Your Career Partner

Canadian Institute of Actuaries

The Canadian Institute of Actuaries (CIA) is the national voice of the actuarial profession in Canada. As a member, you will join approximately 5,000 actuarial professionals from across Canada, dedicated to providing actuarial services and advice of the highest quality.

Membership in the CIA offers

- Networking opportunities
- Professional development
- Internationally recognized professional designation
- International and national volunteer opportunities

Your Path to Success

The CIA is the only association of actuaries in Canada that regulates and promotes the profession. While prioritizing public interest first and foremost, the Institute also puts the needs of its members at the heart of its activities – providing high-quality education, internationally recognized designations, and lifelong learning opportunities through continuing professional development. Our role is key to assuring public confidence in our profession.

As a CIA member, you will have access to bilingual resources and tools designed by Canadians, for Canadians. You will be a globally recognized actuarial professional with opportunities to progress and network with your peers in Canada and around the world.

The CIA empowers you to become the professional you want to be.
Associates and Fellows of the CIA shall act honestly, with integrity and competence, and in a manner to fulfil the profession’s responsibility to the public and to uphold the reputation of the actuarial profession.

Membership Options

CIA Network (CIAnet) Free Subscription
Stay current with actuarial issues and trends while you work towards becoming an Associate.

CIAnet member benefits:
• Access to CIA digital communications
• Discounts on meeting/webcast registration fees
• Access to the members’ section of the CIA website, web tools, and services

Free for full-time university students and academicians

 Associate, Canadian Institute of Actuaries (ACIA)
A CIA Associate knows the fundamental concepts of identifying, evaluating, and analyzing risk. An Associate understands the concepts and techniques in the CIA Associate education syllabus and has completed the CIA’s requisite professionalism training.

Associate member benefits:
• Authorized to append to their names the initials ACIA (Associate, Canadian Institute of Actuaries) or AICA (associé, Institut canadien des actuaires)
• Full voting rights five full years after obtaining Associate designation
• Ability to apply for Fellowship after 12 months of ACIA enrolment, provided they meet all other requirements
• Access to CIA members’ section of the CIA website and communications
• Discounted meeting registration fees

To become an Associate, the CIA requires University Accreditation Program (UAP) credits (see FAQ) and/or examinations and successful completion of a professionalism course (see sidebar).

Fellow, Canadian Institute of Actuaries (FCIA)
A Fellow of the CIA possesses the knowledge and ability to apply, within the business environment, the Canadian practice-specific concepts and techniques defined in the CIA’s Fellow education syllabus. A Fellow understands how Canadian professional standards and legislation affect their work, and has acquired a minimum of three years of practical work experience, including 12 months that is Canadian-specific, while enrolled as an Associate of the CIA. Certain actuarial roles in Canada are reserved only for FCIAs. In Canada, only Fellows can call themselves an actuary.

Fellow member benefits:
• Authorized to append to their names the initials FCIA (Fellow, Canadian Institute of Actuaries) or FICA (fellow, Institut canadien des actuaires)
• Possibility to act in reserved roles for actuaries
• Full voting rights immediately upon confirmation of Fellowship
• Access to CIA members’ section of the CIA website and communications
The CIA's Professionalism Workshop is a full-day session that provides an overview of professionalism issues and makes extensive use of the case study method. Topics covered include:

• What is a professional?
• The CIA structure
• The CIA's views on professionalism
• The CIA's discipline process
• Malpractice and legal liability
• Communications

This workshop, held several times a year in English and French, is a requirement to become an Associate of the CIA (ACIA).

The Canadian Institute of Actuaries University Accreditation Program

The UAP enables the CIA to grant credits for up to four preliminary professional examinations. Working closely and rigorously with 11 accredited universities across the country, the CIA upholds the highest standards in education.

FAQ

Q1: What is the CIA UAP?

Established in September 2012, the UAP enables candidates at accredited Canadian universities to obtain credits from the CIA for some preliminary exams towards achievement of the ACIA and FCIA designations. It is one of several routes to the designations.

Q2: Is university accreditation in the actuarial profession unique to Canada?

No. Actuarial organizations around the globe rely on university accreditation, including those in the United Kingdom, Australia, and South Africa.

Q3: What exams are eligible for credit?

Exams FM/2, IFM/3F, LTAM, and STAM. Credits for exams P/1 and SRM will be available for accredited courses completed after September 1, 2019. There are no credits for the VEE components.

Q4: What organizations recognize the CIA UAP?

• The CAS recognizes CIA credits towards the ACAS and FCAS designations.
• The Institute and Faculty of Actuaries (IFoA) in the United Kingdom, the Actuaries Institute of Australia, and the Actuarial Society of South Africa recognize the UAP through mutual recognition at the Associate and Fellow levels.
• The American Academy of Actuaries (AAA) recognizes the FCIA designation achieved through the UAP for purposes of eligibility for the MAAA (Member of the AAA) designation which is required in most US jurisdictions.

Q5: The SOA does not recognize the UAP. Do I need the ASA/FSA designations to work as an actuary in Canada?

No. The FCIA designation is the only one officially recognized in Canadian legislation. The FCIA is the gold standard for actuarial practice in Canada.
Q6: Can I still register for other SOA exams if I go through the UAP route?
Yes. An agreement between the CIA and the SOA enables CIA UAP candidates to register for SOA educational activities up to and including the Fellowship Admissions Course (FAC).

Q7: The CIA qualification requirements say that the SOA FAC is required, but candidates can be invited to the FAC only if all SOA exams have been passed. How does this work with UAP?
The agreement between the CIA and SOA allows UAP candidates to attend the FAC.

Q8: Do I need to be an FSA to work in the United States?
No. The American Academy of Actuaries (AAA) sets the qualification standards in the US, where an FCIA, MAAA is fully qualified to sign certain statements of actuarial opinion. To qualify as an MAAA, a FCIA has to acquire relevant US experience.

Q9: Do employers differentiate between candidates with UAP credits and candidates with equivalent exams?
There is no evidence of any preference among employers. In fact, credits may enable the best candidates to focus on advanced exams at an earlier stage in their careers. The UAP is a clear sign of academic excellence.

Q10: Since the CIA UAP is recognized by the CAS, can I qualify as ACAS/FCAS if I go through the UAP route?
Yes, under the current agreement, UAP candidates can obtain the ACIA/ACAS/FCIA/FCAS designations.

Q11: How many universities in Canada are accredited?
Currently 11 universities across the country offer accredited courses. All of them abide by strict accreditation rules and undergo an annual CIA audit process to maintain their CIA-accredited status. Accredited universities: Concordia University, Simon Fraser University, Université Laval, Université du Québec à Montréal, University of Calgary, University of Manitoba, Université de Montréal, University of Regina, University of Toronto, University of Waterloo, and Western University.

Q12: What if there are changes in exams or university courses?
The CIA applies constant monitoring to ensure that the course material closely follows the CIA syllabus. University courses must meet CIA requirements to be accredited. For any questions please e-mail the CIA at accreditation@cia-ica.ca.