



Academic Education Programs Sponsored by Ministry of Commerce PRC

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## 2024 Master of Professional Accounting Program

# Enrollment Guideline

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By 2024

## **Part One. Program Description**

### **I. About the Program**

#### **1. Introduction of the Program**

The Academic Education Programs sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China in 2008 is designed to foster high-end business officials and managerial personnel for the recipient countries, offering one-year and two-year master programs as well as three-year doctoral programs for the purpose of educating high-end and inter-disciplinary talents working in the applied fields of government, trade, foreign affairs, agriculture, technology, education, culture and health, building intellectual capacity and facilitating the economic and social development of the recipient countries. These programs provide assistance to governmental officials, research fellows, and senior managerial personnel on their master and doctoral education in China, which are fully conducted in English. Admission requirements include a bachelor's degree, relevant work experience, and decent physical conditions, which are essential for the intense study needed for obtaining the degrees. These graduates are now working in their fields of specialization in their home countries and are undertaking an increasingly significant role in the economic development cooperation between China and their home countries.

In 2015, Shanghai National Accounting Institute started to offer the two-year "Master of Professional Accounting Program" with the support of the Ministry of Commerce of People's Republic of China. So far 218 government officials, scholars and managerial personnel from 34 developing countries have joined the program.

In view of the positive effects and good results brought by these programs in strengthening economic ties and friendship between China and the recipient countries, the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China will continuously intensify its efforts in improving the quality of education. We believe that by participating in the program and obtaining the degree, you will be able to acquire professional knowledge and expertise, thereby realizing your life value and purpose and in the meantime contributing to the social and economic development of your own countries.

#### **2. Prospective Students**

Government officials, managerial personnel from state-owned enterprises as well as researchers or university lecturers from developing countries

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with bachelor's degree or above in the field of economics, management etc. Applicants with government work experience or policy making experience are preferred.

### **3. Program Objective**

The Program is designed to train experienced, application-oriented and high-caliber talents in the field of accounting, finance and management to be financial managers, researcher or policy-makers with profound expertise and strong analytical and decision making ability.

### **4. Enrollment Plan**

We plan to enroll a maximum of 30 students in our two-year full-time Master of Professional Accounting Program.

### **5. Financial Aid**

The Chinese Ministry of Commerce will provide "Chinese Government Scholarships" to admitted students from developing countries. The scholarship recipient is entitled to:

- tuition waiver.
- teaching material fee waiver.
- field study fee waiver.
- dissertation guidance fee waiver.
- one-off resettlement fee of 3000 RMB.
- free on-campus accommodation.
- stipend: 36000 RMB per year per master student.
- Free medical insurance for international students.
- One-time round-trip international airfare (First time fly to China after enrollment, and Fly back to home country upon graduation), and one round-trip airfare for home visit.
- The annual review is compulsory for all students. Those who pass the review may continue enjoy full scholarships in the next year.
- Other expenses shall be managed and used by the Ministry of Commerce or the universities as a whole, and shall not be distributed to students. The Ministry of Commerce only provides students with financial assistance within their enrolled

academic duration. Students who postpone their graduation will not receive the continuing sponsorship.

## **II. Introduction of the Institute**

### **1. About SNAI**

The Shanghai National Accounting Institute (SNAI) was officially established in September 2000 with the strong support of the Chinese government. It is a public institution affiliated to the Ministry of Finance of China (MOF). Over the past 20 years, SNAI has sought to find pedagogy proper for senior financial and accounting professionals, cultivate high-end talents for the accounting sector and provide advanced continuing education for macroeconomic regulators, large-and-medium-sized SOEs, financial institutions and intermediaries. Today, SNAI has created its own unique teaching methodology underpinned by the three pillars of degree education, executive development program and distance education. Since 2011, SNAI has been approved by the Academic Degrees Committee of the State Council as the institute for conferring Master's degrees in Professional Accounting, Auditing, Tax and Finance. Looking forward, SNAI will continue to make unremitting efforts to build it into a leading accounting institute with international recognition, which constitutes the realization of four sub-goals as being a highland in bringing up top accounting talents in China, a think tank for national accounting policymaking and corporate finance, a nationwide knowledge and information hub on accounting, and an international platform for communication and exchange in accounting.

