**FASSET LEARNERSHIP: Post Graduate Professional Qualification:** **Professional Accountant in Practice**

Professional Body: South African Institute of Professional Accountants (SAIPA)

Learnerships Title: Professional Accountant in Practice

Learnership Code: 01/Q010008/00/480/7

NQF Level: 8

As one of South Africa’s foremost accountancy institutes, the South African Institute of Professional Accountants (SAIPA), plays a very important role in ensuring that its members are able to optimise their accountancy practices or add value to their employers in the corporate world. By doing so, SAIPA creates additional wealth or the country and its people.

SAIPA is a professional body of professional accountants in practice, commerce and industry, government and academia. The majority of its members are in public practice, offering accountancy and allied services, excluding auditing, to the general public and the business community, especially in the SMME sector.

Membership of SAIPA comes together with an array of products and services, which include ongoing training to facilitate the necessary knowledge, competencies and functional skills members need to effectively execute their responsibilities in a manner that complies with local and international regulatory frameworks and standards.

* SAIPA is a full member of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) and the Pan African Federation of Accountants (PAFA).
* The SAIPA Professional Accountant in Practice qualification is registered a level eight on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF).
* In terms of legislation, SAIPA members are recognised as Commissioners of Oaths.
* SAIPA has approximately 1500 trainee accountant members.
* SAIPA’s Continuing Professional Development (CPD) department provides seminars to members and other interested parties, enabling them to comply with the Continuing Professional Education (CPE) requirement of IFAC.
* SAIPA is governed by a Constitution, Code of Conduct and By-Laws.
* SAIPA has detailed investigation and disciplinary procedures that comply with IFAC’s requirements.
* SAPA provides its members who are in public practice with mandatory Professional Indemnity (PI) insurance.
* Membership is reserved for persons who have complied with the academic, practical and professional evaluation requirements laid down by the Institute.

**Learnership Information**

The registered SAIPA learnership is based on academic studies as well as practical experience. The aim of the learnership is to provide n opportunity to gain the practical experience required of candidates wishing to become members of the institute.

**Syllabus**

In order to participate in the learnership, learners will need to comply with two requirements, namely Academic and Employment at an Approved Training Centre (ATC).

* Academic Requirement:
* Learners must have completed their studies are be studying towards an accounting qualification, or;
* Intend studying towards an accounting qualification (B degree) from a SAIPA accredited tertiary institution.
* Degrees must include the following core subjects:
* Financial Accounting 3
* Taxation 1
* Auditing 1 or Internal Auditing 2 or Internal Control and Code of Ethics 1
* Corporate Law 1 or Commercial Law 2;
* Management Accounting
* Employment at an Approved Training Centre (ATC):
* You need to contact an ATC with regards to employment as a trainee accountant. These can be found on our website at [www.saipa.co.za](http://www.saipa.co.za) on the training page.
* The ATC will register you on a SAIPA Learnership, usually after a trial period.
* The learnership agreement and all necessary documentation must be forwarded to the SAIPA offices.

**Duration of the learnership**

The learnership is typically three years. At the end of the three years, provided all academic components have been satisfied, all trainee accountants are subject to a Profession Evaluation if they wish to attain SAIPA membership.

**Contact Details**

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