



Strategy graduate programme

Length of programme	3 years
Qualifications you'll work for	Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA)
Location	London & various regional offices. Please search the website for latest location availability
Entry requirements	<p>As a general rule, you'll be expected to meet the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Minimum grade B GCSE (*) Maths- Minimum grade B GCSE (*) English Language- Minimum of 128 UCAS points (*) under the 2017 tariff point system at A Level or equivalent qualifications- Minimum 2:1 degree or above in any discipline <p>Note: (*) Or equivalent</p>

Please note, we only consider a candidate's 'top' 3 A Level grades and do not accept General Studies.

At KPMG, we look at more than just your academic results. We will review your application, together with your performance in our assessments, to ensure that you have the best opportunity to demonstrate your potential. We will be considering your strengths and achievements against KPMG's capabilities alongside a number of other metrics, including technical background and/or experience, to ensure that you have the skills to succeed at KPMG.

The Strategy Group is a dynamic and fast-growing team, where you will work through complex and challenging issues facing clients today. You'll have the opportunity to work with people at all levels including senior management, offering strategic advice on business and operating models to our corporate, public sector and private equity clients. We offer advice in both an organic growth and transaction-related setting. It is an exciting time to join this team as we drive momentum and enhance our presence in our priority sectors.

Our Strategy Graduate Programme is designed to give you a broad and varied experience from both a sector and proposition perspective and arm you with consulting skills to help accelerate your career. You will build your commercial understanding and business acumen to deliver real value to our clients straight away.

Like our clients we're having to adapt. This means new working patterns, physical adjustments in our offices and new ways of interacting with our colleagues as well as the organisations we work with - we are harnessing technology to help underpin this change.

In depth

Our consultants get the opportunity to travel within the UK and internationally to meet the needs of the client base and while doing so acquire a broad range of transferable skills.

You will join teams with a vibrant mix of expertise, industry experience and consulting skills, and get to work with bright individuals who have fun both inside and outside

of work.

You will work with some of the largest and best known organisations in the world, from a broad variety of sectors and respond to a wide variety of challenges - every project and every day is different.

You will gain exposure to our 3 main proposition categories:

- **Business Strategy:** Helping Executives to develop and operationalise strategy to meet their financial ambitions and create sustainable competitive advantage.
- **Operating Strategy:** Advising clients on a range of strategic operational issues from efficiency improvement identification through to operating model strategy design.
- **Deal Strategy:** Advising clients on strategic investment decisions in a range of transaction settings (buy-side, sell-side, refinancing, bid / contract tenders).

As specialists in the field, clients often seek our advice in response to the following strategic questions/issues:

- What are the options to grow/transform their business in light of market, competitive and regulatory changes?
- Which markets should they enter and how?
- What are the opportunities to drive EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization) improvement and how do they execute them effectively?
- What is the true cost of serving their customers and how profitable are their products?
- What is the most appropriate deal type (e.g. acquisition, Joint Venture etc.)?
- What are the potential upsides/risks to the business plan assumptions?

What to expect

You will work with clients from different market sectors and gain exposure to a number of our strategy propositions. You'll study for the CIMA qualification, as well as benefit from a broad Learning & Development programme incorporating on-the-job coaching, classroom-based training and self-directed learning (e.g. WebEx, podcasts etc.), which will help to equip you with the appropriate blend of technical and soft skills to accelerate your career.

As a graduate on the Strategy Graduate Programme you'll be helping to add value to clients and business from the start. You'll enjoy exposure to a wide variety of client and internal work (e.g. business development, thought leadership and proposition development). You will need the adaptability and flexibility to work in different roles with a diverse range of people, often under challenging deadlines, in order to help our clients solve their most complex, strategic issues.

So, you could be:

- Developing a new operating model across Europe for a major consumer goods producer.
- Helping to identify strategic options for a UK-based sunglasses manufacturer.
- Delivering an operating strategy engagement for a data analytics provider in Brazil.
- Undertaking market analysis across a multitude of sectors to help clients identify growth opportunities.

Whichever sector you work in or project you support, you'll work closely with people from across KPMG's global network of member firms – and at every level. This access to fantastic knowledge and experience is second to none and will help to build your skills, as well as clients' businesses.

Training and Development

On the Strategy graduate programme, you'll follow a full CIMA study path completing the CIMA Certificate in Business Accounting, then the CIMA Diploma in Management Accounting. Beyond this you will pursue the full CIMA qualification or gain other relevant qualifications as you progress your career.

KPMG has a large full-time Professional Qualification & Accreditation (PQA) team – dedicated to giving you the best chance of passing your exams first time. KPMG's programmes are underpinned by an online portal so you can access technical content and learning activities, share information and contact your tutors for all the support you need at the click of a button.

FAQs

Will I need to travel?

Our projects can be based around the UK and even abroad. Therefore, it's very likely that you will be asked to travel during your Graduate Programme. Like our clients we are having to adapt to new ways of working and so it's likely that there'll be some increased focus on virtual/home ways of working.

Where could a career here lead me?

On the Graduate Programme, you'll receive broad accounting and commercial experience and a recognised accounting qualification. This will provide you with the valuable technical, business and personal skills needed to develop your career either within or outside of KPMG.

Will I get the opportunity to work in different business areas of the wider KPMG UK firm?

As a professional services firm, KPMG support their clients in a variety of different ways and as you develop skills on your graduate programme, you will often find yourself working on teams with colleagues from other areas of the firm. Opportunities for you to work on projects in other teams where you can utilise the skills you have developed or gained through your studies will also help you become a more rounded individual and also increase your internal and external networks.

What was the impact of COVID-19 on professional qualification tuition?

The vast majority of KPMG's staff undertaking a professional qualification were able to continue with their studies and examinations following the COVID-19 pandemic, including those studying the CIMA certificate. We expect studies to be back to our usual mix of classroom and remote learning detailed above for our 2021 intake, and exams to be scheduled normally.

Were exams and progression through training programmes impacted by COVID-19, and will that continue?

The CIMA moved quickly to introduce new remotely invigilated exam solutions following the start of the pandemic. This meant that whilst there was some initial disruption, we were quickly able to ensure our students could continue with their exam pathways where individuals were comfortable to do so. These newly developed solutions may well continue to be used into the future, and thus will provide extra flexibility for our business and training.

Contact us

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