### **2. About AFDI**

The Asia-Pacific Finance and Development Institute (AFDI) which is co-located at SNAI, was initiated by the Chinese Central Government for capacity building under the APEC framework. Since the establishment in 2001, cooperating with international organizations such as the Asian Development Bank, World Bank, New Development Bank, UNIDO, ACCA, etc., AFDI has conducted various capacity building trainings, seminars, forums and research on regional financial and development issues. To promote South-South cooperation and capacity building in the fields of finance and development for developing countries, in 2015, AFDI launched the “Master of Professional Accounting Program”, which aims to provide professional master’s degree education to the young and mid-aged finance and economic officials from developing countries in the world.

### **3. Environment and Facilities**

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With a humid subtropical monsoon climate, Shanghai has a very pleasant climate with four distinct seasons. Shanghai enjoys abundant sunshine and rainfall throughout the year. The spring and autumn in Shanghai are relatively short with longer summer and winter. More than 60% of the rainfall in the whole year concentrated in the flood season from May to September. The hottest seasons are from July to August with more than 10 days above 35 °C per year. The coldest seasons are from late December to the end of February.

SNAI campus covers an area of 34.67 hectares and a floor area of 87,000 square meters. Its geographical location also is favorable, being adjacent to Shanghai Hongqiao International Airport and National Exhibition and Convention Center. The park-like campus is equipped with first-class teaching and learning facilities, common kitchen, as well as single room accommodations with private bathroom, 24-hour air conditioning, hot water and internet connection for the international students during their schooling. The food price at SNAI is around 23-35 RMB per day.

### III. Education Plan

#### 1. Program Structure

The program consists of four semesters with a total of 43 credits, including Public Core Courses, 11 credits; Professional Courses I, 21 credits; Professional Course II, 10 credits; Elective Course, 1 credit. The minimum credit requirement to complete the degree is 41 credits.

| Course Type            | Course Title                                 | Credits   | Semester |   |   |   |
|------------------------|--|-----------|----------|---|---|---|
|                        |  |           | 1        | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Public Core Courses    | Chinese Language                             | 8         | √        | √ | √ |   |
|                        | Introduction to China                        | 3         | √        | √ |   |   |
|                        | <b>Subtotal: 2 courses</b>                   | <b>11</b> |          |   |   |   |
| Professional Courses I | Theory and Practice of Financial Accounting  | 2         | √        |   |   |   |
|                        | Theory and Practice of Corporate Finance     | 2         |          | √ |   |   |
|                        | Theory and Practice of Auditing              | 1         |          | √ |   |   |
|                        | Theory and Practice of Management Accounting | 2         |          | √ |   |   |

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|                                |   |           |   |   |   |   |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------|---|---|---|---|
|                                | International Accounting Standards and Comparison | 2         |   | √ |   |   |
|                                | Macro-economics                                   | 2         | √   |   |   |   |
|                                | Thematic Lectures on Finance and Economics        | 4         | √   | √ | √ | √ |
|                                | Field Study on China's Reform and Development     | 4         | √   | √ | √ | √ |
|                                | Information Retrieval and Thesis Writing          | 2         | √   | √ | √ |   |
|                                | <b>Subtotal: 9 courses</b>                        | <b>21</b> |   |   |   |   |
| <b>Professional Courses II</b> | International Financial Cooperation               | 2         | √   |   |   |   |
|                                | Financial Markets and Instruments                 | 2         | √   |   |   |   |
|                                | Strategy Management and Leadership                | 1         |   | √ |   |   |
|                                | Development Economics                             | 1         |   | √ |   |   |
|                                | Financial System Reform in China                  | 2         |   |   | √ |   |
|                                | International Business                            | 2         |   |   | √ |   |
|                                | <b>Subtotal: 6 courses</b>                        | <b>10</b> |   |   |   |   |
| <b>Electives</b>               | Principles of Accounting                          | 1         | √   |   |   |   |
|                                | <b>Subtotal: 1 course</b>                         | <b>1</b>  |   |   |   |   |
| <b>Total</b>                   |   | <b>43</b> | Minimum credit requirement for obtaining master's degree is 41. |   |   |   |

