

## Thoughts from an accounting student Get ready for opportunities ahead

	Name:	<b>Tsui Ka Yee</b>
	Current studies:	Associate Degree in Business (Accounting and Management), Caritas Bianchi College of Careers (CBCC)
	Career goal:	To become a Certified Public Accountant and run her own business

It is never too early to start preparing yourself for opportunities to come in the future. Tsui Ka Yee, who is studying for an Associate Degree in Business (Accounting and Management) at Caritas Bianchi College of Careers (CBCC), tells us about how she is getting herself started on a promising study and career path.

### ***Why did you choose to study accounting?***

I chose arts and commercial subjects during my secondary school studies. I became interested in accounting when I first came into contact with it. From a more practical standpoint, since every company requires the accounting services, that demand translates to the good career prospects and work stability. After I graduated from Diploma in Accounting Profession Programme (full time) in Caritas Tuen Mun Community Education Centre – Wu King, I joined CBCC's full-time associate degree programme. The programme consists of a one-year foundation course and a two-year core programme in accounting and management.

### ***How did you learn about HKIAAT and the AAT qualification?***

I first heard about HKIAAT and its AAT pathway from teachers. It is the starting point for sub-degree holders who are interested in pursuing a long-term career in accountancy. It also offers its graduates a chance to become a Hong Kong Institute of CPAs Qualification Programme (QP) student through the Professional Bridging Examination. Although taking professional examinations may not be an easy task, a number of my classmates and I are all considering pursuing this route after graduation. My Associate Degree enables me to claim an exemption from seven papers of the AAT Examination. I think it is a viable way for me to join the accounting profession.

### ***What subjects do you find most interesting and challenging in your studies?***

Accounting subjects, especially those I have been doing since secondary school, are most familiar to me and are therefore I feel most comfortable with them. Hong Kong taxation is a bit challenging but useful. Although there are intricate taxation principles to understand and master, these principles, such as the calculation of tax rates, turn out to be relevant and applicable in real life. With this knowledge, I can help my family with basic calculations and tax filings without external help.



### ***How do you ensure your competitiveness?***

First of all, I keep myself up-to-date with current accounting standards as they change frequently. Secondly, I take accounting and other related courses and seminars whenever time allows, so that I can acquire all-round knowledge. Moreover as China's economy has been growing rapidly in recent years and is affecting the whole world, I pay attention to news regarding China. Last but not least, language proficiency is very important in all professions, and accounting is no exception. I therefore make an effort whenever I can to improve my English skills.

### ***What are your hobbies? Do you participate in any extra-curricular activities?***

I enjoy reading a lot, and recently I have developed my interest in reading detective fiction. I also play the guitar. I also do exercises regularly and take part in adventure training. I believe this type of training is a way of testing and challenging myself, and also in honing my skills in co-operating and communicating with others.

Furthermore, I want to participate in external competitions such as the Accounting and Business Management Case Competition hold by HKIAAT this year, as I think these activities could widen my horizons.

### ***What are your plans for the future?***

After finishing my Associate Degree I plan to pursue a Bachelor Degree in Business Administration at one of the local universities. In addition, I plan to acquire the AAT qualification and then undertake the PBE to move further along the road to becoming a CPA.

Besides, I will take every opportunity to accumulate more work experience as I believe apart from knowledge, experience is also important in the profession. I am currently a part-time accounts clerk in a food and beverage company. I also help with some bookkeeping and tax computation preparation in my family's business. I think these experiences will be highly beneficial to me in the future. In the long run, when I have accumulated good experience and a strong network, I plan to run a business on my own, maybe an accounting practice or a commercial firm.