



World CMA Students'

This section focuses on reflections from young students of ICMAB and how they have been pursuing their CMA career path and facing challenges in CMA study at the beginning of their career.

Mr. Md. Zahangir Alam is an Operational Level Student of ICMAB. He is from Lalmonirhat. Currently he is doing MBA in Accounting and Information Systems from University of Dhaka. He has completed his BBA from Department of Accounting and Information Systems, University of Dhaka. He also completed his HSC from Hamdard Public College, Dhaka and SSC from Aditmari G.S high school. He has started CMA journey through Intermediate Entry Route (IER).

Why do you pursue CMA education from ICMAB? Explain in detail?

ICMAB is the govt. recognized professional Accounting body in Bangladesh which provides the prestigious CMA degree. I came to know about ICMAB and the need for professional accountant in our country from my university teacher. I was curious about the profession and asked a number of seniors about the persuasion of CMA degree. Their reply was very positive and they suggested me for enrolling myself for pursuing this prestigious degree. Having a dream to become a future corporate leader I was then sure that I need to pursue a professional degree along with my academic study. I took a single step and enrolled myself in pursuing CMA degree. The environment of dynamic education enables in building professional networking and acquiring market driven skills. The most attractive thing about CMA degree is that anyone can pursue this prestigious and leading professional accounting qualification with a minimum cost.

How do you make a comparison between CMA education and other academic qualifications?

As I've enrolled myself in pursuing CMA degree when I was a third-year student of BBA, I've noticed the different scenarios of a professional education and academic education. Academic qualifications focuses mainly acquiring theoretical and research based knowledge while CMA degree focuses on practical knowledge in Costing and Managerial Accounting. Academic good grades are not the real indicator of practical skill which employers are seeking the most. Professional qualifications like CMA takes the responsibility to fill the void and produces more practical and skilled human resources.

What are the main challenges you faced in studying for CMA education?

For me, main challenge is to maintain both my academic studies as well as professional studies. Though the study of CMA offers some extra benefits for my regular academic study, I have to take some extra pressure. For example, I have to sit for both academic and professional exams. Another challenge is to maintain proper study plan and manage time for bigger CMA syllabus.

Do you think that CMA qualification will help you to get added advantage in the job market?

Completing CMA degree indicates that a person has proper knowledge in the fields of costing, budgeting, financial planning and also in financial control. I believe this would add extra advantages in the job market. I have the dream of working in top position of an organization and becoming a future corporate leader. This leading professional degree would make my dream true and offer the complete skill package for that.

What are the strategy you are following to complete the CMA education on schedule?

There is a proverb that practice makes a man perfect and this the main strategy I used to follow. Besides, I believe there is no short cut in passing professional exams. Before every exam I used to keep enough time for my preparation and go through the texts thoroughly. Practicing from reference book and answering to the points of the question with related notes for each of the question. I take help from seniors and mentors who have enough knowledge and experience on subject matter. Self-study, group discussion and practicing more and more is the best strategy for me.

What do you expect to get from ICMAB as a student?

In this competitive market one should have sufficient skill on related fields of costing and managerial decision-making process. ICMAB authority continuously trying to improve the student friendly environment and

making a student competent in this field. Besides these I expect that ICMAB should arrange more online based Motivational program, Skill development program in this COVID-19 pandemic crisis. Also, they could take this crisis as opportunity and improve infrastructure to provide more online based education and skill development programs for the welfare of the students all over the country. Depression management and soft skills development program should be arranged both online and offline on regular basis.

Could you remember any memorable event during your study at ICMAB?

Out of so many memorable events at ICMAB, one event reminds me the starting of the journey with ICMAB. It was my first examination result date. When I got the result of clearing knowledge level in the first attempt, I acquired the confidence and strength to continue and become a cost and management accountant.

To fulfill your future dream comes true; do you think the CMA qualification will be able to fulfill your Aspirations?

Without having proper knowledge of business, it is tough to make glorious future in corporate sector. I strongly believe CMA qualifications would be the best assist to fulfill my dream of becoming a successful corporate leader. It would surely help in attaining required skills and developing a successful professional career.

[Interviewed by: Sazedul Hoq ACMA]