



CPA QUALITY ASSURANCE and CONTROL POLICY

Quality Assurance and Control Department - QACD

Contents

General's:	2
Use of this Policy:	2
Update History:	2
Board Approval:	2
Implementation:	2
Orientation:	2
Abbreviations:	3
CPA Afghanistan Background	4
Objective:	5
Quality Assurance and Control Department (QACD):	5
Quality Assurance and Control Committee (QACC):	5
1. Firm's Review Approach:	6
2. Review Methodology:	6
3. Duties of Quality Assurance and Control Department (QACD):	7
4. Firm Responsibilities for QCR:	8
5. Completion of Quality Control Review (QCR):	8
6. Firms Rating:	9
7. Validity and Frequency of Ratings:	10
8. Satisfactory QCR Rating Firms:	10
9. Audit Firms Appeal:	10
10. Report, Follow-Up-Review and Revisit of QCR:	11
11. Significant changes in Satisfactory QCR Rated Firms:	12
12. Privacy of Firm's and Independency by CPA:	12
13. QCR Records and Legal Proceedings:	13
14. Misconduct by Firms:	13
15. Approved Learning Providers (ALP's):	13
15.1. QCR of ALPs:	13
15.2. ALP's rating in Database:	14
15.3. Report to LP's:	14
15.4. List of Satisfactory QCR rating of ALP's:	15
15.5. ALPs Other Generals / Provisions:	15
16. Policy Approval:	16

General's:

Use of this Policy:

This policy has been prepared for the regulation of the Audit firms, individual members and Learning Providers in terms of Quality Control Review as per the CPA Afghanistan regulations, Article 23.

All audit firms will undergo a quality control review by CPA Afghanistan in accordance with the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) standards, specifically the International Standards on Quality Control (ISQC) and the International Standards on Quality Management (ISQM). Additionally, quality control reviews for learning providers will be conducted based on the regulations and requirements specified in various articles of this policy, including Article 23, Section 3 of the regulations.

Update History:

This Policy is developed in August 2024 by CPA Quality Assurance and Control Department (QACD). The plan revision is expected to be on the need of CPA. As per the CPA Afghanistan regulations Article 37, this policy will be update and reviewed by Quality Assurance and Control Department (QACD) annually, if necessary, and implement those changes after the approval of the board.

Board Approval:

CPA board of directors was engaged while the policy was being developed and had their remarks and comments beforehand, have studied and approved the Quality Assurance and Control policy in October 2024.

Implementation:

The Quality Assurance policy has been in effect since its approval by the Board. It will continue to govern operations and will include all updated rules and procedures.

Orientation:

The Quality Assurance and Control policy shall be oriented to any CPA member, whether Individual, Audit Firm and learning provider, as part of the policies to adhere to terms and conditions and all the CPA members shall know the regulations and other information mentioned in the policy for the better management of their professional tasks and duties.

Abbreviations:

MoF – Ministry of Finance

CPA Afghanistan – Certified Professional Accountants Afghanistan

QCR – Quality Control review

ISQC – International Standard on Quality Control

ISQM – International Standards on Quality Management

IFAC – International Federation of Accountants

CPD – Continuing Professional Development

QACD – Quality Assurance and Control Department

QAU – Quality Assurance Unit

IDU – Investigation and Disciplinary Unit

QACC – Quality Assurance and Control Committee

QAC – Quality Assurance Committee

IDP – Investigation and Disciplinary Panel

SOC's – State Owned Corporations

LP's – Learning Providers

ALP's – Approved Learning Providers

CPA Afghanistan Background

Certified Professional Accountants (CPA) Afghanistan was founded in 2013 as a result of the World Bank report on the observance of Standards and Codes Accounting and Auditing (ROSC A&A) in 2009 with a government-led National Steering Committee (NSC) established to coordinate and supervise the activities of the CPA Afghanistan.

CPA Afghanistan established the Quality Assurance and Control Department (QACD) with the primary objective of conducting independent Quality Control Reviews (QCR). The QACD is responsible for identifying any disciplinary issues and misconduct by both firms and learning providers concerning the audits of financial statements and reviews and ensures the quality of learning providers to uphold standards in the profession respectively.

