financial markets, and regional and international regulators, organizations and institutions to benefit from their dealing methodologies in order to develop the financial markets within the State of Qatar.
- ▶ Conduct studies, collect information and compile statistics on the financial markets' activities and publish relevant reports.

Qatar Financial Centre



مركز قطر للمال
Qatar Financial Centre

The Qatar Financial Centre (QFC) is an onshore business and financial center located in Doha. It offers its own legal, regulatory, tax and business environment, contributing to the decisive economic development and diversification prescribed by Qatar National Vision 2030. Supported by QFC's broad range of legal and regulatory services, regulated and non-regulated, that align with international best practice,

domestic and international companies can set up or expand their business in Qatar. QFC allows up to 100% foreign ownership, 100% repatriation of profits, and charges a competitive rate of 10% corporate tax on locally sourced profits, all while integrating businesses into Qatar's swift expansion into a major trade and investment center. QFC is governed by the following four independent bodies. Its business-friendly ecosystem operates in line with international best practice to ensure clients receive optimal operational, regulatory, and judicial support.



Qatar Free Zones Authority (QFZ)

Qatar Free Zones Authority (QFZ) is the organization responsible for the development and regulation of the free zones in Qatar. It was established in 2018 with a mandate to build world-class free zones to bring industry-leading companies to the zones that will contribute to Qatar's continued economic growth and diversification.

QFZ operates through its own regulatory framework, granting companies streamlined access to markets in the Middle East, North Africa, Europe and Western Asia. The QFZ team has a very proactive investment attraction and business development ethos; its senior management is committed to attracting companies by connecting them with the growth opportunities available from the Qatar Free Zones. QFZ also facilitates a streamlined set-up process by providing company registrations, licensing, visas and a range of other services for companies to quickly start and maintain operations.



Invest Qatar

Invest Qatar serves as Qatar's dedicated investment-promotion agency, established to position the country as a premier destination for global business and foreign direct investment. Through a seamless "one-stop" ecosystem of licensing platforms, sector insights, and strategic facilitation, it supports investors from the initial exploration phase all the way through setting up and scaling operations in Qatar. With Qatar offering full foreign-ownership in many sectors, a low corporate tax rate of 10%, zero personal income tax, and a strategic geographic location bridging major markets, Invest Qatar leverages these advantages to attract investment that fuels the country's economic diversification agenda.





Qatar Research, Development and Innovation Council (QRDI)

The Qatar Research, Development and Innovation Council (QRDI) stands at the heart of Qatar's transition to a knowledge-based economy, guiding the nation's research, development and innovation (RDI) ecosystem toward global competitiveness. Established to anchor the country's ambition under the Qatar National Vision 2030, QRDI formulates strategic priorities, directs significant research funding, and fosters collaboration between academia, government and industry. Through its "QRDI 2030" strategy, the council targets key national priority areas and ecosystem transformation elements – with the goal of advancing Qatar's RDI output, creating new technologies, and solving real world challenges.





General Tax Authority (GTA)

The General Tax Authority (GTA) of Qatar is the government body responsible for administering and regulating tax policies in the country. It oversees tax collection, ensures compliance with Qatari tax laws, and provides guidance to businesses and individuals on their tax obligations. The GTA plays a key role in supporting Qatar's economic development by maintaining a transparent and efficient tax system. It also implements initiatives to modernize tax administration and enhance digital services for taxpayers.



Key Functions of GTA

- ▶ Tax Administration and Collection - Oversee the assessment, collection, and enforcement of taxes in accordance with Qatari law.
- ▶ Policy Implementation and Compliance - Ensure individuals and businesses comply with tax regulations and provide guidance on their obligations.
- ▶ Taxpayer Services - Offer support, advice, and digital tools to simplify tax filing and payment processes.
- ▶ Monitoring and Auditing - Conduct audits and investigations to prevent tax evasion and maintain a transparent tax system.
- ▶ Legislative Support - Assist in the formulation and amendment of tax laws and regulations to support economic growth and government revenue.
- ▶ Digital Transformation - Promote e services and technological solutions to streamline tax administration and improve efficiency.





GLOBAL CAREER E-KIT
ICAI Doha (Qatar) Chapter

CA Profession in Qatar



CA Profession in Qatar

State of Accounting and Auditing Services in Qatar

The accounting and auditing profession in Qatar has been growing remarkably with the growth of Qatar. During the early days of formation of the country most of the accounting profession was managed by Asians.

