

Samarth S Pai

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EDUCATION

Alliance Manchester Business School, The University of Manchester, UK MSc Accounting and Finance - Merit	Sep 2022 - Sep 2023
Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), UK <i>Student</i>	Jan 2022 - Current
Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), India Chartered Accountancy Course (CA) - Intermediate Professional (Level 2 of 3)	Jun 2016 - Jun 2019
St. Joseph's College of Commerce, Bangalore University, India Bachelor of Commerce - Accounting - First Class Distinction	Jun 2016 - May 2019

WORK EXPERIENCE – Full Time

Investment Mgmt. Trainee (Summer Bootcamp), Amplify Me, Manchester, UK Jun 2023

- Developed a diversified portfolio investing in 4+ asset classes while minimising risk.
- Strategically managed a fictitious £20 million portfolio over a 12-month simulation, implementing a rebalancing strategy, achieving a 90% performance score by outperforming the benchmark - top 5 out of 80 participants.
- Adjusted portfolio allocations based on ESG-related news updates, mitigating risk and reducing portfolio volatility by 20% compared to industry benchmarks.
- Executed trading strategies in a simulated market environment, resulting in a 12% increase in overall portfolio value over 1 week.
- Acquired robust financial modelling skills to analyse complex financial data, enhancing decision-making abilities.

Audit & Tax Trainee, K P Rao & Co., Chartered Accountants, Bangalore, India Aug 2019 - Aug 2022

Demonstrated a solution-driven approach and exceptional collaboration and communication skills while engaging with clients across sectors.

• **Exide Life Insurance Company Limited** (Now a subsidiary of HDFC Life - Listed on the Indian Stock Exchange)

- Led the audit engagement team as the **Team Lead** for 18 months.
- Led the planning, preparation and delivery of audit reports as per IRDAI regulations, Ind AS and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).
- Advised on statutory compliances and tax issues, leading to better compliance.
- Proficient in synthesizing audit findings for stakeholders, articulating root causes and associated risks to enable thorough understanding and proactive risk management.
- Created a full audit trail, including meticulous documentation of 45+ areas to meet statutory regulations.
- Performed Internal Financial Control Testing and Risk Assessment, providing actionable and insightful recommendations aimed at optimising workflows, mitigating risks and enhancing internal controls.
- Identified discrepancies in payroll data for 100+ employees and developed remediation plans to prevent recurrence.
- Identified equalisation levy non-compliance and ensured adherence to statutory requirements.
- Verified compliance with statutory requirements and improved process efficiency and effectiveness by developing a tailored audit plan & system analysis, leading to successful statutory compliance as per IRDAI.
- Prepared compliance certificates such as Lender-Borrower, Expenses of Management, Investment and BAP.
- Responded to the group audit questionnaires issued by EY and Deloitte.
- Gained an in-depth understanding of the insurance sector and worked on 10+ areas, including investments, commissions, premiums, litigations, and contingent liabilities.

• **Other Clients**

- Optimised accounting processes for 3 clients, resulting in a 50% reduction in time spent on manual tracking and a 75% decrease in errors.
- Provided Accounting and Assurance services to start-ups and mid-sized institutions and maintained their books of accounts.
- Undertook consolidation of related entities and maintained the financials as per the regulatory framework.

WORK EXPERIENCE – Part Time

Safety Steward, Manchester City Football Club, Manchester, UK Nov 2022 - Present

- Demonstrated exceptional communication skills by interacting with a diverse range of individuals, including fans, colleagues, and supervisors, ensuring clear and concise communication at all times.
- Developed strong problem-solving abilities through the proactive management of safety incidents and crowd control during high-pressure situations, showcasing the capability to analyse complex issues and implement solutions.
- Exercised acute attention to detail while conducting bag searches, enforcing security measures, maintaining meticulous records, and ensuring compliance with established protocols.
- Provided outstanding customer service to spectators, fostering positive relationships and enhancing the overall experience, translating into valuable skills for client-facing roles in finance.
- Exhibited leadership qualities by mentoring newly employed stewards during their induction process, demonstrating the capacity to inspire and guide team members towards shared objectives.
- Thrived in high-stress environments, maintaining composure and decisiveness during emergencies, highlighting the ability to work under pressure.
- Collaborated with colleagues and supervisors to share critical information and coordinate responses during safety incidents, underscoring a strong sense of teamwork and collaboration.

Bar Staff & Steward, Mint People (Staffing Agency), Manchester, UK

Nov 2022 - Present

- Provided a positive and enjoyable experience for patrons at AO Arena, Manchester Central, and Leigh Sports Village.
- Handled up to 300+ customers during events, ensuring sales targets were met.
- Collaborated with a team of 6+ kiosk assistants, ensuring timely delivery and exceptional customer service.
- Recommended and upsold products based on customer preferences, contributing to increased sales.

ACHIEVEMENTS & EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Recipient of the **Manchester Humanities International Excellence Scholarship** for pursuing my MSc qualification.
- Phenomenon 2014 & 2015 - Part of a 9-member core team that **raised Rs 10 million** during the two-day carnival fest, driving a 20% increase in expected funding goals and achieving a footfall of **25,000+ people** from **50+ institutions**.
- **Organising member** for the GST Seminar conducted for my office clients and arranged office trips for 35+ people.
- During graduation, conducted Business Fest Cipher, Cultural Fest Dhwani, Business Quiz and Mock Stock events.
- Volunteer at VNS Jyothi Kiran Programme for 3 years - Taught English and Art to disadvantaged children.
- Intern at Aarunya Education Foundation NGO - Taught communicative English to needy children.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

- **IT SKILLS** Proficient in MS Excel, PowerPoint, Bloomberg, Tally, Refinitiv, Stata, AS 400, Winman
- **LANGUAGES** English, Hindi, Kannada, Konkani
- **CERTIFICATIONS** Level 5 Diploma in Applied Finance - The London Institute of Banking and Finance
Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (CA) - Intermediate Professional (Level 2 of 3)