Quality Control Reviews – QCR of audit firms and learning providers by CPA serve as a crucial mechanism for promoting accountability, professionalism, and continuous improvement within the accounting profession. These reviews contribute to the overall reliability and credibility of financial reporting, instilling confidence in the integrity of the accounting process and supporting the functioning of transparent and trustworthy industrial market in country.

Objective:

Objective of this policy is to provide clear guidelines for a conduct of Quality Control Review – QCR by CPA Afghanistan of the audit firms and Learning Providers – LPs. This policy is designed to ensure strict compliance with professional standards, enhance the quality of services, and uphold the integrity and reputation of the accounting profession within the country.

In Afghanistan, industries, banks, telecoms, state-owned corporations, NGOs, and all types of companies and consultancies must hire external auditors from firms with a satisfactory Quality Control Review (QCR) rating and registered with CPA Afghanistan. This requirement ensures high-quality auditing, enhances trust in financial reports, and improves governance. Below are the industries that must or may be required to appoint audit firms with a satisfactory QCR rating as their external auditors, in accordance with local laws and regulations or donor requirements:

- Banking sectors;
- Telecom sectors;
- Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs);
- State owned corporations; and
- All other type of companies and consultancies in Afghanistan, if required audit.

The QCR by CPA Afghanistan is to measure that firm's Quality control system is well-designed and effectively implemented according to ISQC /ISQM requirements, engagements are conducted in accordance with applicable ISAs and all relevant ethical and legal requirements applicable in Afghanistan, and firm's quality control policies and procedures have been properly applied.

Quality Assurance and Control Department (QACD):

The Quality Assurance and Control Department of CPA Afghanistan consist of two (2) units;

1. Quality Assurance Unit (QAU);

This unit is responsible for performing the QCR of the audit firms and LP's as per the ISQC /ISQM, ISA's and other relevant applicable local and international standards and regulations with rules and regulations set by the CPA Afghanistan.

2. Investigation and Disciplinary Unit (IDU);

If the quality assurance unit identifies any misconduct or disciplinary issues during their review, the matter will be referred to the Investigation and Disciplinary Unit. Furthermore, the Investigation and Disciplinary Unit will conduct timely reviews of firms as needed.

Quality Assurance and Control Committee (QACC):

This committee will consist of FIVE members. If any disciplinary issues, misconduct, or deficiencies are identified by the QACD and has not resolved by them, the matter will be referred to the Quality Assurance and Control Committee (QACC), where this committee is composed of;

- i) Quality Assurance Committee (QAC)
- ii) Investigation and Disciplinary Panel (IDP)

The committee will closely assess their related noted deficiencies and any misconduct related to firms. They will make an informed decision or, if necessary, refer the matter to the Board for an independent resolution.

1. Firm's Review Approach:

The Quality Control Review (QCR) conducted by the Quality Assurance and Control Department (QACD) of CPA Afghanistan will follow the ISQC /ISQM and applicable ethical and relevant IFAC standards of quality and review to assess compliance. This evaluation will focus on the leadership and management levels within the firm, examining the design and effectiveness of the firm's Quality control system for their engagements.

Key components of this assessment include the firm's policies and procedures, which will be evaluated for clarity and enforcement; monitoring activities to track adherence to quality control measures; the implementation of International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) to ensure global best practices are followed and the examination of key controls across all quality control areas to confirm their function effectively. This review process ensures high auditing standards, builds trust in financial reporting, and promotes quality in the accounting profession.

2. Review Methodology:

When the QACD of CPA Afghanistan visits the Audit firms for the beginning of the engagement's QCR review, so this process will involve examining working papers and financial statements of selected sampled audit engagements by QACD to assess below following various factors, but not limited to, including any other exceptional events;

- (i) Implementation of the quality control system for audits conducted and reports issued by the firm, in compliance with ISAs, relevant ethical standards, legal and regulatory requirements in Afghanistan, including CPA directives;
- (ii) Assessing the appropriateness /sufficiency and quality of audit evidence and the appropriateness of key audit judgements made by the firm, along with any other identified matters;
- (iii) The audit reports and opinions made by the firm by considering matters during client engagement;
- (iv) The discussions made by auditor for crucial issues with the clients and their final decision for them.

