

Guidelines for Use of the CPA and Other Designations in Ontario

Updated: August 2020

This document is intended to provide guidance to members of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario (CPA Ontario) as to the use of their designations in the province of Ontario. The use of designations is regulated provincially. Members seeking information as to the use of their designations outside of Ontario should refer to the appropriate governing body.

Members and Fellows of CPA Ontario

The rights of members in good standing to use the designation “Chartered Professional Accountant” and the initials “CPA” or “C.P.A.” in combination with legacy designations is outlined in [Regulation 12-1 Designations and Distinctions](#). The appropriate use of designations by members with various legacy backgrounds is summarized below.

Legacy CAs & FCAs	Legacy CMAs & FCMA	Legacy CGAs & FCGAs
Jane Doe, CPA, CA Jane Doe, FCPA, FCA	Jane Doe, CPA, CMA Jane Doe, FCPA, FCMA	Jane Doe, CPA, CGA Jane Doe, FCPA, FCGA

Dual members in good standing of more than one of the legacy bodies:

Legacy CA & CMA	Legacy CA & CGA	Legacy CMA & CGA
Jane Doe, CPA, CA, CMA or Jane Doe, CPA, CMA, CA	Jane Doe, CPA, CA, CGA or Jane Doe, CPA, CGA, CA	Jane Doe, CPA, CMA, CGA
Jane Doe, FCPA, FCA, CMA or Jane Doe, FCPA, FCMA, FCA	Jane Doe, FCPA, FCA, FCGA or Jane Doe, FCPA, FCGA, FCA	
Jane Doe, FCPA, FCA, CMA or Jane Doe, FCPA, CMA, FCA	Jane Doe, FCPA, FCA, CGA or Jane Doe, FCPA, CGA, FCA	
<i>Fellow of CMA Ontario & CPA Ontario:</i>	<i>Fellow of CGA Ontario & CPA Ontario:</i>	<i>Fellow of CGA Ontario, CMA Ontario & CPA Ontario:</i>
Jane Doe, FCPA, FCMA, CGA	Jane Doe, FCPA, CMA, FCGA	Jane Doe, FCPA, FCMA, FCGA

Legacy CA, CMA and CGA - triple members:

Jane Doe, CPA, CA, CMA, CGA or Jane Doe, CPA, CMA, CGA or Jane Doe, CPA, CGA, CMA

Fellow of CPA Ontario only: Jane Doe, FCPA, FCA, CMA, CGA

Fellow of CMA Ontario & CPA Ontario: Jane Doe, FCPA, FCA, FCMA, CGA

Fellow of CGA Ontario & CPA Ontario: Jane Doe, FCPA, FCA, CMA, FCGA

Fellow of CGA Ontario & CMA Ontario & CPA Ontario: Jane Doe, FCPA, FCA, FCMA, FCGA

Notes:

- The use of a comma between your name and your designations is optional.
- The use of a comma between designations is required.
- Where there are dual or triple designations, the order of the CA, CMA and CGA designations may be reversed. The CPA designation should be followed by the legacy designation it was granted with.



Specialty of Practice Designations

CA•IFA or CA•IT Specialty of Practice Designations

CPA Ontario took over the oversight of the CA•IFA and the CA•IT specialist designations from CPA Canada as of January 1, 2014 and members of CPA Ontario who hold these designations can continue to use them until December 31, 2018. The following are examples of the appropriate use of these designations.

