



# SMIPA Information Kit

## What is SMIPA? (Skilled Migration Internship Program for Accountants)

The SMIPA program is an initiative of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) to help international students in Accounting to achieve permanent residency and employment in Australia.

Performance English has been approved as a SMIPA provider by the three Australian professional accounting bodies (CPA Australia, Institute of Chartered Accountants and National Institute of Accountants).

The SMIPA program offers successful participants the opportunity to gain **5 points towards permanent residency** and provides the training and work experience needed to maximise your employment opportunities in Accounting.

The complete program is delivered over a 44 week period which includes a 12 week internship at an Australian host company. It includes the following core components:

- Orientation
- Professional Business Communications
- Australian Business Culture and Environment
- Achieving Career Success in Accounting
- Professional Internship Work Experience (with host company - minimum 12 weeks)
- Graduation

The Performance English SMIPA program has been designed by business executives and industry professionals. It is of the highest quality, offering great learning outcomes and work experience in quality Australian host companies.

The program is a cost effective solution, delivered in the heart of the Sydney and Melbourne CBD with a timetable that is designed to suit your needs and fast track you into the workforce as an accounting professional.

## **Why choose Performance English for SMIPA?**

Our SMIPA program offers the following advantages:

### **Our timetable gets you into permanent work sooner!**

Our timetable enables you to start the program on a full time basis and complete it on a part time basis. In other words, you will be available to find permanent full work and earn a full time salary sooner!

### **We are partnered with Australia's leading internship provider!**

Our internship partner is Australia's oldest and largest internship provider. Each year they match around 800 students with leading host companies.

### **Other programs are more expensive!**

While our program is of the highest quality and offers great learning and work experience outcomes, many rival providers charge over 25% more in program fees!

### **New training rooms and a convenient location**

Our training rooms are brand new. We are located in the heart of the Sydney CBD, just a few minutes walk from Town Hall station.

### **Additional qualification**

Students can complete their Cambridge Work Experience Certificate while they complete their SMIPA program and finish with two unique awards. (The Cambridge Certificate is optional at an extra cost.)

### **Flexible payment plans!**

Students can elect to make 10 equal monthly payments or 3 payments or 2 payments, to cover tuition fees rather than one lump sum upfront payment.

### **We are the Business English specialist!**

Performance English is the language partner of Australian business and our client list includes many of Australia's leading companies. We specialise in the delivery of communication skills training programs for advanced users of English.

### **Job Placement**

At the completion of the program Performance English will use its recruiter connections program to assist you to find permanent work.

## SMIPA Training Component

Component	Content	Total Hours
<b>Orientation Session</b>	Overview Facilities & Resources Internship Program Accounting Employment Market General Q&A	<b>4 hours</b>
<b>Professional Business Communications</b>	Verbal, Non-verbal & Written Communication Skills in the context of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Company Presentations</li> <li>• Workplace Interactions</li> <li>• Negotiations</li> <li>• Business Protocols</li> <li>• Business Cases</li> <li>• Quality &amp; Ethics</li> <li>• Building Relationships</li> <li>• Business &amp; Employment Trends</li> </ul>	<b>160 hours</b>
<b>Australian Business Culture &amp; Environment</b>	Business Culture & Group Dynamics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cross Cultural Communications</li> <li>• Group Interaction</li> <li>• Leadership &amp; Team Building</li> <li>• Diversity</li> </ul> Business Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management Concepts &amp; Practices</li> <li>• Organisation Structures</li> <li>• The Accounting Function</li> <li>• Business Protocols &amp; Etiquette</li> <li>• Procedures &amp; Policies</li> <li>• Legislation in the Workplace</li> </ul>	<b>80 hours</b>
<b>Achieving Career Success</b>	The Accounting Employment Market Career Management Strategies Winning Job Search Strategies Mastering the Selection Process Accelerating Your Career	<b>20 hours</b>
<b>Graduation Session</b>	SMIPA Review Your Future Awards Ceremony Graduation Social & Networking	<b>4 hours</b>
<b>Total Training Component</b>		<b>288 hours</b>

## Work Experience Internship Component

Work experience is often a major barrier to securing the job you want and can be hard to achieve on your own. A key feature of the SMIPA Program is the ability for you to gain valuable work experience in Accounting of at least 12 weeks. To ensure you have access to the best opportunities, Performance English has partnered with Australia's most successful internship company, boasting a successful 10 year history and a track record of over 800 internship placements annually.

## Program Options

We have created two SMIPA program options to suit your situation:

### SMIPA – Full-time

Formal study is 16 hours per week for 24 weeks followed by a 12 week internship, then 6 weeks of an Assignment period and 6 weeks of an Online Component after your internship, which is considered Self Study. Most work experience internship opportunities will be on a full-time basis.

### SMIPA – Part-time

Formal study is 8 hours per week for 24 weeks (excluding breaks) followed by a 12 week internship. Most work experience internship opportunities will be on a full-time basis.

