ACCA

Syllabus and study guide

Business and Sustainability Reporting Ireland (S1 IRL)

September 2027 to June 2028

Designed to help with planning study and to provide detailed information on what could be assessed in any examination session.

Contents

1. Overall aim of the syllabus

The overall aim of the syllabus is to enable the application of relevant technical skills, professional judgement, and professional ethics to advise on the impact of an entity's business transactions and business model in its financial statements and in its sustainability reporting, including the ability to critique and maximise the usefulness of the resulting information for the primary users.

2. Introduction to the syllabus

The syllabus for Business and Sustainability Reporting (S1 IRL), starts by covering a wide range of IFRS® Accounting Standards, addressing issues such as the presentation of financial statements, the reporting of revenue, the accounting treatment of an array of assets, liabilities and equity items, and the content of disclosure notes. Accountants require a strong knowledge of this technical content, as well as the ability to apply it, so that they can evaluate, assess and advise on the correct accounting treatment of complex scenarios. It is also essential that the usefulness of the resulting financial information is maximised, so that the needs of the primary users are met, meaning that accountants may need to evaluate the adequacy of disclosures, or recommend the use of particular measurement models. Although financial reporting is historical, accountants must also look to the future, advising on the potential impact of transactions on the financial statements, and making strategic decisions based on published financial information.

The syllabus then moves on to consider group accounting. Of key importance is the ability to evaluate whether an investor has control, joint control, or significant influence over an investee so that the purchase or sale of the investment can be correctly accounted for in the consolidated financial statements. The impact on the consolidated statement of cash flows must also be considered. Many groups invest in companies which operate in other countries, and this requires that their financial statements are translated into the group's presentation currency, with the resulting need to measure and recognise exchange differences.

The syllabus then shifts its focus to sustainability reporting and recognises that the production of a sustainability report requires accountants to identify sustainability-related risks and opportunities (and, under some frameworks, impacts) which an entity is exposed to, and then to use the concept of materiality to assess whether information about these could be material. This syllabus requires consideration of whether a company's sustainability-related financial disclosures are compliant with the requirements of IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards® or European Sustainability Reporting Standards, and how the usefulness of the information provided in these disclosures can be maximised.

Finally, the syllabus stresses the importance of ethical behaviour, and the effects of judgements and uncertainty, when producing business and sustainability reports. The pervasive use of technology has exacerbated threats to compliance with fundamental ethical principles and it is vital that accountants are able to mitigate and reduce these threats to ensure the usefulness of the reports which they produce.

The professional skills section of the syllabus focuses on the range of professional skills candidates should be expected to demonstrate in the examination.

3. Main capabilities

On successful completion of this course of study, candidates should be able to:

- Advise on the application of IFRS Accounting Standards to a wide range of complex transactions and contemporary scenarios
- Recommend how to present information in the primary financial statements to ensure they provide useful structured summaries of an entity's assets, liabilities, equity, income, expenses, and cash flows
- Advise on the accounting treatment of a range of investments in the consolidated financial statement and prepare reports on the consolidated financial statements to management
- Advise on the material information to be disclosed in an entity's sustainability report
- Evaluate the adequacy of an entity's sustainability reporting prepared in accordance with IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards and European Sustainability Reporting Standards
- Evaluate the usefulness of financial information and sustainability-related financial information to an entity's primary users and use this information to offer insight and strategic advice to management about potential future outcomes
- Recommend, using professional judgement, actions and safeguards to minimise and eliminate threats to compliance with fundamental ethical principles in a range of contemporary business and sustainability reporting scenarios

4. Intellectual levels

The ACCA Qualification syllabus is designed to progressively broaden and deepen the technical knowledge, skills and professional values demonstrated by the candidate on their journey through the qualification.

The specific learning outcomes within the detailed syllabuses and study guides are assessed at one of three intellectual or cognitive levels:

Level 1: Knowledge and comprehension
Level 2: Application and analysis
Level 3: Synthesis and evaluation

Very broadly these intellectual levels relate to the three levels of the ACCA Qualification: Knowledge, Expertise and Strategic Professional.

Each learning outcome included in the detailed study guide is given a 1, 2 or 3 superscript, denoting its intellectual level. This gives an indication of the intellectual depth at which a learning outcome could be assessed within the examination. However, while Level 1 broadly equates with the Knowledge level, Level 2 to the Expertise level and Level 3 to the Strategic Professional level of the ACCA Qualification, some lower-level skills can continue to be assessed as the candidate progresses through each level. This reflects that at each stage of study there will be the requirement to broaden, as well as deepen, capabilities.

5. The syllabus

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E Professional skills

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A Financial reporting standards

1. Presentation and disclosure in financial statements

a) Assess whether financial information would be material to the primary users of the financial statements.[3]

b) Advise on the format, content and presentation of the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, including the reporting of discontinued operations.[3]

c) Advise on the format, content and presentation of the statement of financial position, including classification of items as current and non-current.[3]

d) Advise on the format, content, and presentation of the statement of cash flows.[3]

e) Advise on the level of aggregation and disaggregation, and the use of offsetting, in financial statements and disclosure notes.[3]

f) Advise on the disclosure of management-defined performance measures.[3]

2. Basis of preparation of financial statements

a) Advise on the financial statement impact of changes in accounting policies, changes in accounting estimates, and the correction of prior period errors.[3]

b) Evaluate whether an entity is facing going concern uncertainties and advise on the reporting implications.[3]

c) Advise on accounting policies for transactions where there is no applicable IFRS Accounting Standard through application of the Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting, including a holding of cryptocurrency.[3]