Accounting and Auditing Services as a profession has come a long way in Qatar. The profession has constantly endeavored to keep pace with the ever-growing business needs, stemming from the significant growth in the economy witnessed over the years. From being perceived as a peripheral service, the profession has evolved to become pivotal, in the line of profession. As a result, the number of accounting firms providing audit and assurance services has been on the rise over the years.

The accounting framework in Qatar is generally based on International Standards. Although there is no specified financial reporting framework in the country, the International Financial Reporting Standards (“IFRS”) is required to be followed by law. The Central Bank of Qatar has made it mandatory for banks to prepare financial statements

based on IFRS. Similarly, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (“MOCI”) has compelled listed and specified non-listed companies to prepare financial statements as per IFRS.

Auditors need a license to practice in Qatar, which is allotted only to the nationals. However, expatriates act as Partners/Directors in most of the auditing firms including Big 4s and only restriction is the signing of audit report.

CAs are held in esteem as knowledgeable and ethical professionals and are preferred by employers in Qatar. CAs are well positioned in esteemed organizations and banks such as Finance Manager, CFO, CEO, Financial Analysts, etc.

Accounting and Audit Firms registered in Qatar can offer Accounting, Auditing, Taxation, Valuation and other management consulting services depending on the activities approved by the MoCI in their Registration Certificate. Also, care must be taken to avoid offering other services to clients who are being audited by the audit firm.





Procedure for Auditor Registration

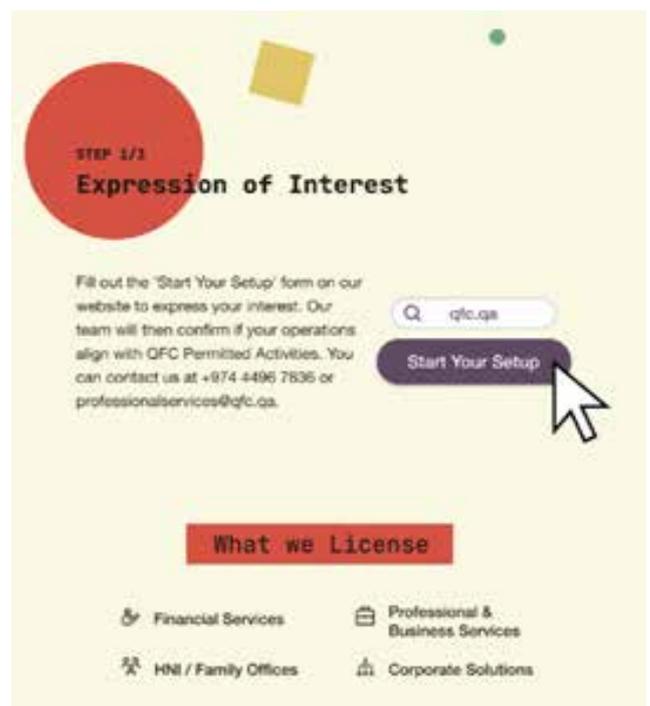
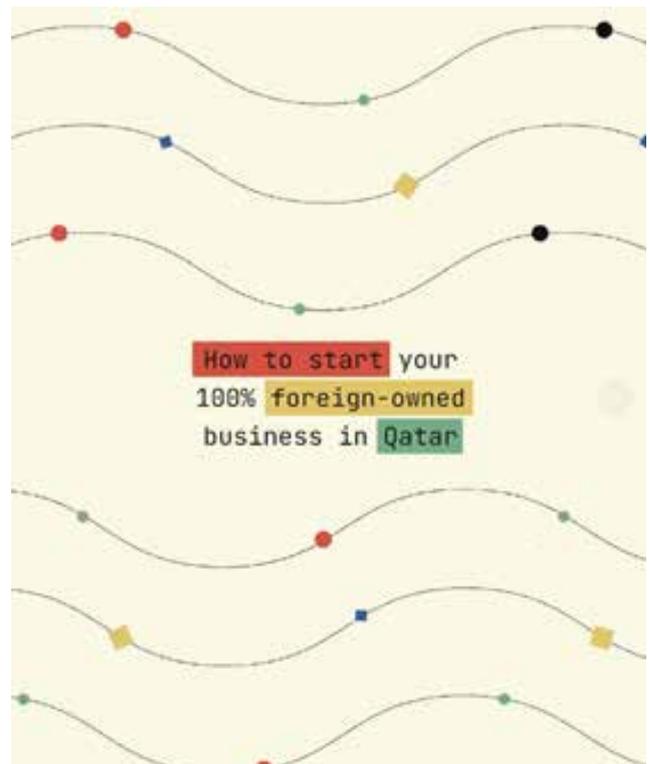
A prospective Chartered Accountant Firm can apply for offering Accounting and Auditing Services by registering with either of the 2 distinct Authorities in Qatar:

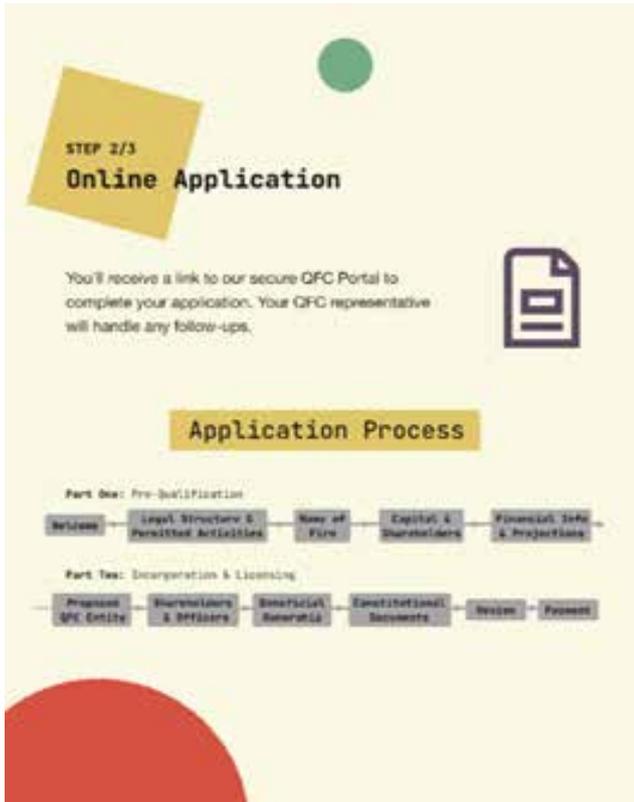
Registering with Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI):

Licensing Application to get entry in the records of Chartered Accountants should be submitted to the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry in the form prepared for this purpose along with the supporting documents. The Committee shall notify the applicant about the decision of acceptance or rejection, the notification must include the reasons for rejection, and those who refuse may appeal against the decision of the Commission to the Minister of Economy and Commerce and the decision of the Minister to decide on the appeal shall be final. In case of acceptance of application for registration the applicant in this case whether an individual or a company would be provided a license approved by Department of commercial affairs at the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, including name, address, nationality, number and date of registration in the Register and the duration of the license and the type of registration. The key criteria here is to have a Qatari Professional Accountant as a partner in the firm.

Registering with Qatar Financial Center (QFC):

The key advantage here is that an Auditing and Accounting License can be issued with 100% foreign ownership. However, this route is preferable for existing international firms with considerable reputation, brand identity, business strength, vintage, global presence, professionalism and overall standing. Below are the steps in order to apply for registration of a new professional company in (QFC).





For the renewal of registration in the records of Chartered Accountants, it should be applied within three months before the expiry date of registration with the payment of renewal fees, the non-working Chartered Accountants will be accepted from the renewal of application.

External auditors who are eligible to carry out external audit for the listed entities and entities subject to the QFMA's jurisdiction shall register in the QFMA external auditors' list. No person shall carry out the external audit for the listed entities and entities subject to the QFMA's jurisdiction, unless registered in the external auditors' list prepared for this purpose in the QFMA.



Employment Opportunities

While most people work and live in the capital city of **Doha**, new developments in the oil and gas sector have helped usher the birth of other employment hubs, such as Dukhan and Ras Laffan. As the country's economy continues to diversify, new job opportunities are emerging across all sectors. Companies and government agencies welcome progressive hiring practices, as people around the world look to Qatar for employment.

The government understands that the country's greatest asset is its people. Through the Qatarization program, more citizens are being integrated into the workforce, contributing to the economy and helping build a secure future for the nation.

The legal rights of workers and employers are protected by the country's Labor Law and its amendments. The State is committed to keeping up with international labor standards to make Qatar one of the best places to work and live.

The salary structure is widely open, and it depends on Individual's qualification, experience, skill sets and type of industry. Employment contracts are typically reviewed after an initial probation period, which usually lasts up to **six months**, after which salaries may be revised based on performance and experience.

