

CIPFA

IPFA Conference

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A Philosophical quote

“Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today.”

Malcolm X.



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Continuing Professional Learning: Keeping up to Date

- Some definitions
- The Changing Public Sector Environment
- The Accountancy Profession
- Public Interest
- Comparative International CPL Practices
- CIPFA and CPL
- Challenges and the way forward for IPFA



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Continuing Professional Learning Some Definitions

“CPL refers to learning activities for developing the capabilities of individuals to perform competently within their professional environment.”

International Federation of Accountants (IFAC)



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The logo for CIPFA, with the letters 'CIPFA' in a dark purple serif font. A green laurel wreath is positioned behind the letter 'P', partially overlapping it.

Continuing Professional Learning/Education/Development: Some Definitions

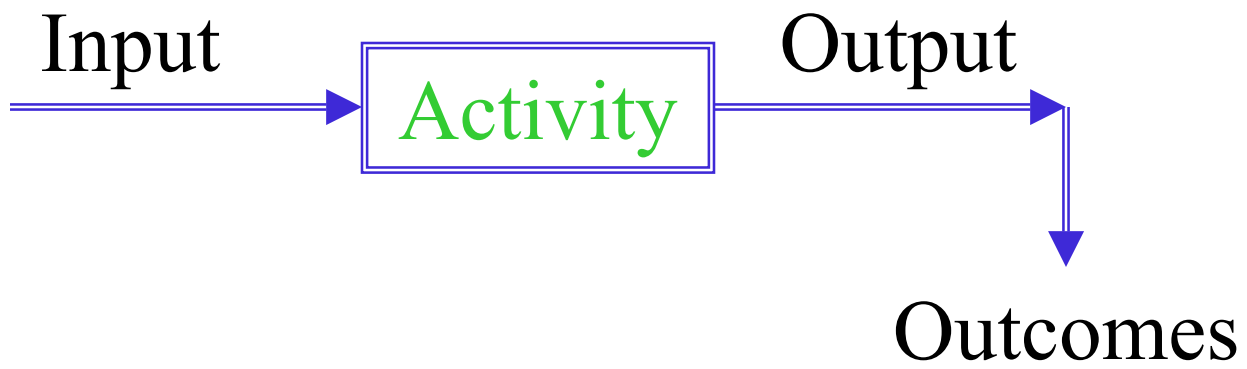
- Post qualification maintenance or enhancement of professional competence
- Development is the acquisition of capabilities which contribute to competence
- Education is a systematic act or process aimed at developing knowledge and skills



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The CPL Process Cycle



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Continuing Professional Learning Key Steps in the Process

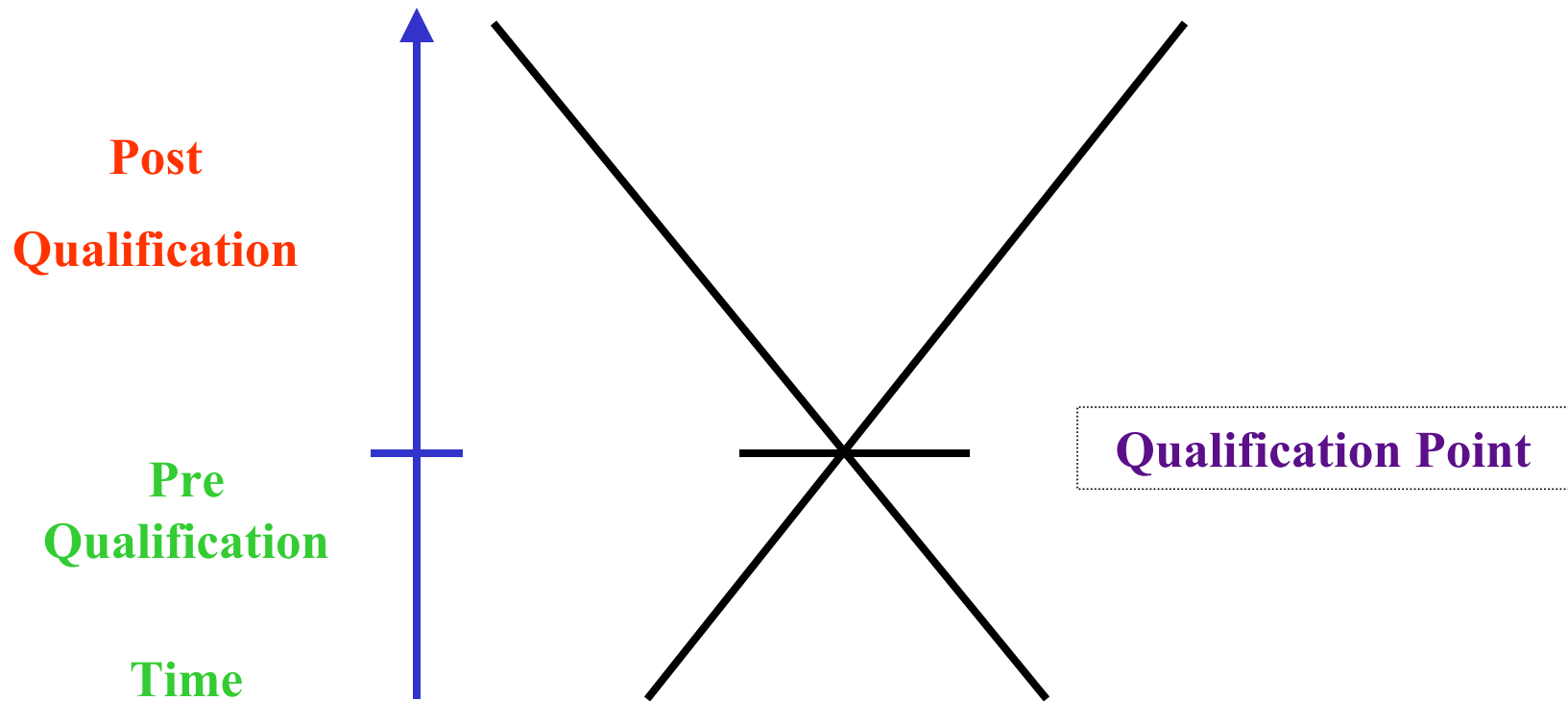
- Planning and relevance
- Evidence: structured and unstructured
- Reflection and review
- Setting measurable standards over a cycle