Note: Courses may vary slightly from one year to another and subject to the final approval by the SNAI Academic Committee. Please check the announcement of the International Education Center.

### 2. Instructors:

| Number | Instructors        | Courses               |
|--------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1.     | Dr. JIN Zhijun     | Chinese Language      |
| 2.     | Prof. ZHAO Hongjun | Introduction to China |

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|     |  |  |
|-----|--|--|
| 3.  | Prof. Shirley Xie (XIE Shilei)<br>Kelson Liu (LIU Qinghua) | Theory and Practice of Financial Accounting                        |
| 4.  | Dr. HUANG Changyin   | Theory and Practice of Corporate Finance/ Principles of Accounting |
| 5.  | Prof. SONG Deliang   | Theory and Practice of Auditing                                    |
| 6.  | Prof. TONG Chengsheng<br>Dr. George LIU                    | Theory and Practice of Management Accounting                       |
| 7.  | Prof. YE Jianfang  | International Accounting Standards and Comparison                  |
| 8.  | Prof. ZHANG Min  | Macro-economics  |
| 9.  | SNAI Faculty   | Thematic Lectures on Finance and Economics                         |
| 10. | SNAI Faculty   | On-site Teaching of China's Reform and Development                 |
| 11. | Prof. QIAO Sijia<br>Dr. George LIU                         | Information Retrieval and Thesis Writing                           |
| 12. | External experts   | International Financial Cooperation                                |
| 13. | Dr. XU Lifang  | Financial Markets and  |
| 14. | Prof. LI Kouqing<br>Prof. CAO Shengrong                    | Strategy Management and Leadership                                 |
| 15. | Dr. YAO Xianbin  | Development Economics  |
| 16. | Prof. XU Mingqi  | Financial System Reform in China                                   |
| 17. | Prof. CAO Shengrong  | International Business   |
| 18  | Dr. HU Yue   | Principle of Accounting  |

Note: The above Program courses and instructors may subject to some minor changes

### **3. Main Instructors Profile (In alphabetical order by family name)**

Prof. LI Kouqing

Director of ASEAN (10+3) Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO), professor and doctoral supervisor of Shanghai National Accounting Institute, Vice President of China Enterprise Management Research Association, Standing director of China Accounting Society, Vice president of China Association of Chief Accountants. He holds a doctoral degree from Business Administration from the Shanghai University of Finance and Economics. Before joining AMRO, he was President of Shanghai National Accounting Institute (Asia-Pacific Finance and Development Institute), and a member of the National Accounting Graduate Education Steering Committee.

Kelson Liu (LIU Qinghua)

Kelson Liu acts as finance director of Hologic, which is listed in Nasdaq. As a part time lecturer, the major academic cooperation partner includes SHUFE-Shanghai University of Finance & Economics, Shanghai National Accounting Institute, Beijing National Accounting Institute etc. He is a member of The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) China Expert Forum, and Global Board Director of IMA. He is also a member of US IMA – Institute of Management Accounting, US IIA – Institute of Internal Auditor, UK ACCA – The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, US AFP-Association of Finance Professional.

Prof. TONG Chengsheng

Professor of Shanghai National Accounting Institute. With Ph.D. in Management (Accounting), he is now serving as Professor of Department of Teaching and Research at Shanghai National Accounting Institute, as well as supervisor of master students at Shanghai University of Finance and Economics. With long-term teaching and research experience in the area of management accounting, cost management and financial management, he has published a number of papers in major domestic academic journals such as Accounting Research. He has also participated as a core member in the research program funded by National Social Science Foundation, and led a project subordinated to the key program funded by Department of Science of National Natural Science Foundation of China.

