



Young Professionals' World

This section focuses on young ICMA professionals and how they are shaping their career and aspirations through applying the CMA knowledge in the workplace.

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is a recently CMA passed finalist and is currently Finance Manager, KAFCO. Mohd. Helal holds an MBA from Chittagong University and an LLB degree from National University. He shares insights on why he has pursued the CMA profession from ICMAB and provides tips to CMA students in the final stage.

On pursuing the CMA qualifications from ICMAB ...

When I was in MBA (CU) I was thinking of something different that will lift me up to my dream career of being a Business Leader. I had analyzed various options of specialized studies in business sector. I came to know that CMA qualified professionals have a very high demand in the business world. I saw many CMAs were working in the top position of the market leading companies. Spotting the fascinating and exciting progression of CMA qualified peoples in their career; I was determined to be one of them. As soon as I completed my MBA (CU) in Finance, I went to ICMAB Chittagong Branch to get myself admitted in ICMAB.

On applying the CMA qualifications at workplace...

CMA qualification helps me in my professional life activities. As a professional accountant I have to perform specific jobs for my company like-Financial Analysis, Budgeting and Budgetary Control, Costing, Preparing Financial Statements, Tax and VAT Accounting, KPI Analysis, Transfer Pricing, Product Pricing, Payroll Management, Materials Management, Inventory Control and many other things according to managements need for decision making. To deliver all of this information, my CMA knowledge supports me in each and every level. Besides that, CMA qualification helps me to see the company financial information from both the sides- internal point of view as well as external reporting purpose. I would say a CMA qualified accountant has both the strength of being a professional accountant Cost and Management Accounting (for internal use) skills as well as Financial Accounting (for external reporting) skills. So CMA is better than any other professional accounting qualification.

On the main challenges in studying for CMA...

As I was engaged with full-time job during my CMA study, it was too challenging to manage time for the study. I had very little time to study within my busy work schedule. So I always tried to make best use of my time for study to pass the challenging CMA exams. Although CMA syllabus is large as well as creative and innovative, questions makes the students puzzled in the exam hall, I tried to cover ins and outs of the syllabus so that I could answer all the questions accordingly and not got mystified by a

difficult question. I sacrificed my leisure time for my CMA study and concentrated on exam preparation while my family and friends enjoyed their time in different events and programs.

On CMA Qualification areas that can help me more to succeed...

CMA can help me more by making me updated about my professional knowledge. By regular CPD program it can support me to update myself with current knowledge and practices. By organizing some specialized training, CMA can make me well equipped for my job and more competent in my work area. Sharing the practical experience by senior members among the juniors like me can improve understanding the business environment and help to take good decisions for my organization.

My tips for CMA students in the last stage...

First of all I must say "Don't Give Up!" Success will definitely come if you are determined to achieve it. Practice as much solved problems as possible for mathematical subjects and try to understand the core concepts of every theoretical matters. By only memorizing some areas of the syllabus in this stage one can't get good marks and pass. I think better to gain understanding of every little concept in the syllabus and visualize the application of this theory in real life situations, which will help you to remember the topic and write it in the exam. Use your time properly by making schedule and strictly follow it. Try to understand what is the topic is about rather memorizing it. Make notes for key points, it will help you when revising the topics.

My expectations from ICMAB, as my alumni...

As a new member of the ICMAB family, I would expect a proper guideline from experienced members, counseling for my career plan and suggestions for personal development. I need support and cooperation from ICMAB family for preparing myself well equipped so that I can make my ICMAB family proud through delivering an excellent result and my better performance into my work place.

[Interviewed by Zinnia T Huq, FCMA and Associate Editor, The Cost & Management].