CPD and NHS Commissioner Reforms

Professional Accountancy Institute Employer CPD Accreditation 'Carry Forward' in the light of NHS Commissioner Reforms

As a qualified accountant / AAT professional member in the NHS, you will be aware that ACCA, CIMA, CIPFA and AAT all recognise that some employers provide excellent learning and development programmes for their employees.  They, therefore, allow employers to register with them as ‘approved’ or ‘accredited’ for CPD purposes. This means that, if you work for such an organisation, you can achieve your CPD requirements by participating in your organisation's employee appraisal and/or development programme and you do not need to complete a separate CPD programme for your institute.  You are, of course, still required to keep a detailed record of your CPD activities.

With the imminent restructuring of the commissioning side of the NHS, it has been recognised that many CPD-accredited organisations will cease to exist on 31 March 2013. Agreements have, therefore, been reached with each of the relevant bodies to allow their members working in PCTs or SHAs to ‘carry forward’ their existing organisation’s status for a limited period, on an individual basis (i.e. the accreditation will ‘carry forward’ with the individual but will not transfer to their new organisation as a whole).  Each body has agreed a slightly different approach to this situation.  Please note the arrangement that will be in place for your professional institute as set out below and overleaf.  If you have any questions about the arrangements, please contact the CPD team in your institute in the first instance.  If you wish to ensure that your new organisation applies for the appropriate accreditation, please take this up with your CFO and/or FSD lead.

ICAEW members should note that, while their institute no longer offers an employer accreditation route, they can use their NHS appraisal as the basis for their annual CPD declaration.

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* If a member has worked for just part of the year with an ACCA Approved CPD employer, then they can claim an exemption from having to complete the unit summary for ACCA (the detailed CPD hours declaration) for the whole of that year.
* This will mean that anyone who has worked for any part of 2013 with a CPD Approved organisation will be covered, even when they move to the new organisation.
* Under the same ruling, if the new organisations apply for ACCA Approval at some point during 2014, the ACCA members will then be covered.



* NHS staff transferring from an accredited PCT/SHA into a CCG/CSU on 1 April will, in effect, carry their previous organisation’s accreditation with them. This will be retained until 31 March 2014, after which date it is anticipated that the new organisations will have made their own successful application for CIMA’s Development Accreditation. CIMA staff will contact all relevant organisations that have not applied for accreditation by 1 January 2014 to encourage them to do so.
* NHS staff transferring from an accredited PCT/SHA into one of the constituent parts of the National Commissioning Board (i.e. the NCB itself, the Regional Teams or the Area Teams) will also carry their previous organisation’s accreditation with them but only for a six month period, i.e. until 30 September 2013. The teams within the Board will be required have made their own successful application for CIMA’s Development Accreditation from 1 October 2013.



CIPFA will honour all existing organisational accreditations for individual members until 31 December 2013 and will look to accredit all relevant new organisations in the interim.


The ICAEW no longer offers a system of employer accreditation for CPD but members can use their NHS appraisal / internal review as a basis for their annual declaration.  Members can find [additional information on their CPD requirements](http://www.icaew.com/en/members/cpd)



AAT has granted every professional member a 12-month extension on their existing employer’s accreditation, thus ensuring that their membership status is unaffected throughout the restructuring.  New commissioning organisations will be encouraged to apply for AAT employer accreditation during 2013/14, to ensure a smooth transition at the end of the 12-month extension.