Audit engagements will be selected by the QACD from the most recently completed audits, including previous years' engagements if needed, to ensure that partners at each office location are properly reviewed the engagements. During the QCR, all partners will be assessed based on the QACD approach, particularly focusing on those partners in whose engagements deficiencies are noted and they will be continue as an engagement partners for future audits of their clients.

The review will ideally be conducted at the firm's premises. The QACD will create risk-based and sector-specific criteria for selecting engagements and establish a review methodology on sample basis, which must be review and approved by the Quality Assurance and Control Committee (QACC). This approach guarantees that engagement selection is grounded in a thorough risk assessment, considering specific industry factors. If deficiencies are found, their effect on the firm's overall quality control will also be evaluated.

3. Duties of Quality Assurance and Control Department (QACD):

Following are the duties of QACD and many others if provided by QACC;

Timely QCR of Firms: To facilitate timely reviews of firms that have received Satisfactory QCR ratings, the QACD will take the initiative to coordinate visit dates for each firm location. This coordination will be carried out in collaboration with the designated coordinator appointed by the firm. By working together, the QACD and the firm's coordinator will establish a schedule that ensures reviews are conducted efficiently and effectively, allowing for a smoother process and minimizing disruptions to the firm's operations. This proactive approach is essential for maintaining high standards of quality control and ensuring ongoing compliance with regulatory requirements.

Resource Allocation and Report: The QACD will allocate the necessary resources to conduct QCR on the scheduled dates and will present the reports prepared by the QACD to the QACC for consideration, in line with this framework and relevant regulations. The QACC is responsible for overseeing the quality control reviews conducted by the QACD.

Review Methodology: The QACD will develop a QCR methodology that incorporates the requirements of applicable ISQC/ISQM, ISAs, relevant ethical standards, and local laws and regulations. This methodology will cover key aspects of audits, including information technology and financial statement procedures. QACD reviewers will be required to prepare clear documentation that is understandable in terms of:

- i) Results of the review procedures performed and the evidence obtained;
- ii) Nature, timing, and extent of the review procedures performed to comply with methodology;
- iii) Matters arising during the review, the conclusions reached, and the professional judgments made in reaching those conclusions.

Documents Review and Information Access: QACD shall review the documents submitted by the audit firms for QCR and check the particulars stated therein and shall provide QACC with access to all information of which QACD is aware that is relevant to the underlying inquiry and inspection by QACC.

4. Firm Responsibilities for QCR:

The Firms shall have the following duties, but not limited to, and others if required by the QACC and QACD;

Coordination: Every firm shall appoint a focal person to coordinate the QCR on its behalf with the QACD. This individual will be responsible for providing the necessary required information to the QACD and coordinating efforts to ensure the timely completion of the QCR.

QCR Visit Time: The firm must submit all the required information to the QACD at least Three (3) months before the QCR visit. This includes names of all audit partners and managing partners who have audited /plan the audit financial statements in the past two years, or more if required by CPA, along with a list of all audit engagements done etc. in prescribed format, which will be shared by QACD, for which audit reports were issued.

Access to Information by QACD: The audit firm shall provide complete information and support to the QACD for QCR to assess compliance with relevant applicable requirements. At the time of submission, the firm must declare that its partners comply with the qualification and disqualification requirements specified in the CPA Afghanistan regulations and the firm must also ensure compliance for all the audit engagements done. Additionally, the firm shall grant access to all relevant information and any further details requested by the QACD/QACC, as well as access to individuals necessary for inquiries and inspections.

Preparation of Policies by Firm: Firms shall design and implement quality control policies and procedures, along with a monitoring system inside the firm to ensure compliance. This aims to foster an internal culture that recognizes the importance of quality in performing audit engagements.

5. Completion of Quality Control Review (QCR):

After the QACD finishes the QCR, the reviewer(s) will summarize the results and discuss them with the relevant engagement partner(s) or firm representatives. The QACD will get comments from the firm about these observations. Within 15 working days, the reviewer will prepare a Report summarizing the results and noting any deficiencies. If there are deficiencies, a draft report will be sent to the firm, asking for written comments and an Action Plan within 7 working days. Final comments will be reviewed by QACD before presenting the report and the firm's response to the QACC.

