

CPABC Post-secondary Recruitment Guidelines 2026 – All Other Lower Mainland Firms

This is a set of guidelines and recommendations for post-secondary recruitment that is endorsed by CPABC when applying to a firm that is NOT listed as part of the [CPABC Post-Secondary Recruitment Framework](#). This document provides guidelines on how students, employers, post-secondary institutions and the BC accounting profession can all effectively and productively engage in the post-secondary recruitment process.

These guidelines demonstrate the profession's strong commitment to professionalism, ethics and respectful behavior.

Direct input from the profession's recruitment partners influenced the content of these guidelines. The intention is for these guidelines to be continually revisited and refined so they continue to meet the needs of all the profession's recruitment partners.

The guidelines intentionally do not have specified interview and offer dates for the spring and fall accounting recruitment timeline. It acts as a code of conduct with expectations and guidelines for professionalism between hiring organizations and post-secondary students participating in the recruitment activities of PPR (Preapproved Route) public practice firms during 2026.

Partner Responsibilities

STUDENTS

It is the student's responsibility to:

- Comply with all relevant federal and provincial legislation
- Provide accurate and appropriate information on resumes and application forms and at interviews
- Seriously consider their career goals and professional aspirations when making decisions about job offers to gain practical experience
- Be cognizant of, and committed to, academic responsibilities such as classes, exams, and projects, which may conflict with recruiting activities
- Consult the [CPABC website](#) for information if applying for roles outside of their region of residence

Job Postings & Application Deadline:

- Know and adhere to the application deadline
- Students are encouraged to seek employment opportunities on post-secondary job boards and on company websites

Interviews:

- Prepare for the interview
- Notify employers and/or the post-secondary career centre well in advance, if possible, if an interview needs to be postponed or canceled
- Acknowledge invitations for site-visits or second interviews promptly, whether

accepting or rejecting the invite

- Accept interview invitations (second and subsequent) only when seriously considering a position with the employer

Job Offers:

- Discuss offers with employers to verify terms and reach mutually acceptable agreements
- Respond to every offer whether it is to be accepted or rejected
- Notify employers of acceptance or rejection of an offer as soon as a decision is made
- Notify the Career Centre immediately (if applicable) upon confirmation of a job acceptance in order to withdraw from further recruitment activities
- **Do not renege after accepting an offer;** honour the acceptance as a contractual agreement with the employer. All students are expected to treat accepted job offers as legally binding agreements.

EMPLOYERS

It is the employer's responsibility to:

- Represent the profession in an ethical and responsible way
- Comply with all relevant federal and provincial legislation as well as to follow federal and provincial privacy regulations
- Maintain confidentiality regarding the students' information, personal knowledge, written records and transcripts, unless the student has given prior consent
- Represent itself fairly and describe what it can offer to students during their experience
- Refrain from making or insinuating offensive remarks about another firm or organization

Company Information Sessions & Events:

- Information sessions/corporate recruitment events for students hosted off-campus or virtually do not have any schedule limitations
- Some firms with PPR roles participating in Spring and Fall recruit will provide their corporate information sessions to be posted on [the Campus Recruitment Opportunities and Events website page](#), to share with students, career centres, faculty, and firms. For Spring recruit, this information will be added to this webpage the first week of March, with additional upcoming events added mid- March if necessary. For Fall recruit, this information will be added to this webpage once in late July and once again in August. This resource is to help employers plan their events so they do not overlap with one another.

Job Postings & Application Deadline:

- It is recommended that job postings with application deadlines are displayed on post-secondary job boards to maximize exposure

Interviews:

- Provide accurate information on job responsibilities, compensation, benefits and contact information

- Respond to all candidates within agreed-upon timeframes and provide reasonable notice of any interview cancellations
- Provide students with adequate time to prepare for interviews
- Advise students of any compensation for on-site or interview visits to employer's location or other off-campus locations
- On-campus interviews are to be coordinated with the post-secondary institution's schedules who should be given appropriate lead time to schedule these interviews

Job Offers:

- Firms not listed as participating in this framework but participating in Spring and/or Fall recruit should provide a reasonable amount of time (preferably at least 5 business days) for students to respond to job offers
- Confirm job offers and terms of employment in writing to students
- **Do not renege after extending an offer.** Accepted offers are a contractual agreement between the jobseeker and the employer. All employers are expected to treat accepted job offers as legally binding agreements.

POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

It is the career educators' responsibility to:

- Comply with all relevant federal and provincial legislation and follow federal and provincial privacy regulations
- Follow legal and ethical guidelines in providing student information to employers
- Provide equitable services to all students and employers
- Address any questionable recruitment practices (at the post-secondary institution's discretion)

Interviews:

- Accommodate employers' reasonable requests for interview times and space on-campus when available. Due to interview space constraints or organizational preference, many employers may choose to host interviews off-campus. These decisions are at the employers' discretion and there are no formal constraints on the timing/scheduling of the interviews.
- Ensure that students have a reasonable amount of time from the start of the school year to prepare for the on-campus recruitment process prior to the commencement of interviews

CPABC

It is CPABC's responsibility to:

- Define and promote the value of the CPA designation to partners (including students, post-secondary institutions, and employers)
- Actively focus on growing the CPA profession in British Columbia through recruitment and career information initiatives, and communication and outreach activities

- Support partners in the recruitment process (this is a support role, not an enforcement role)
- Provide recruitment and career information to students
- Provide long-term support to students from initial interest in the profession, to membership and throughout their careers
- Regularly review (and adjust, as necessary) the recruitment process with partners to ensure it continues to be of value to all partners
- Address any questionable recruitment practices (at the profession's discretion)