

**IAESB Consultation Paper (June 2011) on the Revision of
International Education Standard 1**

Entry Requirements to Professional Accounting Education

Response and Comments

from

The Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Ireland

September 2011

Response to a Consultation Paper on the Revision of International Education Standard 1:

Entry Requirements to Professional Accounting Education

The comments and / or suggestions of the Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Ireland (CPA Ireland) are in sequence below with the Consultation Paper issued in June 2011.

The Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Ireland (CPA) is one of the main Irish accountancy bodies with in excess of 5,000 members and students working in 32 countries around the world. The Institute is active in the profession at national and international level participating in the Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies – Ireland – CCAB (I) and together with other leading accountancy bodies the Institute was a founding member of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC). The Institute is also a member of the Fédération des Experts Comptables Européens (FEE), the representative body for the main accountancy bodies in 25 European countries.

Question 1. *Is the requirement in Paragraph 7 clear, particularly the concept of “a reasonable chance of successfully completing” balanced with “not putting in place excessive barriers to entry”? If not, what changes would you suggest?*

Response 1. It is the view of this Institute that the requirement in paragraph 7 is clear. Accordingly, no changes are suggested.

Question 2. *Do you envisage any difficulties in complying with the requirements of IES 1? If so, how would you propose addressing them?*

Response 2. It is not envisaged that the proposed requirements will present this Institute any issues with regards to complying with them.

Question 3. *What is the impact in implementing the requirements of IES 1 to your organization?*

Response 3. No additional issues will arise for this Institute from the implementation of the proposed requirements.

Question 4. *Are the Explanatory Materials sufficiently clear and comprehensive? If not, what changes do you suggest?*

Response 4. The explanatory materials are clear and comprehensive.

Question 5. *Is the objective to be achieved by a member body, stated in the proposed revised IES 1, appropriate?*

Response 5. This Institute considers the objective to be achieved as appropriate.

Question 6. *Have the criteria identified by the IAESB for determining whether a requirement should be specified been applied appropriately and consistently, such that the resulting requirements promote consistency in implementation by member bodies?*

Response 6. Yes.

Question 7. *Are there any terms within the proposed IES 1 which require further clarification? If so, please explain the nature of the deficiencies.*

Response 7. There are no terms that require further clarification. However, the replacement of the word 'chance' as used throughout the draft IES might be considered by the authors. For example the use of this word in "*Reasonable Chance of Successful Completion*" (page 5) may convey that there is an element of a gamble or luck (at the expense of hard work and ability) involved in successfully completing a professional accounting education programme. This suggestion is made whilst being mindful of the difficulty in selecting wording that has the same meaning across the globe. Perhaps, '*likelihood*', '*probability*' or '*possibility*' may be considered as suitable alternatives?

END