



Emma Mathieson CA

I first heard about ICAS, and the Foundation, when I undertook an internship with EY after my fifth year at school. At the time, my school didn't offer accountancy, so this internship gave me the opportunity to explore the field and gain an understanding of the accountancy profession and its working practices - this encouraged me to apply to Accountancy courses at university with the ambition of becoming an ICAS-trained Chartered Accountant. Growing up in Glasgow, I had several universities in the surrounding area, and with the support of my teachers, I was happy to begin my studies at the University of Glasgow.

The Foundation's mentoring programme, matching students with a Chartered Accountant, was the fundamental reason I applied. I benefited hugely from this support, especially meeting someone who understood the profession and offered me insight into the work of an accountant, the opportunities available, and, latterly, applications, whilst being supported in my studies. Having the opportunity to build this relationship over four years, and to share any concerns about my studies, was so reassuring.

The financial support was also helpful, as this allowed me to develop my study space without sacrificing access to all necessary resources. Throughout each of my four years at university, I worked part time. Balancing my studies with work and other leisure activities was difficult, however I feel that the time management skills I developed were pivotal in my transition into my graduate role.

I really appreciated opportunities provided by the Foundation to meet other students and accounting professionals. Having that network helps you learn from others, gaining insight and finding out what opportunities are available in the profession. Through these experiences, I was able to build an understanding of the type of employer that would provide the perfect environment for me to learn and develop, which led me to Consilium.

I really enjoy working at Consilium, and being part of a company which is always evolving, and continually investing in its staff's professional development. Consilium continues to provide opportunities for me to grow and develop as a qualified CA, gaining experience and building my confidence.

The ICAS Foundation provided me with much more support than just the financial contribution – the Foundation was key in helping me choose the route I wanted to take, and in giving me the confidence to know I could achieve it.

Education:

University of Glasgow
Accountancy
Graduated 2019 with Upper
Second Class Honours

Role:

Consilium Chartered
Accountants
Audit Supervisor

Top Tip:

“Go to all the events you can and meet new people – this will help you open your eyes to what's out there.”



The ICAS Foundation is a registered Scottish charity, no. SC034836. Visit www.icasfoundation.org.uk to find out more.