Sponsorship

With the exception of some short-term visas (such as tourist visas), every non-GCC national who wishes to reside and work in Qatar must have a work visa, which shall be arranged by the sponsor. Residency will be obtained subject to medical checkups and fingerprinting. It is illegal to work for anyone other than your sponsor, unless under a formal (and registered) short-term secondment arrangement.

Visas

There are a variety of different visas and permits obtainable in Qatar, dependent on the individual's status. Non-Qatari workers may not be employed unless they hold a valid work permit. Work permits are obtained from the Ministry of Labour after fulfilling various immigration formalities with the Ministry of Interior, including production of a local employment contract and meeting the following conditions:

- ▶ The non-availability of a qualified Qatari worker registered in the registers of the Department to carry out the work in respect of which the work permit is applied for.
- ▶ The non-Qatari applying for the work permit shall be in possession of a residence permit.
- ▶ The non-Qatari national shall be medically fit.
- ▶ Additionally, Qatar introduced the Hayya Visa (also known as the Fan ID) to facilitate entry for tourists, visitors, and international event attendees. This visa allows holders to access major events, including sporting tournaments like the FIFA World Cup, and often serves as both an entry permit and identification within event venues. Qatar's Discover Qatar Visa offers short-term entry for tourists and visitors, allowing them to explore the country's cultural, leisure, and tourism attractions with ease.



Employment Contract

Employment contracts in Qatar are governed by—and must comply with—the provisions of the Qatar Labour Law. The law sets out certain minimum standards that employers and employees cannot waive or contract out of. In particular, employment contracts must be in Arabic and are required to be registered with the Ministry of Labour. Under the Labour Law, an employee becomes eligible for end-of-service benefits after completing one year of continuous service.

Taxes and Duties

People working in Qatar enjoy tax-free salaries. However, Income Tax is levied on all foreign businesses operating in Qatar, whether the entity is a natural person or a legal entity.

As of January 1, 2025, the corporate tax rate for foreign-owned companies is a flat 10%. This rate applies only to business income and does not apply to the income of individuals. Normal and necessary business expenses are deductible for tax purposes.

Qatar, similar to other GCC Nations, has prepared a draft law on Value-Added Tax (VAT) in accordance with the unified GCC VAT agreement, which obligates each member state to take domestic procedures for the issuance of local law and procedural policies for the implementation of the tax with a view to implementing the provisions of the agreement. However, the VAT is still not applicable in Qatar.

Banking

A bank account can be opened by the employee after all the residency formalities have been completed. However, as credit facilities are extended to the employee based on their salary,

the banks generally insist on receiving a letter of guarantee from the employer under which all the terminal benefits and payments due to the employee will be paid to the bank in case the employee leaves service. In case the employee who has availed credit facilities intends to take up another employment in the Qatar he/she has to discuss the matter with the bank and enter into an arrangement to either close the loan or undertake to continue servicing it during the new employment. A cancellation of the resident visa without the bank's approval can have serious implications.





Schooling

The education system in Qatar at all levels are directed and controlled by the Supreme Education Council (SEC) and the Ministry of Education (MOE). Education in Qatar is very diverse with comprehensive range of government and private schools from different countries to cater to the multi-cultural diversity of its population. The schools offer national and international curricula like the Indian, British, American, etc. While the Indian School starts their term in April, most English-speaking schools starts their term

in September. All schools in Qatar are closed in July and August. There is a wide variation in the fees depending on the school type, curriculum and facilities. Finding the right school for their children is a priority for all parents and can be a cause of concern when moving to a new place. Since Indian nationals are the largest expatriate community in Qatar, there is a good number of Indian schools offering the CBSE (Central Board of Secondary Education) curriculum in Qatar.

