

Guidance to apply for Audit License issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Maldives

1. Please read the full text of the Law no. 13/2020 (Maldives Chartered Accountants Act dated 8 September 2020), Regulation on Statutory Audit and Assurance Services in the Maldives (Regulation no 2021/R-3 dated 6 January 2021) and CA Maldives Membership Regulation (Regulation no. 2021/R-121 dated 21 December 2020). The law and regulations are available at CA Maldives website <https://camaldives.org/>
2. Apply for Membership of CA Maldives through the Portal. Please pay membership subscription and obtain the Membership Certificate.
3. Please see the list of IFAC member bodies recognised for membership of CA Maldives published on CA Maldives website.
4. To expedite the licensing process, you may apply for audit licence after paying the Membership subscription.
5. Fundamental changes have been brought to CA Maldives' audit license structure, most notably the removal of the Categorisation of Licensed Auditors.
6. Please see the list of recognised qualifications by CA Maldives for the purposes of issuing Statutory Audit Licence. These institutes have Advanced Audit and Assurance or an equivalent module in their professional qualification. Please note that it is a requirement to complete a module on Advanced Audit and Assurance/equivalent from a recognised qualification to apply for audit licence. AGO Licensed Auditors are provided an extended deadline up until 31 December 2022 to meet this requirement.
7. Complete a Public Practice Training prior to applying for audit licence. AGO Licensed Auditors are provided an extended deadline of, 31 December 2022 to meet this requirement.
8. You may submit applications for both Individual and Firm licence at the same time.
9. Since the portal is in the process of development, please email a scanned copy of audit license application forms and related supporting documents to CA Maldives at info@camaldives.org

10. CA Maldives' audit licence stresses on audit quality both at the firm and assignment levels. Audit firms shall submit a Manual / Plan to comply with ISQC1.
11. Please read the full text of the ISQC1. ISQC1 is available at IFAC's website via <https://www.ifac.org/system/files/publications/files/A007%202013%20IAASB%20Handbook%20ISQC%201.pdf>
12. Please also refer IFAC's guidance material "Guidance to Quality Control of SMPs". You may submit the ISQC1 Plan / Manual as per format and structure of the Sample Manuals contained in the guidance. <https://www.ifac.org/about-ifac/small-and-medium-practices/publications/guide-quality-control-small-and-medium-sized-practices-third-edition-12>
13. The ISQC1 Manual / Plan needs to be customised to the operations of the firm or sole practitioner (SP), taking into account operating model, Clientele and other firm/SP's specific circumstances. Please indicate the Clientele of the firm/SP (number of micro, small, medium, large and very large businesses as per MIRA's revenue thresholds) including the summary of the client portfolio for the calendar years 2019 (where applicable) and 2020, along with the estimate for 2021. The firm/SP shall submit an adequate quality control structure that is suitable to serve the clientele of the firm/SP as per ISAs and specific provisions of the regulation.
14. The applying audit firm/SP shall also submit a summary Audit Manual that will be used in conducting the engagements of the firm as per ISAs. Please refer IFAC's Guide on using ISAs for SMPs. <https://www.ifac.org/knowledge-gateway/supporting-international-standards/publications/guide-using-international-standards-auditing-audits-small-and-medium-sized-entities>
15. Audit firm/SP shall make a presentation of the actual Audit Programmes, Systems and Working Papers (WPs) used by the firm/SP to conduct audits as per ISAs.

16. Auditors may refer the Guidance issued by IFAC “Guide to using ISAs in the audits of SMEs” and also audit programs and templates published by other CA bodies while developing and customising the firm’s practices and WP templates.

<https://www.ifac.org/knowledge-gateway/supporting-international-standards/publications/guide-using-international-standards-auditing-audits-small-and-medium-sized-entities>

https://www.casrilanka.com/cas/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=90&Itemid=147&lang=en

17. The Admission and Licencing Committee (ALC) of CA Maldives shall review the audit license applications prior to granting the audit licence. The review shall focus on the following three aspects:

- a. Firm level quality control mechanism - ISQC1 Quality Control Manual / Plan submitted by the applying firm
- b. A summary audit manual and presentation by firms on the audit programs and tools used to manage quality at the assignment level – reasonableness and adequacy to conduct and manage audits as per ISA 220 “Quality Control for an audit financial statement”
- c. An interview with the representatives of the firms regarding important aspects of its practice management – refer to IFAC’s Guide to Practice Management of SMPs

<https://www.ifac.org/knowledge-gateway/preparing-future-ready-professionals/publications/guide-practice-management-small-and-medium-sized-practices>