

**Featured AAT**  
**Written by Aldric Chau**



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**Title:** Senior Accounts Clerk  
**Company:** Hong Yip Service Company Ltd

A professional qualification means more than recognition. It shows the holder has the knowledge, competence and dedication to succeed. Ms. Chloe Tse shares with us her successful experience of attaining the AAT qualification.

***Have you completed all the AAT exams? Did you take an accounting-related course before sitting for the AAT exams?***

I have completed seven AAT exams and I am waiting for the results of the last examination paper. I have taken accounting subjects during my high school. Upon completing secondary school, I took the LCCI higher and attained above-credit results. Because of this I was exempt from one subject when taking AAT exam. Before taking the exams I also took some revision courses to prepare for the challenge.

***What is your current job and major duties?***

As a senior accounts clerk at Hong Yip Service Company Limited, my duties include preparing monthly income and expenditure statements for the buildings under our management. I also have to communicate with my team colleagues and the front-end colleagues, and explain to them all the figures and rules involved in the financial reports submitted.

***Why did you choose the AAT?***

After finishing my secondary education, I felt it was time for me to attain a professional qualification to sharpen my competitiveness in the world of work. I decided to take the AAT exams as they not only offer wide recognition but also the exam fees and student fees were affordable. The AAT exam fitted in well with my level of knowledge so I decided to make the commitment to study part-time.

***What do you consider to be the most useful subjects in the AAT exams?***

Advanced Accounting is the most directly applicable at work since the topics I studied include all basic accounting concepts and rules, as well as specific accounting knowledge, all of which help me in my daily work. IT subject has also equipped me with skills I need to deal with the accounting IT systems and



software at work. Mastering the Excel spreadsheet is another crucial skill that accountants need which I picked up when preparing for the exam; this helps me with data analysis and when preparing financial statements. The auditing exam opened my mind to this specialised topic, in which now I no longer feel awkward and unfamiliar. When working with the auditors, I now know what they are doing and what they are looking for from us. The business communication subject brushed up my skills in maintaining effective communication with our customers and among colleagues.

***How did you hear about the AAT?***

I know AAT through my friends while we were studying accounting. We would exchange information and ideas about career development, and that's when I first heard about AAT. We spent some time discussing the benefits of attaining the qualification.

***What advice would you give to students taking the AAT exams?***

The course content was not very difficult, even for a beginner. But I would advise AAT students to plan well and set a workable study schedule so that they can manage their own time and resources as well as finish their studies. It takes me about one and a half years to complete all the exams. Although I am not in the right position to say whether the exam will give any individual a definite advantage for promotion or an increased salary, I can say for sure that it gives you all the foundation knowledge which my position needs to know. It gives employers strong confidence in your competency and, more importantly, your eagerness in going the extra mile to make continuous improvements your professional career.

***Will you recommend the AAT exams to others?***

Yes, I will recommend it to my accounting colleagues. The syllabus is well-rounded while the knowledge gained can strengthen their skill sets and make it easier for them to excel at work.

***What are your future career plans?***

Completion of the AAT exams means I will attain my first professional qualification and become more confident at work. My next step will be to take a part-time degree in accountancy before I am bridged to Qualification Programme (QP) and, step by step climb the ladder to being a professional accountant.