Reports prepared by QACD will be present to the QACC for approval and after approval of QACC reports will be released back to QACD for their further processing e.g. updating the firm's status in CPA Afghanistan website etc. All observations of QACD and firm's comments must be documented sufficiently for independent review by QACC.

If any issues or disagreements arise between reviewer(s) and firm, the matter shall be referred to the QACC by the QACD, if the issue still remained unresolved with QACC also, so the QACC will then escalate the issue to the board, where the board with close discussion with QACC, will take a final and independent decision regarding issue to be resolved or any legal action to be taken against the firm.

Deficiencies Noted in QCR: If deficiencies are noted in the Engagement Review of partner(s), the QACC may take one or more of the following actions:

- i) Require the partner(s) to undergo additional training as recommended by the QACC;
- ii) Require the partner(s) to go again for CPD activities as recommended by the QACC;
- iii) Will conduct Investigation and Disciplinary action, if the partner(s) do not implement the Action Plan submitted during the previous review;
- iv) Any other action if deemed necessary by the QACC.

Unsatisfactory QCR Rating: This rating will assigned to a Firms by QACC based on the nature and severity of the noted deficiencies. In this context, the QACC may consider factors including, but not limited, the following:

- i) whether the failure adversely or potentially adversely affected, a significant number of people
- ii) Whether failure involved ethical issues, such as the nature, extent, and significance of the breached standards e.g. IAS's, ISA's, IFRS, and CPA Afghanistan /Country local laws and regulations.
- iii) Financial benefit gained, or loss prevented, whether for or by the Auditor or another, as a result of the failure;
- iv) Failure to cooperate with, or hindered, the review or inspection by QACD /QACC;
- v) The firm attempted to conceal or minimize the risk of the failure being discovered, including altering audit documentation.
- vi) Whether the failure was isolated, repeated, or ongoing, and likelihood of similar failures recurring.
- vii) Deficiencies identified in most engagements selected for review of any partner(s).
- viii) Failure to implement CPA Afghanistan policies /procedures and regulations.

6. Firms Rating:

QCR rated firms seeking to renew their rating and non-QCR-rated firms required to obtain a rating must provide audit engagements done by them from any specified industry sectors in the objective of this policy above e.g. banks, telecoms, NGO's, SOC's and any other companies and consultancies etc. The rating for an existing satisfactory QCR-rated firm will be based on a new QCR decided by the QACC.

To register as a "Firm with a Satisfactory QCR rating" the compliance with all applicable CPA Afghanistan regulations with policies and procedures, country local laws and regulations, IFAC standards on quality, ISA's with the Code of Ethics is necessary.

Firms rated as Unsatisfactory in any sector or for all sectors in which the firm operates, cannot audit the financial statements for those sectors. Clients are not allowed to choose audit firms for their organization's auditing purposes, if those firms' names are not exist or are marked as (x) for the relevant auditing sector on the list of CPA Afghanistan QCR rated firms, or not registered with CPA Afghanistan.

7. Validity and Frequency of Ratings:

Firm may receive a new QCR rating before its current rating expires. In exceptional cases, the QACD can request an early review of a firm with a Satisfactory QCR rating. This may occur if the audit firm /partner is found guilty of professional misconduct by QACD /QACC identifies other circumstances that justify an early review.

Using a risk-based approach, QACD department of the CPA Afghanistan conducts regular reviews of firms with satisfactory QCR Ratings and the frequency for these firms to undergo a new QCR will be as follows:

Firms subject to QAD Review	QAD Review Frequency
Firms that issued audit reports of Bank's /Telecom's	Once every year
Firms that have issued audit reports of NGO's /SOC's	Once every 1 or 2 years
Firms that have issued audit reports of Other than above organizations	Once every 1 or 2 years

Before a firm's rating expires, it must schedule a review visit for a new QCR at least three (3) months in advance. If a firm fails to complete its QCR within the validity period of the previous rating, its name will be removed from the list of firms with Satisfactory QCR Ratings. Those firm's which requests additional time for valid reasons, the QACD may grant an extension with QACC approval. However, if they does not meet the new deadlines, they will be removed from the list of QCR rated firm's after the extended rating expires.

