

## Innovation and Business

### ANNABELLE MEETS CLIENTS AS AN ACCOUNTANT

#### Annabelle English

##### Program:

Accounting Cadetship

##### Company:

PricewaterhouseCoopers

#### Cadetship program - a springboard to the future

Annabelle English is over-the-moon about her role as an accountant trainee with accounting firm PricewaterhouseCoopers. Her work opportunity is part of a cadetship program organised through the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia.

PricewaterhouseCoopers is one of a number of firms participating in this valuable program.

Annabelle started her accounting studies at school, but was not sure of what career path to follow when she graduated. Her Year 12 subjects included accounting, renaissance history, art, maths methods, English and legal studies.

During Year 12, a friend made Annabelle aware of the cadetships and she applied online.

The first step was to be successfully recruited by the firm to work as a trainee.

The next step was to list commerce/economics as a first preference at university and to be accepted into a course.

Under the cadetship program students spend the first six months full time at university and then work for six months full time with their accounting firm.

A further two years of the degree is studied part-time as they work part-time. Finally, students study full time for a further 18 months.

It's up to individual firms as to whether the employment for trainees becomes ongoing after they complete their course.

#### Variety is just one benefit of a team environment

Annabelle works with the audit team at PricewaterhouseCoopers. This often involves working on-site at a client's office and working through the audits using documents and laptops.

Every audit is different with varying sizes of client firms using different systems, and this leads to unique challenges. Solutions are discussed as a team.



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## Socialising on the job

“There is a culture of networking here which means the social aspect of the role is also really satisfying,” says Annabelle.

“I have the opportunity to be seconded to other sections in the firm which allows me to get a feel for other roles as well.”

## Stepping into a bright future

“Combining work with study has helped me to understand what a career in accounting involves. I am now focused on completing my degree and obtaining my CA [Chartered Accountant designation],” says Annabelle.

Annabelle has a bright future ahead of her with Australia recognised as an advanced marketplace for financial services in the Asia-Pacific region. It is a small marketplace on a global scale, but seen as competitive.

In Australia, very good employment opportunities exist for accountants and auditors, bookkeepers, financial managers, financial dealers and brokers.

It's a good career direction that can really take you places including management and supervisory roles.

## Websites to visit for more information:

Institute of Chartered Accountants of Australia  
[www.icaa.org.au](http://www.icaa.org.au)

CPA Australia [www.cpacareers.com.au](http://www.cpacareers.com.au)

Financial Planning Association [www.fpa.asn.au](http://www.fpa.asn.au)

Financial Literacy Foundation  
[www.understandingmoney.gov.au](http://www.understandingmoney.gov.au)

## Qualifications and training pathways

Examples of education and training for financial services jobs include:

- Certificates I & II for financial literacy in workplaces and school based programs
- Certificates II - IV in Financial Services, Risk Management and Mortgage Broking
- Diplomas and Advanced Diplomas in Banking, Financial Markets, Financial Planning, Accounting and Insurance Services
- Degrees in Business and Commerce

### For more information:

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