Prof. Shirley Xie (XIE Shilei)

Professor of the School of Accounting, Zhejiang Gongshang University, serves the school as the associate dean responsible for undergraduate



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education and international cooperation programs. She holds a Doctoral degree in Business Administration from the school of Accounting, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics. She is a reputable lecturer on International/Chinese Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS/CAS) courses, especially with over 10 years experiences in teaching ACCA paper of Financial Reporting (FR). Equipped with profound knowledge in accounting standards, she has been enrolled in the second phase of the Training Project of International High-end Accounting Talents of the Ministry of Finance China in 2019. Apart from this, she has published papers in some authoritative Chinese academic journals, presided over scientific research projects and two provincial first-class courses in Zhejiang Province.

Dr. YAO Xianbin

Former Director General of Pacific Department of the Asian Development Bank. He holds a doctoral degree from Michigan State University, USA. He has long been committed to research on the development experience of different regions, countries and sectors, engaged in the development and implementation supervision of multiple projects, participated in leading high-level policy dialogues and strategic planning, guided planning and provided financing and advisory services, promoted regional financing and knowledge partnerships. He has led the research and production of several ADB publications.

Prof. YE Jianfang

Professor and doctoral supervisor of Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, and an advisory member of the Accounting Standards Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Finance. She holds a doctorate degree in Financial management (accounting major), and a Certified public accountant in China and a Certified Public accountant in Australia. She has published more than 80 papers in authoritative journals at home and abroad, and won the excellent paper Award of Chinese Accounting Society. Presided over a number of accounting standards of the Ministry of Finance and won awards; She has published many monographs and edited "Accounting English", which was awarded the key teaching material of the Ministry of Education's "Eleventh Five-Year Plan" and "Twelfth Five-Year Plan".

Prof. ZHANG Min

Professor and doctoral supervisor, School of Economics, East China Normal University, selected as "Zhejiang Young Scholars" Talent Program of East China Normal University, holds a Doctor degree of Economics

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from University of Toronto, Canada. Her main research fields are macroeconomics, search theory, labor market and Chinese economy, and her main research results have been published in many authoritative economic journals at home and abroad. She has presided over and participated in six National Natural Science Foundation projects, served as a review expert of National Natural Science Foundation, served as an anonymous reviewer of several international authoritative journals (SSCI).

### **4. Featured Course**

Focusing on the themes of "Understanding of Chinese Government and Financial Policies", "Development and Innovation of Chinese Enterprises", "Rural Revitalization and Industrial Development of China", and "Learning of Chinese Culture and History", the field study on "China's Reform and Development" will be arranged for students to visit relevant Chinese government agencies, business enterprises, industrial clusters and cultural landmarks, to learn about China's success and lessons in social and economic development.

### **5. Program Mode**

The language of instruction is English. Classes will incorporate a mix of lectures, seminars, field visits and so on.

### **6. Program Semesters**

The program lasts for two years and is divided into four semesters. While the first three semesters focus on course learning, including a one-week long field study in each semester, and the last one focuses on thesis writing. The program schedule is as follows:

|                          |                              |                        |                       |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| The First Academic Year  | The 1 <sup>st</sup> semester | Sept. 2024- Jan. 2025  | Registration in Sept. |
|                          | Winter vacation              | Jan. - Feb. 2025       | Winter vacation       |
|                          | The 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester | Mar. -Jul. 2025        |                       |
| The Second Academic Year | Summer vacation              | Jul. - Aug. 2025       | Summer vacation       |
|                          | The 3 <sup>rd</sup> semester | Sept. 2025 - Jan. 2026 |                       |
|                          | Winter vacation              | Jan. - Feb. 2026       | Winter vacation       |
|                          | The 4 <sup>th</sup> semester | Mar. - Jul. 2026       | Graduation in July    |

### **7. Degree Thesis**

#### 1) General Requirements of Degree Thesis

Students are expected to bring specific research topics concerning

accounting or financial management to the program, as a part of thesis research preparation. They will write a thesis on a special topic independently under the guidance of their supervisors using the theory and practice of accounting and related disciplines. In some special cases, it could also be research report, or case analysis report with high standards. The thesis should be written in English with no less than 15,000 words.