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The Post Qualifying Time Frame In The Accountants' Career



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The Changing Public Sector and Financial Environment

- Change and transformation in service delivery
- Demand for more from less
- New legislation and structures
- National policy and local delivery
- Delivery scrutiny, inspection and accountability
- Impact on the work of the public servant and accountant



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The Unique Aspects of the Public Sector and Financial Environment

- Governance processes
- Ethical and practise standards
- Funding and accountability
- Impact on citizens
- Political involvement and policy direction



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The Accountancy Profession

- Impact of high profile private sector failure
- Regulatory and government responses
- Why this matters to public sector accountants globally
- Impact on accountants
- Role of responsible professional accountancy bodies.



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Public Interest

■ Definition

“The public interest is served if:

- the economic interests of accountants’ clients are safeguarded; and
- the social and political interests of members of the public are safeguarded.”



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Public Interest and a Profession

Professional Characteristics	Regulatory Functions
Knowledge and Skills	Qualification and Admission to Membership
Ethical Values	Setting a Code of Practice
Competence and Conduct	Registration and Monitoring; Discipline



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The logo for CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Professional Finance Accountants), featuring the letters 'CIPFA' in a serif font with a green swoosh above the 'P'.

Comparative Continuing Professional Learning Practice

- Australia and New Zealand:CPA;ICAA;ICANZ.
- Canada:CMA;CICA.
- South Africa : IPFA;SAICA; CPA
- United Kingdom:CCAB



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Comparative Continuing Professional Learning Practice summary points

- Impact of IFAC is profound
- Input based schemes predominate
- Drivers are: regulation; professional skills development
- Highly relevant to members professional needs



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Comparative Continuing Professional Learning Practice summary points

- Majority of CPL schemes are flexible in recognition terms
- CPL cycle is largely ignored as a process for building CPL schemes
- Members have the responsibility for evidence
- Random monitoring prevails
- CPL is backed by sanctions/disciplinary schemes



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CIPFA and Continuing Professional Learning

■ A brief history

- Informal guidance
- Voluntary scheme
- Consultation started in 2000
- Regulatory pressure and CIPFA Council decision in December 2001
- Consultation concludes in April 2003
- Vote of CIPFA members at June AGM



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The logo features the letters 'CIPFA' in a dark purple, serif font. A green, curved line arches over the 'I' and 'P', connecting them and adding a modern, dynamic touch to the design.

CIPFA and Continuing Professional Learning

- The big issues for CIPFA
- The benefit of the experience
- The launch and implementation
- The challenges in the road ahead



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IPFA and the challenge of Continuing Professional Learning

- Be realistic!!
- Involve members in the design of the CPL scheme and make it relevant to their needs
- CPL should be balanced and evidenced based
- Provide support and guidance in a variety of forms
- Find a Champion and get commitment
- Consult and involve members



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IPFA and the challenge of Continuing Professional Learning

- Introduce a high quality scheme based on best practise, aim for mandatory in the medium term
- Link the CPL scheme to rewards and responsibility
- Monitor the IFAC position and be prepared to adapt your scheme



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Republic of South Africa Department of Education

“ Our vision is of a South Africa in which all our people have access to lifelong education and training opportunities, which will in turn contribute towards improving the quality of life and building a peaceful, prosperous and democratic society.”



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A concluding thought

“Learning is a treasure that will follow its owner everywhere.”

Chinese proverb.



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CIPFA Web Site

www.cipfa.org



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