

CPA Profile

David Carroll



Title:
Associate Partner

Company:
EisnerAmper Ireland

Qualifications:
CPA, CFP, QFA

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

My first plan was to be a professional golfer! I was lucky enough to represent Leinster and Ireland and obtained a golf scholarship to Campbell University, North Carolina in the US. The core subjects of my undergraduate degree were Economics and Accountancy which I really enjoyed. Once golf was no longer a career option, I was keen to obtain a professional qualification that was very adaptable and would afford me the opportunity to gain experience across a range of different industries and sectors.

Why did you choose CPA Ireland as your qualification route?

I first came across the CPA qualification while working at State Street as several of my colleagues were pursuing the qualification there. State Street was very supportive of staff pursuing professional qualifications. CPA provided me with the opportunity, and importantly the flexibility, to work fulltime while attending lectures and studying for my exams.

Please provide a brief history of your career.

After a fantastic 4 years living and studying in the US, I returned to Ireland in 2005 and worked for a number of years as a Financial Advisor for private clients. During this time, I completed a Post Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning from University College Dublin, School of Business. I also obtained professional qualifications with the Financial Planning Standards Board of Ireland as a Certified Financial Planner (CFP) and with the Life Assurance Association as a Qualified Financial Advisor (QFA).

In 2009, I joined State Street as a Fund Accountant. My primary role was reviewing daily, weekly and monthly fund calculations in addition to preparing financial statements. I worked for 3 enjoyable years gaining experience

across a variety of fund structures and then I decided to make a career move into practice.

In 2013, I was fortunate to join EisnerAmper Ireland, a firm of specialist accountants, tax advisors and risk and regulatory experts playing a key role in bringing international trade to Ireland and advising Irish corporates.

As an Associate Partner in EisnerAmper Ireland, I lead a team which provides Audit and Internal Audit services to our Firm's Financial Services clients. I lead engagements for a range of clients reporting under Irish GAAP and IFRS including aircraft leasing entities, securitisation vehicles (special purpose vehicles, Section 110 companies) and funds. I also lead Internal Audit engagements for our regulated clients including MiFID Investment Firms, Alternative Investment Fund Managers (AIFMs) and Management Companies.

What one word describes what your CPA qualification has given you?

Opportunity.

What has been your biggest career achievement?

My biggest achievement to date was my appointment to Associate Partner in EisnerAmper Ireland.

What or who inspires you most in business?

I am really inspired by the commitment and energy of my colleagues from our trainees up to my fellow Partners. I have been fortunate to have had great mentors at different stages of my career who have encouraged me to progress and continuously challenge myself and my development. I have to mention my colleague, Diarmaid O'Keefe, who is Head of Audit at EisnerAmper Ireland. Diarmaid has been a great colleague of mine throughout my time with the Firm and I admire his energy, enthusiasm and ability to develop people to be the best

they can be.

What advice would you give to those recently qualified or currently studying for their CPA qualification?

Time management is key for anyone who is studying for a professional qualification. It can be very challenging to manage both work deliverables and study commitments so being protective of one's time is key to passing exams. For recently qualified CPA's, my advice would be to continuously challenge yourself and look for any opportunities to further enhance your existing skill set.

At EisnerAmper Ireland, our goal is to have a happy, healthy and productive team. Attracting, developing and retaining great people is essential to the continued success of our Firm. We're always interested in talking to people who love doing great work and hire across all levels into a wide variety of roles.

How do you unwind?

We recently got a golden retriever so taking her for early morning walks really helps me take time out before my workday begins and to plan my day ahead. Going for walks in the evening too helps me unwind at the end of day.

I am passionate about all sports but particularly golf having spent 4 years on a golf scholarship. I am still actively involved in Grange Golf Club in Dublin - playing and managing our elite players. A new passion which I get great enjoyment from is being involved in the coaching set up with both Terenure Rugby Club and Naomh Olaf's GAA where my 3 sons play.

What traits do you admire in others?

Honesty and integrity are fundamental for any business relationship and I enjoy being around people with a can-do attitude.