## 2) Degree Thesis Defense

Degree thesis defense takes place in SNAI. A committee for Degree Thesis Defense shall comprise three to five experts with equivalent qualifications in the subject or relevant subjects, including one or two external experts who are from practitioner organizations and have senior professional and technical titles.

## 8. Degree Requirements

Students are required to successfully complete a minimum of 41 credits of course work, a master thesis and thesis defense within the required period. After meeting the above requirements and receiving the approval of SNAI Academic Degree Evaluation Committee, the Master Degree of Professional Accounting will be awarded.

## Part Two. Application

### I. Requirement

All applicants must meet the following entrance requirements:

1. Applicants must be non-Chinese citizens under 45 years old (born after September 1, 1979).
2. Applicants are required to have a valid passport, abide by the laws and decrees of the People's Republic of China as well as the rules and regulations of Shanghai National Accounting Institute, and respect the Chinese manners and customs.
3. Applicants must have attained a Bachelor's degree or above.
4. Applicants are required to have a strong English proficiency that would enable them to attend the courses taught in English. (suggested standard: IELTS score above 6.0 or TOEFL IBT score above 80)
5. All applicants shall be in good physical conditions and carry no infectious diseases which may have a serious impact on public

health or fall into any of the health situations prohibited by China's Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Laws and Regulations and able to submit the physical examination form issued by the local public hospital. The applicants with severe physical disability, hypertension, cardiovascular and cerebrovascular diseases, diabetes, cancer and other serious chronic diseases, mental diseases or infectious diseases that may cause serious public health hazards and those who are under the recovery of major surgical treatment and during acute exacerbation or pregnancy are not suggested to apply for the program. If the students are pregnant during the study in China, they will be expelled from the university according to the relevant regulations.

6. Applicants whose study or work experience relevant to the program are preferred.
7. Applicants should be mid-to-senior level government officials, senior managers at public institutions and enterprises, academicians at universities and research institutions.
8. Applicants should have potential for career development in their own fields and are willing to promote the communication and cooperation between China and their home countries.
9. Those who have already studied in China before or enrolled by other China Government Scholarship Program should not apply for this program.
10. Only applicants recognized by the Economic and Commercial Counsellor's Office of Chinese Embassy in the country that accords with the candidate's nationality will be considered.

## **II. Procedure**

### **1. Application to SNAI**

- 1) Fill the "Application Form of Master Program in Professional Accounting in Shanghai National Accounting Institute", then print, sign and attach 2-inch photo on it;
- 2) Please email to [masterprogram@afdi.org.cn](mailto:masterprogram@afdi.org.cn) for the Application

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Form;

- 3) Submit the application materials to the Economic and Commercial Counsellor's Office of the Chinese Embassy in your own country.

## 2. Materials

| Documents |                                 | Requirements   | Original | Photo copy |
|-----------|---------------------------------|--|----------|------------|
| 1         | Application Form                | Fill in the "Application Form of Master of Professional Accounting Program of Shanghai National Accounting Institute" with the complete information, then print out and sign your name and date. | 1        | 1          |
| 2         | Graduation certificate & degree | 1. Graduation certificate and degree diploma must be original documents or notarized copies either in Chinese or in English.   | 1        | 1          |
| 3         | Official academic transcripts   | 1. The transcripts must be original documents or notarized copies either in Chinese or in English.<br>2. The transcripts should include a full list of courses taken and standard achieved.      | 1        | 1          |
| 4         | Personal statement              | 1500 words in English. Please make a detailed statement from the perspectives of your academic background, work/research experience and achievements, future career plans, etc.                  | 1        | 1          |
| 5         | Research plan                   | Please write your expected learning and research mission during your study in China  | 1        | 1          |
| 6         | CV                              | In English.  | 1        | 1          |