List of Indian Schools in Qatar

Name of the School	Classes	Website	Phone No.
Al Khor International School	KG1, KG 2, Grade 1 to 12	www.akis.sch.qa	44733688
Bhavan's Public School	KG1, KG 2, Grade 1 to 12	www.bhavansqatar.org	44770770
Birla Public School	KG1, KG 2, Grade 1 to 12	www.bpsdoha.net	44676701
Brilliant Indian International School	KG1, KG 2, Grade 1 to 6	www.brilliantindianschool.com	44930039
Doha Modern Indian School	KG1, KG 2, Grade 1 to 12	www.dmisqatar.com	44583121
DPS- Modern Indian School	KG1, KG 2, Grade 1 to 12	www.dpsmisdoha.com	44499100
DPS- Monarch International School	KG1, KG 2, Grade 1 to 12	www.misdoha.com	40337200
Galileo International School	KG1, KG2, Grade 1 to 7	www.galileo-is.com	30313523
Greenwood international School	KG1, KG2, Grade 1 to 6	www.greenwood.qa	44929878
Ideal Indian School	KG1, KG 2, Grade 1 to 12	www.idealschoolqatar.com	44684849
Loyola International School	KG1, KG 2, Grade 1 to 12	www.lisdoha.com	44311390
MES Indian School	KG1, KG 2, Grade 1 to 12	www.mesqatar.org	44572888
Noble International School	KG1, KG 2, Grade 1 to 12	www.nobleqatar.com	55016863
Olive International School	KG1, KG 2, Grade 1 to 10	www.oliveschooldoha.com	44584616
Podar Pearl School	KG1, KG 2, Grade 1 to 12	www.podarpearlschool.org	44145595
Edison International School	KG1, KG 2, Grade 1 to 12	www.edisonqatar.org	44146132
Rajagiri Public School	KG1, KG 2, Grade 1 to 12	www.rajagiridoha.com	44885440
Shantiniketan Indian School	KG1, KG 2, Grade 1 to 12	www.sisqatar.info	44151524
The Scholars International School	Grade 1 to 6	www.scholarsqatar.com	44336336

For more details please refer https://indianembassyqatar.gov.in/indian_school



مؤسسة قطر
Qatar Foundation

Qatar Foundation is a private, chartered, non-profit organization in the state of Qatar. Under Qatar Foundation's umbrella are Education City which comprises several foreign universities, academic and training programs, and Qatar Science and Technology Park

Qatar Foundation launched the World Innovation Summit for Education - WISE - an annual global forum that brings together education stakeholders, opinion leaders and decision makers from all over the world to discuss educational issues.





GLOBAL CAREER E-KIT
ICAI Doha (Qatar) Chapter

Information Resources



Information Resource

FAQs for Articleship abroad

Training of Articled Assistant outside India

A student staying abroad may seek admission in CA Course through qualifying CPT Examination or under Direct Entry Scheme in which a graduate/Post graduate student securing prescribed percentage of marks in respective examination may start articled training after passing one group of Intermediated Integrated Professional Course having completed orientation Programs & ITT. The details of CPT Course and Direct Entry Scheme of CA Course are available on the Institute's website.- www.icai.org it is to note that CA Course examination, practical training and allied Course Curriculum for Indian students or students from abroad are the same.

Often students getting registration in CA Course in India or Abroad have such queries related to articled training which are of following nature. Hence FAQs on training abroad are given below for information.

Q: Can a student registered with the Institute get training outside India?

A: Yes, a student registered with the Institute may enroll for training outside India under a member of ICAI who is eligible to train students.

Q: Can a Chartered Accountant practicing abroad, train an articled assistant outside India?

A: Yes, a Chartered Accountant is eligible to train an articled assistant provided his/her main occupation is the practice of the profession of accountancy at the time of engaging articled assistants as well as in each of the qualifying years on the basis of which he claims eligibility to train articled assistants. Moreover, the members would be eligible to train articled assistants in accordance with Regulation 43 of the Chartered Accountants Regulations, 1988. However, a member associated with a foreign CA Firm in the capacity of partner or paid assistant may also train an articled assistant subject to compliance with the conditions prescribed by the Institute.

Chapter Contact Details

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CA Neeta Jolly	Member	66339837	neethajolly2@gmail.com

The contact details are subject to change. Users are requested to reconfirm from the Doha (Qatar) Chapter website : <https://icaidohachapter.org/> and other publicly available sources.



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Eastern Regional Office	ICAI Bhawan, 382/A, Prantik Pally Rajdanga, Kasba, Near Acropolis Mall West Bengal, Kolkata - 700107	Ph: (33) 3084 0210 / 03 E-mail: ero@icai.in Website: https://eirc-icai.org/
Central Regional Office	ICAI Bhawan Plot No. 9, Block No. A-1, Lakhanpur, Uttar Pradesh, Kanpur 208024	Ph: (512) 2334200, 2334201 E-mail: cro@icai.in
Northern Regional Office	ICAI Bhawan, 52-53-54, Institutional Area, Vishwas Nagar, Shahdara, Near Karkardooma Court, Delhi - 110032	Ph: 011-30210616 /630/642/647 E-mail: nro@icai.in

ICAI Overseas Office - Middle East & Africa (Dubai)

Members requiring assistance or information may reach out to ICAI's Overseas Office in Dubai, which supports professionals across the Middle East and Africa region.

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