

# Becoming a CPA in Québec



# Becoming a CPA

- To receive a CPA designation, you must:
  1. Complete a recognized **undergraduate degree**
  2. Complete a PEP – **Professional Education Program**
    - McGill's Graduate Certificate in Professional Accounting (GCPA Program) is a recognized PEP
  3. Successfully write & pass the **CFE** (Common Final Exam)
  4. Complete a **24-month recognized internship**
    - Accounting firms & industry positions
    - Outside of Quebec the internship period is 36 months



# Undergraduate Degree

- You must meet the course requirements outlined by the Order for the school where you obtained your B Com.

<https://cpaquebec.ca/en/students-and-future-cpas/how-to-become-a-cpa/academic-prerequisites/>

# PEP – Professional Education Programs

1. Desautels GCPA (full-time program)
2. National on-line program
3. Graduate programs at other Quebec universities or other schools in Canada

# CPA Competencies

## Technical Skills

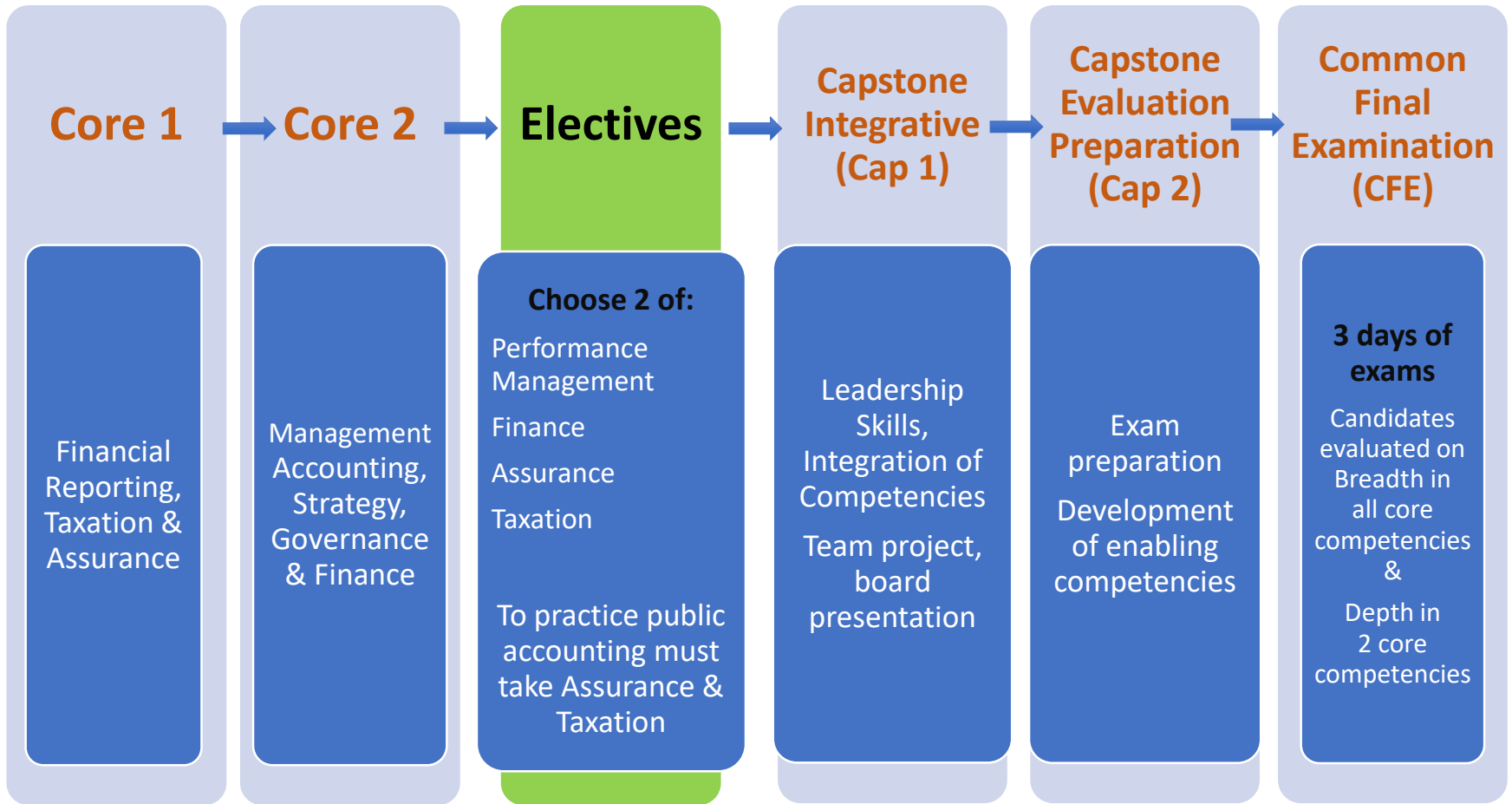
1. Financial Acct
2. Mgmt Acct
3. Strategy & Governance
4. Audit & Assurance
5. Taxation
6. Finance

## Enabling Skills

1. Professional & Ethical Behaviour
2. Leading
3. Collaborating
4. Self-Management
5. Adding Value
6. Problem Solving & Decision Making
7. Communicating

# CPA –PEP components

Starting in 2020 CFE written in May & Sept.



# Electives and affect on CFE

- On Day 2 of the CFE, students assume different “**roles**” (auditor, tax advisor, finance, performance measurement (controller))
- Which Electives you choose will determine which role you will write
- At Desautels currently **only the Auditor role**
- For other roles need to look at other programs

# National On-Line Program

- Available across the country. In Montreal offered through UQAM in English.
- Each module (Core 1, Core 2, etc.) is an 8 week session done on-line with 1 weekend “face-to-face”.
- Will start at different times during the year (at least 2x).
- <http://cpaquebec.ca/en/becoming-a-cpa/education/national-program-delivered-by-the-order/>
- Takes 2 years to complete
- **Cost \$10,767.44 (includes taxes). Includes Surpass exam software \$344.93. Plus administrative fees & annual membership + CFE fee \$1,810.86.**



# National Program Prerequisites

- To enter the National Program directly from McGill you need the same prerequisites as for our program (discussed later).
- If you are missing a few, CPA Canada offers CPA **PREP** – on-line modules where you can make up for any missing prerequisites.
- They are **NOT** acceptable as prerequisites for McGill's GCPA.

# Out of Province Options

- Some Ontario universities offer graduate programs that satisfy *some parts* of the PEP. Upon completion you transfer into the National Program.
  - i.e. Queens & U of T have summer programs after your undergraduate that allow you to enter the National Program at the Capstone 1 point.

# Transferring among PEPs

- **It IS possible** to start at McGill and then transfer to the National Program depending on where in the program you are.
  - i.e. move or get a job in another province
- **It is NOT possible** to start in the National Program or another university's PEP and then transfer into McGill.



# GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTING

DESAUTELS FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT



**For more  
information  
please consult  
our website:**

[https://www.mcgill.ca/  
desautels/programs/  
gcpa](https://www.mcgill.ca/desautels/programs/gcpa)

