

A+ Newsletter - Issue 1: 2010

Welcome to Accountancy Plus Training

Welcome to our first e-newsletter. We thought this would allow us to get information to you quicker than by the traditional printed form.

OFSTED

In September we went through our 4-yearly "grilling" by Ofsted (previously the Adult Learning Inspectorate). You may think the QAD is nerve-wracking.... we had 5 inspectors for 4 days! Nonetheless we came through it very well - with a Grade 2 "Good" and with some very nice comments - despite a ceiling nearly collapsing on one of the inspectors!?! You can see the report (yes it's public!). [Click here](#)

Training Quality Standard

In October we were reaccredited under the TQS, successfully retaining certification. We are the only training provider/college in the country to do so "with excellence in Accounting"
We would like to thank all of you who have been kind enough to respond to the seemingly never-ending stream of questionnaires we send you. Ofsted, TQS, and the LSC place a lot of reliance on these and your patient support is much appreciated.

LSC Funding

We now have an LSC contract of over £1 Million. This contributes to the cost of training people of all ages in Accountancy, Business Administration, Customer Service, IT

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Improving induction of new staff

A number of our client firms are using our Balancing Act bookkeeping training programme as part of their induction for new accountancy staff. This can be done before the new recruit starts or in his/her first week - effectively their "first job". This enables them to get to grips with double entry bookkeeping before they are let loose in the office - saving you valuable on-the-job training time.

Office Skills

This new department has really taken off. We now have 19 students doing Business Administration, 1 doing Customer Service, 6 doing IT and 82 who have

and Maths/English Refreshers (albeit over 90% is Accountancy). Funding is heavily prioritised for learners aged 16-18 and to a lesser extent, 19-24. As the eligibility criteria are not simple and regularly change, do please give us a call to determine whether you or any of your staff are eligible for FREE or SUBSIDISED training. The majority of our existing learners are currently able to access some degree of funding, although the level does vary considerably.

Additional/Higher Level Qualifications

We are pleased to advise that our first ACCA course started in September and our first ATT course started in November. We are now enrolling for the June ACCA exam sitting - suitable for those progressing from the recent December exams and also for those starting off their ACCA studies (probably progressing from AAT).

Roll on, Roll off

Please remember that, within reason, students can join our programmes at any time in the year. For example students can enrol now rather than wait until September 2010. In particular we are currently recruiting for our Foundation Fast Track courses commencing in January 2010. By doing these, students will be able to sit their exams this Summer and start the intermediate level in September 2010.

We will also, for the first time, be running a late Foundation Fast Track course in our three main centres (Plymouth, Exeter, Taunton), starting in March 2010 aiming for a Computer Based Exam in July 2010. For more details of course dates and funding availability please contact leanne@aplustraining.co.uk

Subsidised staff profiling

We are now in a position to offer to our clients the PPA Personal Profiling System by Thomas International. There is the potential for the cost of this to be fully or partly covered through the use of the current Leadership and Management funding provided by Business Link. We can perform this on-line profiling as part of a wider support to develop the management team in your business.

AND FINALLY

With effect from September 2010 the AAT aualification will

undergone a Maths/English refresher course, as well as 781 doing Accountancy.

Computer Based Exams

Traditionally, an AAT student has only been able to sit his/her exams twice a year in June and December, but the introduction of CBEs means that a student can sit an exam when he/she is ready. This is particularly useful when a student hears in August/February that he/she has failed the exam that he/she sat the previous June/ December. He/she would no longer have to wait 6 months to re-sit. After doing some revision a CBE can be taken, allowing progression onto the next level as originally intended.

New AAT Syllabus and exam structure for September 2010

The new intake in the Summer of 2010 will be enrolling onto a new AAT exam structure. This is much more exam orientated - primarily CBE at all levels. Our training delivery will be adapted to support this and to prepare for the transition all learners will be encouraged to undertake the CBE from now on, rather than the paper based ones.

Online tracking of learner progress

have moved from the NQF to the QCF and most assessment will be by CBE. In April the LSC will be replaced by the SFA, NAS and YPLA. Ofsted has now replaced ALI and having just obtained re-certification under the TQS we will be seeking continued recognition for IIP in January. Many of our learners progress from AAT to ACA, ACCA, CIMA, CIPFA and ATT. We thought we might produce some Acronym Crackers for next year!

Oh Yes - a prosperous New Year to you all!

Our long awaited learner tracking database is now live for employers and an email is being sent to you all with details of how to access it. Your learners will be able to access it early in the New Year.

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