

## MEDIA STATEMENT

Issued by:



### **SAICA congratulates candidates who achieved success in the 2021 APC**

***Johannesburg, Friday 27 May 2022:* Today, the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA) announced that of the 4 928 candidates who wrote the 2021 Assessment of Professional Competence (APC), 3 549 have achieved success.**

“SAICA would like to commend the 2021 cohort for their dedication and determination in applying themselves to the requirements of the APC. Difficult under the best of circumstances, the challenges experienced by candidates during the 1 December 2021 sitting of the APC exacerbated this. Candidates were afforded the opportunity to retake the assessment in March 2022 in a special once-off APC rewrite sitting. Despite all obstacles in their way, 72% of candidates successfully demonstrated competence,” says Freeman Nomvalo, CEO of SAICA.

SAICA is pleased with the 2021 cohort’s achievement as it signifies an increase from the 2020 APC results. The 2020 cohort’s performance was lower compared to other years due to, amongst other, the possible impact of the COVID-19 restrictions experienced in 2020.

In many ways, the APC is the toughest challenge in an aspiring chartered accountant’s [CA(SA)’s] qualifying journey because it requires candidates to integrate their technical academic knowledge from multiple disciplines to a single, complex real-life business case study. This eight-hour competency-based assessment reviews, via a case study, candidates’ ability to demonstrate ethical, personal and professional attributes in their application to real-world scenarios using their technical know-how.

“SAICA continues to be proud of the fact that its education, training and assessment processes are rigorous, robust, fair and are in line with international best practise as outlined by the education standards of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC). In particular, SAICA places significant emphasis on the independent processes governing the high standards that SAICA’s qualification examinations are renowned for.” reassures Nomvalo.

Nomvalo continues, “This is further supported by the processes followed in setting the APC. SAICA works through the Initial Professional Development Committee, an independent committee that takes overall responsibility for setting the APC. This committee ensures that all the principles of assessment are complied with”.

SAICA also assures its members and the public that the CA(SA) designation is of the highest standard of excellence, and is able to meet the demands of the future market, driven by the skills of the 21st century.

Following the conclusion of its rigorous marking process, SAICA is delighted to announce the outcome of the results for the 2021 APC:

	<b>FAIL</b>	<b>PASS</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>%PASS</b>
<b>African</b>	910	1473	2383	62%
<b>Coloured</b>	83	214	297	72%
<b>Indian</b>	162	532	694	77%
<b>White</b>	224	1329	1553	86%
<b>Race not disclosed</b>	-	1	1	100%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1379</b>	<b>3549</b>	<b>4928</b>	<b>72%</b>

Detailed statistics can be found on the SAICA website: [www.saica.co.za](http://www.saica.co.za).

### ***Exceptional performance honoured***

On releasing the results, SAICA also celebrates the achievements of eight candidates who earned a place on the institute's prestigious APC Honours Roll. The Honours Roll is made up of candidates who demonstrate exceptional performance and show the greatest insight in the way they complete the case study tasks. Those candidates, in alphabetical order (by surname), are:

<b>Surname</b>	<b>Name</b>
Boleslawsky	Jana
Drinkwater	Michelle
Glanz	Max
Jada	Faatimah
Meyer	Andre
OConnell	Mary-Anne
Osman	Khaleel-Ahmed
Sokweba	Noxolo

"In conclusion, I wish to recognise and commend successful candidates who achieved success under difficult circumstances. Doing so is a testament to their resilience and is a valuable asset to have going forward into the business world. To the candidates who did not succeed, I urge you to remain focused and not give up so close to the end of your qualifying journey. Your efforts and resolve will be worth it," ends Nomvalo.

[Ends]

**Word count:** 600

#### **SAICA Media Contact**

Ms Karin Jacobsen  
 Project Director: Marketing and Communications  
 Learning, Development and National Imperative Division (SAICA)  
 Tel: 011 621 6913  
 Email: [karinj@saica.co.za](mailto:karinj@saica.co.za)

Ms Renette Human  
 Project Director: Communications  
 Brand Division (SAICA)  
 Tel: 011 621 6713  
 Email: [renetteh@saica.co.za](mailto:renetteh@saica.co.za)

**Notes to Editor**  
**About SAICA**

SAICA, South Africa's pre-eminent accountancy body, is widely recognised as one of the world's leading accounting institutes. The Institute provides a wide range of support services to more than 46 000 members and associates who are chartered accountants [CAs(SA)], as well as associate general accountants [AGAs(SA)] and accounting technicians [ATs(SA)], who hold positions as CEOs, MDs, board directors, business owners, chief financial officers, auditors and leaders in every sphere of commerce and industry, and who play a significant role in the nation's highly dynamic business sector and economic development.

### **About the APC**

The APC is by nature a very different assessment compared to the Initial Test of Competence which is written immediately after the completion of the postgraduate programme. It is a competency-based assessment that, via a case study, reviews the candidates' ability to demonstrate ethical, personal and professional attributes in their application to real-world scenarios using their technical know-how. The case study asks candidates to respond to real-life tasks expected of entry-level CAs(SA).

The APC is specifically designed to drive a change in behaviour and promote the importance of developing professional competence for prospective Chartered Accountants. Candidates are expected to demonstrate their ability to be lifelong learners and apply this to the case study scenario using their technical knowledge.

### **About SAICA's transformation initiatives:**

One of SAICA's prime goals is to contribute towards strengthening the country's economy by playing a significant and leading role in transformation and skills development. Through Thuthuka, a pioneering initiative to promote transformation in the profession, SAICA launched its transformation efforts in the Eastern Cape in 2002 and has grown this into a national project that includes various interventions across the education value chain as well as the highly successful Thuthuka Bursary Fund.

Thuthuka's objective is to transform the demographics of the profession to reflect those of the country in terms of race and gender, and provide educational support to African learners and students for the benefit of the profession, while simultaneously helping to uplift communities. Therefore, SAICA prides itself in leading the chartered accountancy profession as a socially responsible driver of business and skills development by supporting and encouraging enterprise development initiatives.