8. Satisfactory QCR Rating Firms:

The QACD will update and publish the list of firms on CPA Afghanistan's official website to promote transparency and public awareness. This list will include only firms rated Satisfactory or Satisfactory with improvements required by the QACC, and it will be regularly updated after QCR assessments or significant changes in the firm details.

If a firm's license is canceled by a relevant authority or if it receives an unsatisfactory rating from CPA, it will still appear on the QCR-rated firms list for its active licenses in other sectors e.g. if ABC Firm's banking license from Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB) is canceled, the CPA list will show an (x) for the banking sector, indicating the firm cannot audit that sector, while other sectors will be marked with a tick (✓), allowing audits in those areas.

The updated QCR rated list, excluding the rating category, will include the following information:

Sr. #	Firm Name	Firm Status (Local/Affiliated)	Assignment Date of Satisfactory QCR Rating	QCR Rating valid till	Audit Firm Status (Audit Firm can (✓) /can't (x) Perform Audit Engagements for);				
					Banks	Telecoms	NGO's	SOC's	Other Sectors
1	ABC	Local/Affiliated	1 Jan 2023	31 Dec 2023	x	✓	x	x	✓
2	XYZ	Local/Affiliated	1 Jan 2023	31 Dec 2025	x	x	✓	✓	x

9. Audit Firms Appeal:

If the QACC decides, to remove a firm from the List of Firms with Satisfactory QCR Ratings, the affected partner or firm can appeal to CPA Board within 10 working days of receiving the decision by mailing to CPA or physically visiting the CPA office with signed application of appeal. The Board will closely discuss and investigate the matter with QACC and maybe with the appellant, if required.

Appeals will be resolved within 45 days, unless additional documentation is needed. The final decision will be communicated by board to appellant and QACD for further processing to be done, where the firm may reinstated on the list of satisfactory QCR-rated firms or remain off the list depending on nature and extent of issue.

10. Report, Follow-Up-Review and Revisit of QCR:

Once the QACD completes the QCR of the firm and shares the report with the QACC, the final QCR report will be issued to the firm after QACC review and approval. This report will also include any identified deficiencies. If the QCR rating is satisfactory, the report will also specify the category of that rating as follows:

- i) Satisfactory; or
- ii) Satisfactory, with improvements required.

The categories will reflect the evaluation of overall significance of areas needing improvement. Any rating other than "Satisfactory," such as "Satisfactory, with improvements required," indicates that improvements are needed in one or more areas of the firm. The firm must make appropriate changes to its audit approach in subsequent years to address all identified deficiencies.

If QCR report is rated as unsatisfactory by the QACC, the reasons for this rating will be included in final report where the name of the firm will also be removed from QCR rated list of firm's on CPA Website. For rating of "Satisfactory, with improvements required," the final report will also include action plans for necessary improvements.

The firm's follow-up review will occur, in addition to any other actions that the QACC / QACD may decide to undertake, if:

- I) A firm's QCR is concluded as "Satisfactory, with improvements required," a follow-up review will be conducted the following year, or early if it deemed necessary by QACC /QACD, to assess the status of improvements and the implementation of the action plan by the firm.

Two categories of outcomes from the follow-up reviews: "*Improvement measures sufficiently completed,*" and "*Improvement measures insufficiently completed.*" If the result of the follow-up review is "Improvement measures insufficiently completed," firm will be removed from the List of Firms with a Satisfactory QCR Rating.

Revisits by QACD for the firm's QCR will occur if:

- i) New firm receives an unsatisfactory rating (*in its all or some sectors*)
- ii) Firm has been removed from List of Firms with a Satisfactory QCR Rating (*in its all or some sectors*)

If either of the above cases occurs, the firm may request a revisit of the Quality Control Review (QCR). However, this can only take place at least after six (6) months or more depending on the decision of the QACC, after the removal or the unsatisfactory conclusion provided by the QACC. The revisit must requires approval from the QACC and may also need the CPA Board's approval, depending on the nature and extent of the misconduct by the firm.

During the revisit, the QCR will assess the firm's overall quality control system, specifically focusing on engagements for which audit reports were issued after the last QCR period. This ensures a thorough examination of recent quality control practices and allowing the firm to address any identified deficiencies and enhance its overall quality control framework.