SMIPA Program Options	Option A SMIPA Full-time		Option B SMIPA Part-time	
	Weeks	Hours per week	Weeks	Hours per week
<b>Orientation Session</b>		4		4
<b>Training:</b>				
<b>Professional Business Communications</b>	4	20	14	10
<b>Business Culture &amp; Environment</b>	2	25	5	10
<b>Achieving Career Success in Accounting</b>	2	25	5	10
<b>Internship Work Experience</b>	10-12+	22-40	10-12+	22-40
<b>Additional Training (Option A only):</b>				
<b>Professional Business Communications (continued)</b>	12	5		
<b>Graduation and Networking Session</b>		4		4

## Unique Features

The Performance English SMIPA Program includes a number of features that are designed to maximise the benefits of your learning experience and job opportunities:

- ✓ Program design by Accountants, Business Professionals and Communication Experts
- ✓ Option to commence work experience internship within just 10-12 weeks
- ✓ Flexibility to work full-time or part-time throughout your training
- ✓ Training in a Business Environment
- ✓ Interaction with Employers and the professional Accounting bodies
- ✓ Job search and career support throughout the program
  - Career Training for Accountants
  - Priority Access to Accounting Recruiters
- ✓ Tangible recognition of your achievement
  - SMIPA Program Award
  - Cambridge Work Experience Certificate (optional at extra cost)
  - A professional resume and portfolio
  - Eligibility for 5 points towards Permanent Residency (assessed by at the discretion of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship).

## Eligibility for SMIPA

Eligibility for the SMIPA program is based on the following DIAC requirements:

- Have completed a recognised Accounting course in Australia that provides a minimum of 2 years credit points over a minimum of 18 months
- Have obtained or applied for a 485 Skilled Graduate Visa or Bridging A Visa or a Visa that permits this study
- Have an IELTS score of not less than 6.0 overall and in each band
- Have a Migration Skills Assessment from the professional accounting body

Further information on a 485 Skilled Graduate Visa can be found at:

[www.immi.gov.au/skilled/general-skilled-migration/485/index.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/skilled/general-skilled-migration/485/index.htm). Please contact us to discuss your eligibility if you are not sure.

## How do I pass the program?

Assessments consist of written assignments, oral presentations, reports and presentation of a work portfolio to demonstrate you have achieved all of the learning outcomes of the program. The assessments are competency based and students will only receive a pass/fail. You can attempt each assessment more than once if required.

There is no RPL (Recognised Prior Learning) for SMIPA and you must complete each component of the program to achieve an overall pass.

### **What happens when I graduate?**

On graduation students attend a graduation ceremony where they receive their Certificate of Completion and reference from their host company. Your result will be reported to DIAC where you will be assessed to earn additional points for permanent residency.

### **When can I commence SMIPA?**

Performance English offers a start date for SMIPA every 4 weeks. The intake dates are listed on our enrolment form and website.

### **How do I enrol?**

Complete the Performance English enrolment form and attach the following additional information:

- copy of your academic qualifications (transcripts, completion letter)
- evidence of your English language proficiency equivalent to IELTS 6.0
- copy of your current Australian visa
- copy of your résumé (CV) and Letter of Objectives for the host company
- copy of your Skills Assessment Letter

### **What happens next?**

- Your enrolment form will be assessed to check eligibility and you will be informed of the result by phone/email.
- You will be interviewed by Performance English in person or over the telephone.
- Following your interview, you will receive a Letter of Offer and invoice.
- When you have accepted the offer and paid the invoice or the first instalment you will receive a Confirmation of Enrolment which will include your start details.
- Your program will commence on the date specified in the Confirmation of Enrolment.

### **Course Fees – Pay by the Month!**

We offer the following flexible payment options which cover the full SMIPA year including enrolment, tuition, work experience, career counselling, awards and materials:

	Monthly Payment Plan	Discounted Advance Payment
<b>Enrolment Fee</b>	\$250	\$250
<b>Program Fee</b>	<b>\$1,295 per month</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 monthly payments</li> <li>• total program fee \$12,950</li> </ul>	<b>\$11,950 on commencement</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• save \$1,000 for advance payment</li> </ul>
<b>Total Program Fee</b>	<b>\$13,200</b>	<b>\$12,200</b>

### Can I pay by instalments?

Students can also elect to pay upfront or make monthly instalments of \$1,295 over 10 months, or three instalments over nine months or 2 payments over 5 months. Ask about our monthly repayment plan if this is your preference.

### What do the fees cover?

The fees include:

- Enrolment and tuition fees
- Professional internship (work experience) placement
- Insurance, including insurance in the workplace for the internship
- Orientation and Graduation
- All books and learning materials

### How to Apply – Free Consultation!

Please [contact us](#) now for a FREE CONSULTATION regarding your eligibility for the SMIPA Program and which format will best suit you. Or download the enrolment form and return it to us.

### Contact Performance English

Should you have any further questions please contact us now.

#### Performance English

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