

The Prestigious University of Southern Queensland (USQ) is offering four exemptions for the members of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA), the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CA Sri Lanka), the Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM) and the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), to follow the Master of Business Administration (MBA), which is currently offered in the country through the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka.

Thus with these four exemptions, students can now sit for only eight subjects instead of the required 12 subjects while studying for the MBA and complete the course within period of a year or one and a half years.

Students with the respective exemptions will also have the opportunity of saving approximately Rs. 400,000/-, due to the reduced number of subjects they have to undertake, and there is no exemption fees required for the 4 subjects.

USQ is an international university of repute in distance learning and was the first accredited □ institution of best practice□ for external higher education in Australia.

CA Sri Lanka, is the premier National Accounting institute responsible for the education of students, professional development of members and service to the business community in auditing, taxation, financial management and business consultancy. As one of its initiatives to be equipped to meet the challenge of the knowledge economy, CA Sri Lanka came into an alliance with USQ, to offer the MBA programme.

The CA Sri Lanka, which is also the largest tertiary education establishment in the country, outside the university system with a student base of over 36,000 and a membership of over 42000 partnered with the USQ to offer two world class recognized Masters Degree courses, namely the MBA and the Master of Project Management (MPM) in its continuing strive to provide professionals both in accountancy and outside the accountancy sphere the best of foreign professional qualifications in Sri Lanka.

The USQ MBA now offers 4 specializations in Sri Lanka, namely Finance, Marketing, Project Management, and Human Resources.

The USQ MBA which is of world class repute has been followed by more than 1400 students both in Australia and outside Australia and is the largest MBA programme of any Australian university, and ranks as one of Australias top 20 MBA programmes.

The USQ MBA programme offered through the CA Sri Lanka, has been well received in Sri Lanka with very high-end professionals in the country's corporate world also following this prestigious programme.

CA Sri Lanka President Mr. Sujeewa Rajapakse said both CA Sri Lanka and the University of Southern Queensland share an exceptional association counting to ten long years. "Today, the USQ MBA offered through the Business School is one of the most popular MBA programmes in the country among professionals from both the accounting and non-accounting sectors."

He emphasised that the new exemptions will be a further boost in increasing the popularity of the MBA programme in the country, giving professionals further access to a recognised foreign qualification right here in Sri Lanka.

Chief Executive Officer of CA Sri Lanka, Mr. Aruna Alwis noted that the USQ MBA is one of the most successful MBA programmes in the country followed by professionals both at junior and senior levels and has also been followed by well-established corporate leaders in the country.

"The CA Business School has a range of qualifications on offer including an Executive Diploma in Business and Accounting, a Postgraduate Diploma in Business and Finance apart from the Australian MBA from the University of Southern Queensland," he added.