Members	Fellows
CPA, CA•IFA or CPA, CA, IFA	FCPA, FCA•IFA or FCPA, FCA, IFA
CPA, CA•IT or CPA, CA, IT	FCPA, FCA•IT or FCPA, FCA, IT

Certified in Financial Forensics (CFF) and Certified Information Technology Professional (CITP) designations

A member in good standing of CPA Ontario who has obtained either the Certified in Financial Forensics (CFF) or Certified Information Technology Professional (CITP) credential from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants may use this specialty of practice designation as shown below:

Members of CPA Ontario	Fellows of legacy bodies
Jane Doe, CPA, CA, CFF	Jane Doe, FCPA, FCA, CFF
Jane Doe, CPA, CMA, CFF	Jane Doe, FCPA, FCMA, CFF
Jane Doe, CPA, CGA, CFF	Jane Doe, FCPA, FCGA, CFF
Jane Doe, CPA, CA, CITP	Jane Doe, FCPA, FCA, CITP
Jane Doe, CPA, CMA, CITP	Jane Doe, FCPA, FCMA, CITP
Jane Doe, CPA, CGA, CITP	Jane Doe, FCPA, FCGA, CITP

Designations Granted by Organizations with Jurisdiction in Ontario

A member of CPA Ontario in good standing may use a designation granted by an organization with jurisdiction in Ontario, if he or she is a member in good standing of that organization and permitted by that organization to use the designation, by adding the designation after the designations issued by CPA Ontario, CMA Ontario (if applicable) and CGA Ontario (if applicable).

In the following examples, Jane Doe is a member in good standing with the following bodies:

Legacy CA Member	Legacy CMA Member	Legacy CGA Member
Example 1: CPA Ontario and the Chartered Financial Analyst Institute:		
Jane Doe, CPA, CA, CFA	Jane Doe, CPA, CMA, CFA	Jane Doe, CPA, CGA, CFA
Example 2: CPA Ontario and the Canadian Institute of Chartered Business Valuators:		
Jane Doe, CPA, CA, CBV	Jane Doe, CPA, CMA, CBV	Jane Doe, CPA, CGA, CBV
Example 3: CPA Ontario as well as the Institute of Internal Auditors of Canada:		
Jane Doe, CPA, CA, CIA	Jane Doe, CPA, CMA, CIA	Jane Doe, CPA, CGA, CIA
Example 4: CPA Ontario and the Canadian Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Professionals:		
Jane Doe, CPA, CA, CIRP	Jane Doe, CPA, CMA, CIRP	Jane Doe, CPA, CGA, CIRP
Example 5: CPA Ontario and ISACA:		
Jane Doe, CPA, CA, CISA	Jane Doe, CPA, CMA, CISA	Jane Doe, CPA, CGA, CISA



A member of CPA Ontario in good standing may use a designation granted by an accounting body outside Ontario if he or she is a member in good standing of the accounting body outside of Ontario and is permitted by that body to use the designation. The designation must be followed immediately by the full name of the state, province or country, in parentheses, of that accounting body.

The designation must be on a separate and subordinate line to the member’s name and their designations from CPA Ontario, CMA Ontario (if applicable), and/or CGA Ontario (if applicable), and any other Ontario designations.

In the following examples, Jane Doe is a member in good standing with the following bodies:

Legacy CA Member	Legacy CMA Member	Legacy CGA Member
Example 1: CPA Ontario and the New York State Board for Public Accountancy:		
Jane Doe, CPA, CA CPA (New York)	Jane Doe, CPA, CMA CPA (New York)	Jane Doe, CPA, CGA CPA (New York)
Example 2: CPA Ontario and the Instituto Mexicano de Contadores Públicos:		
Jane Doe, CPA, CA CPC (Mexico)	Jane Doe, CPA, CMA CPC (Mexico)	Jane Doe, CPA, CGA CPC (Mexico)
Example 3: CPA Ontario and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Alberta:		
Jane Doe, CPA, CA CA (Alberta)	Jane Doe, CPA, CMA CA (Alberta)	Jane Doe, CPA, CGA CA (Alberta)
Example 4: Jane Doe and the Ordre des comptables professionnels agréés du Québec:		
Jane Doe, CPA, CA CPA, CA (Quebec)	Jane Doe, CPA, CMA CPA, CMA (Quebec)	Jane Doe, CPA, CGA CPA, CGA (Quebec)

Academic Degrees

Members may wish to include their university degrees along with their professional designations. CPA Ontario does not regulate the use of degrees.