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|    |   |  |   |   |
|----|---|--|---|---|
| 7  | Recommendation letters                              | <p>1. Two recommendation letters, one from a government official at the Deputy Director-General level or above, the other from a professor or an associate professor in field of economics (or management).</p> <p>2. The recommendation letter must be original documents either in Chinese or English.</p> | 2 | 2 |
| 8  | Copies of English language proficiency test results | If the applicants are not native English speakers or whose instruction media of tertiary education is not English, then a proof of English proficiency need to be demonstrated. (TOEFL iBT, IELTS or GRE score are desirable but not compulsory.)  | 1 | 1 |
| 9  | Photocopy of valid passport                         | <p>The passport type must be ordinary.</p> <p><b>Important:</b> All successful candidates should enter in China and register with SNAI with the same identity they used for applying for the master program at SNAI.</p>   | 0 | 2 |
| 10 | Recent passport size photos                         | One photo should be stuck on the application form.   | 2 | 0 |
| 11 | Physical examination form                           | The physical examination result should be within one month and prove that the applicant has no serious infectious disease or physical disability that could affect the study or other diseases that prohibited by China's Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Laws and Regulations                          | 1 | 1 |

### 3. Submission

1) Applicants can only apply for the scholarship program after obtaining approval and recommendation from the relevant departments of government responsible for this affair and submit the application materials according to the specific requirements of the relevant departments of their home country.

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2) If the government allows individual applicants to submit materials directly to the Chinese Embassy, the applicant must obtain the relevant certificate or recommendation letter from their home country for permission to study in China. The applicants need to submit all the application materials listed in the above table in both hard copy and scanned copy to the Economic and Commercial Counsellor's Office of the Chinese Embassy. Hard copy must include both the original copy and the photocopy, as indicated in the table.

3) The relevant government departments need to submit a written request to the Economic and Commercial Counsellor's Office of Chinese Embassy for an official recommendation letter and clearly state:

- Whether the applicant is willing to be considered for a similar program at other universities if the spaces in SNAI program are full;
- Other special requests if any.

### **Reminders:**

- 1) All the documents to be submitted should be either in Chinese or English. Otherwise, a notarized copy in Chinese or English is required;
- 2) The original documents of degrees, diploma transcripts and language certificates must be presented for on-site verification at the Economic and Commercial Counsellor's Office of the Chinese Embassy; Applicants should send the scanned copies of all documents to the contact person of the program after the verification;
- 3) Applicants will get back all the hard-copy materials, both original copies and photocopies from the Economic and Commercial Counsellor's Office. If admitted, they must take the documents to China and submit them to the International Education Center of SNAI during registration.

## II. Deadlines

The application deadline for the master program is June 7, 2024.

## Part III. Contact

Contact person: Ms. Grace DING; Ms. Kenan XU

E-mail: masterprogram@afdi.org.cn

Telephone: (86-21) 69768020 or (86-21) 69768237

Fax: (86-21) 69768233

Website: [https://www.snai.edu/AFDI\\_English.aspx](https://www.snai.edu/AFDI_English.aspx);

Address: 200 Panlong Road, Qingpu District Shanghai, 201702, P.R. China

### Notes :

1. All the application materials will not be returned whether the applicant is accepted or not.
2. No explanation will be made by the Chinese Government regarding admission results.
3. Students are not allowed to bring his/her spouse or children to accompany them while studying in China. If a student expects to have his/her spouse, children, relatives or friends to visit him/her during the stay in Shanghai, the visitor will have to bear all the expenses by him/herself.
4. Students admitted to the program should strictly adhere to the relevant laws and regulations regarding China's public health security.
5. The admission materials will include other necessary documents for visa processing.