



## Aoife Redmond

**TITLE:**  
Senior Accountant

**COMPANY:**  
Swan O'Sullivan  
Accountants

**QUALIFICATION:**  
BSc Business &  
Management, CPA

### Why did you decide to start out in a career in accountancy?

I had a keen interest in the area of business from an early age and after secondary school I attended DIT and obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Business and Management. I specialised in the Accountancy stream of the degree as this was the part of the course that interested me most. It was a natural progression from when I graduated from college to pursue a trainee accountant role in practice. I immediately knew that this was the career for me.

### How did you choose CPA Ireland as your qualification route?

My sister is also a qualified CPA so I had first-hand experience from someone who had been through the process and also the opportunities that the qualification can offer. I knew that I wanted to train in practice and the course content was relevant to that role. The application process was very straightforward with regard to obtaining exemptions. CPA was also flexible insofar as I had commenced the course at the same time that I was interviewing for trainee roles.

# CPA Profile Aoife Redmond

### Can you briefly describe your career?

I am approaching ten years with my current employer, Swan O Sullivan Accountants. I commenced working with the practice as a Junior Trainee Accountant and progressed from there to Senior Accountant. At my current level my day-to-day work life involves working closely with the Partners to assist and advise clients on accountancy and taxation matters as well as contributing to the overall growth and development of the practice. A large part of my role is centred around managing, training and progressing trainees to ensure that they are meeting their training requirements for their qualifications as well as ensuring that the work they produce is of the highest quality.

### How do you find your CPA qualification has helped you in your role?

The knowledge that I have gained from studying the course and sitting the exams is hugely relevant to my day-to-day work. The CPD courses and publications provided by CPA also assist in keeping me up to date with current issues. The skills, knowledge and experience I have gained through obtaining my qualification are invaluable in carrying out both the technical side of my role as well as mentoring and training my team.

### What do you enjoy most about your current role?

I am lucky in that our firm is continuously growing and expanding. No two days are the same and the diversity of our client base provides both challenges and learning opportunities on a daily basis. As a mentor, there is always a sense of achievement in seeing trainees take on board your knowledge and experience and seeing them grow and progress in their own careers.

### If you were advising someone just starting out with their CPA qualification, what tip would you give them that would make their journey smoother?

Embarking on the CPA qualification is a huge commitment. Assess what learning option is right for you. From my experience, I have witnessed that eLearning is not for everyone, some people benefit more from learning in a classroom environment. From a practical perspective, engage the people around you to your benefit. The sooner you apply your course knowledge to your role, the easier you will find both your work and studies. It's not the end of the world if you fail an exam. Dust yourself off and try again. There is nothing like the sense of achievement you will feel when you open those final exam results.

### What do you think are the most pressing issues for accountants?

Change; and keeping up with the regulatory environment, Taxes Acts, Companies Acts, Revenue rules and guidelines, Accountancy Standards and technology.

### How do you unwind?

Spending time with family and friends, being by the seaside and cooking.

### What traits do you admire most in others?

Hard work, willingness to learn and giving back to your team, drive and determination.