11. Significant changes in Satisfactory QCR Rated Firms:

A satisfactory QCR rated Firm shall be subject to QCR due to the following below mentioned changes, and there QCR shall be completed within one year from the date of such changes, this ensures the firm's quality control is assessed after these changes and the firms shall inform the QACD within 30 days of any changes mentioned below;

- i) Satisfactory QCR rating firms splits or most audit partners retired or resign
- ii) Induction or Issuance of an audit report by a partner not previously reported to QACD as an audit partner in the last QCR
- iii) Merger or split of the Firm(s) not included in the List of Firms having Satisfactory QCR Rating
- iv) Induction of new audit partner(s) in the Firm

If two satisfactory firms merge, the new firm will have a QCR based on the earliest due date.

12. Privacy of Firm's and Independency by CPA:

According to the approved code of conduct from IESBA, QACD staff, QACC members, Board members, and supporting staff involved in reviewing and finalizing decisions for the firm's QCR program must sign the two (2) statements of:

Statement of Confidentiality; ensures that all information from firm's remains confidential, including names, engagement partners and client details, unless authorized by the QACC.

Statement of Independence; this confirms that members are free from any interests that could compromise their objectivity during their QCR. If a QACD staff member or representative has a direct or indirect interest, either personally or through an immediate family member, they must disclose this to the QACC. Additionally, same the QACC should disclose this to the Board if necessary during their decision-making process.

If a QACC or QACD member fails to disclose their interest as required, it will be reported to the CPA Board which will take appropriate action. This ensures accountability and ethical standards in the review process. The interest disclosure will be recorded in the minutes of the QACC or QACD meeting. After disclosing, the member should:

- (i) Not participate in or be present during any discussions or decisions of the QACC or QACD; and
- (ii) Will not be considered when determining the quorum for the QACC or QACD.

All the official and other confidential communications related to the QACC and/or QACD, members must use the official email service provided by the CPA.

13. QCR Records and Legal Proceedings:

The QACD must retain all QCR reports for 7 years from the review date, and the related working papers for at least 7 years from the report date. This retention ensures documentation is available for future reference, review, and compliance. In the event of legal litigation, both the QCR reports and working papers must be kept until the litigation concludes, preserving necessary documentation for any legal proceedings or investigations. Maintaining these records is essential for supporting a thorough resolution of the litigation.

In the event of legal proceedings related to decisions made by the QACC, the matter will be handled by QACC in consultation with the CPA Board. This collaborative approach ensures that these legal issues are addressed according to CPA guidelines and applicable local laws and regulatory requirements. Involving the CPA board helps to maintain a thorough, independent and consistent approach to managing such proceedings.

14. Misconduct by Firms:

Any Misconduct done by the firm, the QACD will refer them to the QACC. When the QACD presents a matter to the QACC and still remained unresolved with QACC also, than it will be referred by QACC to the CPA Board for further investigation and final decision. Issues considered as misconduct by the QACD include, but are not limited to:

- i) Significant misrepresentation occurs during the QCR process;
- ii) Audit client /task has been outsourced to any other firm, which have no satisfactory QCR rating or not registered with CPA Afghanistan;
- iii) Engagement is accepted, or report is issued by a firm without a satisfactory QCR rating or CPA registration;
- iv) Deficiencies identified that are deemed necessary or involve any misconduct;
- v) Failure to implement CPA Afghanistan policies /procedures and regulations.

15. Approved Learning Providers (ALP's):

15.1. QCR of ALPs:

All the learning providers will be subject to a quality review by the QACD to ensure they meet the required standards. This process is essential for maintaining the quality of education and training provided to students. The quality review will follow the criteria specified in Article 23, Section 3 of the CPA Afghanistan regulations. By adhering to these guidelines, the QACD aims to ensure that learning providers deliver effective and high-quality programs that align with the professional standards of the CPA Afghanistan. This review process is crucial for upholding integrity and reputation of CPA Afghanistan and ensuring that all professional students receive the best possible training and education.

The quality review for learning providers will be conducted in accordance, but not limited to, with the conditions and requirements outlined in Article 25.1 of the CPA Membership and Licensing Policies, local laws and regulatory requirements, and other professional requirements. If CPA Afghanistan observes any irregular activities or issues with a learning provider, they have the authority to freeze, suspend or permanently terminate the learning provider's membership (License). This ensures that all learning providers maintain the necessary standards and adhere to the CPA Afghanistan's regulations.

15.2. ALP's rating in Database:

Once the QACD has completed the QCR and is satisfied with the activities and conditions met by the learning providers, their status will be updated to "Active Approved Learning Providers" on the CPA official website, after approval from the QACC. This ensures that the information available to students reflects the quality and compliance of the learning providers.

15.3. Report to LP's:

Once the QACD completes the QCR of learning provider and shares the report with QACC, the final QCR report will be issued to the learning provider after QACC review and approval. This report will also include any identified deficiencies. If the QCR rating is satisfactory, the report will also specify the category of that rating as follows:

- i. Satisfactory; or
- ii. Satisfactory, with improvements required.

The categories will reflect evaluation of the overall significance of areas needing improvement. Any rating other than "Satisfactory," such as "Satisfactory, with improvements required," indicates that improvements are needed in one or more areas of the LP. The LP must make appropriate changes to its services approach in subsequent years to address all identified deficiencies.

If QCR report is rated as unsatisfactory by the QACC, the reasons for this rating will be included in final report where the name of the learning provider will also be removed from the list of Approved Learning Providers. For rating of "Satisfactory, with improvements required," the final report will also include action plans for necessary improvements.

The learning provider follow-up review will occur in addition to any other actions that the QACD/QACC may decide to undertake if:

- i) A learning providers QCR is concluded as "Satisfactory, with improvements required," a follow-up review will be conducted by the QACD after Three (3) months of the report issued to assess the status of improvements and the implementation of the action plan by the LP.

Two categories of outcomes from the follow-up reviews: "*Improvement measures sufficiently completed,*" and "*Improvement measures insufficiently completed.*" If the result of the follow-up review is "Improvement measures insufficiently completed," the learning provider will be removed from the List of Approved Learning Providers after QACC approval.

QCR report will have a validity period set and approved by QACC, and the list will be updated on CPA Afghanistan website upon completion of QCR. If LP fails to complete its QCR within the prescribed period after previous rating, its name will be removed from list of LPs with a Satisfactory QCR Rating, after QACC approval.

Revisits by the QAD for the learning providers QCR will occur if:

- ii) A new LP receives an unsatisfactory rating
- iii) An LP has been removed from the List of ALP's with a Satisfactory QCR Rating

If either of the above cases occurs, the learning provider may request a revisit of the QCR. However, this can only take place after at least Six (6) months or more depending on the decision of the QACC. The revisit must require approval from the QACC and may also need the CPA Afghanistan Board approval, depending on the nature and extent of the misconduct.

15.4. List of Satisfactory QCR rating of ALP's:

The QACD department will update and publish the list of ALP's on CPA Afghanistan official website to promote transparency and public awareness. This list will include only LP's rated Satisfactory or Satisfactory with improvements required by the QACC, and it will be regularly updated after QCR assessments or significant changes in LP's details. The updated list, excluding the rating category, will include the following information:

Sr. #	Learning Provider Name	Learning Provider Email	Operation Commencement Date	Assignment Date of Satisfactory QCR Rating	QCR Rating valid till	Learning Provider Operating Status
1	ABC	abc@gmail.com	1 Apr 2019	1 Jan 2023	31 Dec 2023	Active
2	XYZ	xyz@gmail.com	1 Aug 2017	1 Jan 2023	31 Dec 2023	Active

15.5. ALPs Other Generals / Provisions:

All the rules and regulations for audit firms in this policy are applicable to ALP's, which will align with those specified for audit firms in this framework above, ensuring that ALPs are treated similarly as firms except of the Article 15 of this policy where it is clearly mentioned the reporting and other rules for the ALP's.

In this context, any mention of "firm" will be replaced with "ALPs," and their responsibilities and activities will be reviewed according to the established regulations for ALP's.

16. Policy Approval:

This policy has been reviewed and approved by the board of CPA Afghanistan.