3. Revenue

a) Evaluate whether an agreement with a customer meets the criteria to be accounted for as a contract.[3]

b) Assess the number of distinct performance obligations within a contract.[3]

c) Evaluate whether the reporting entity is a principal or an agent.[3]

d) Advise on the transaction price in a contract, including the effects of variable consideration, significant financing components, non-cash consideration, and consideration payable to a customer.[3]

e) Advise on the allocation of the transaction price to the performance obligations within a contract.[3]

f) Advise on the timing and amount of revenue to be recognised from a contract.[3]

g) Advise on the accounting treatment of a contract modification.[3]

h) Advise on the treatment of the incremental costs of obtaining a contract, the costs to fulfil a contract, contract assets and receivables, and contract liabilities.[3]

4. Financial instruments

a) Assess whether a financial instrument meets the definition of a financial asset, a financial liability, equity, or a compound financial instrument.[3]

b) Evaluate which measurement model should be used when accounting for financial assets and financial liabilities, including any possible elections.[3]

c) Advise on the accounting treatment of financial assets, including initial and subsequent measurement, and derecognition.[3]

d) Advise on the accounting treatment of financial liabilities, including initial and subsequent measurement, modifications, and derecognition.[3]

e) Advise on the accounting treatment of compound financial instruments issued by the reporting entity.[3]

f) Advise on the accounting treatment of contracts to buy or sell non-financial items, including those entered for the entity's own use.[3]

g) Apply the accounting treatment of a derivative, excluding embedded derivatives.[2]

h) Apply the accounting treatment of a fair value hedge and a cash flow hedge, including the qualifying criteria.[2]

i) Advise on the measurement and accounting treatment of expected credit losses, including significant increases in credit risk, the simplified approach for trade receivables, and the approach for purchased or originated credit-impaired financial assets.[3]

5. Leases

a) Evaluate whether a contract contains a lease.[3]

b) Advise on the initial measurement and subsequent measurement of the lease liability and the right-of-use asset, including recognition exemptions, and leases with variable lease payments.[3]

c) Advise on the accounting treatment of a contract which contains both a lease and non-lease component.[3]

d) Advise on whether a lease liability requires reassessment, and the accounting treatment of any reassessment.[3]

e) Advise on the accounting treatment of a lease modification which either increases or decreases the scope of a lease.[3]

f) Evaluate whether a lease is a finance lease or an operating lease from the perspective of the lessor.[3]

g) Advise on the accounting treatment of a finance lease and an operating lease in the financial statements of the lessor.[3]

h) Advise on the accounting treatment of a sublease.[3]

i) Evaluate whether the transfer of an asset in a sale and leaseback transaction is a sale.[3]

j) Advise on the accounting treatment of a sale and leaseback, including transactions where the consideration received does not equal the fair value of the underlying asset.[3]

6. Employee benefits

a) Evaluate whether a pension plan is a defined contribution plan or a defined benefit plan.[3]

b) Advise on the accounting treatment of a defined contribution pension plan.[3]

c) Advise on the accounting treatment of a defined benefit pension plan, including the accounting consequences of settlements and curtailments (including mid-year settlements and curtailments), plan amendments, and the asset ceiling test.[3]

d) Advise on the accounting treatment of short-term employee benefits.[3]

e) Advise on the accounting treatment of termination benefits.[3]

7. Share-based payments

a) Advise on the accounting treatment of equity-settled share-based payments and cash-settled share-based payments, including modifications, cancellations, and settlements.[3]

b) Advise on the accounting treatment of share-based payments where the reporting entity or the counterparty is provided with a choice of settlement.[3]

8. Property, plant and equipment

a) Advise on the recognition, initial and subsequent measurement, and derecognition of property, plant and equipment, including bearer plants.[3]

9. Intangible assets

a) Advise on the recognition, initial and subsequent measurement, and derecognition of intangible assets.[3]

10. Investment property

a) Advise on the recognition, initial and subsequent measurement, and derecognition of investment property.[3]

b) Advise on the accounting treatment where there has been a change of use, either from or to an investment property.[3]

11. Non-current assets held for sale

a) Evaluate whether a non-current asset or a disposal group meets the criteria to be classified as held for sale.[3]

b) Advise on the accounting treatment and presentation of an asset or disposal group classified as held for sale.[3]

12. Impairment of assets

a) Assess whether an asset or cash-generating unit should be tested for impairment.[3]

b) Advise on the determination of cash-generating units, and the measurement of value in use and fair value less costs of disposal.[3]

c) Advise on the measurement and accounting treatment of an impairment loss, or the reversal of an impairment loss.[3]

13. Business combinations

a) Assess whether a transaction is the purchase of assets or a business combination.[3]

14. Agriculture

a) Advise on the recognition, initial and subsequent measurement, and derecognition of biological assets and agricultural produce.[3]

15. Inventories

a) Advise on the recognition, initial and subsequent measurement, and derecognition of inventories.[3]

16. Government grants

a) Advise on the accounting treatment of government grants and government assistance, including non-monetary government grants.[3]

17. Borrowing costs

a) Advise on the accounting treatment of borrowing costs, including those which are directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of qualifying assets.[3]

18. Provisions, contingent liabilities and contingent assets

a) Advise on the recognition, initial and subsequent measurement, and the use of provisions.[3]

b) Advise on the accounting treatment when expenditure required to settle a provision is expected to be reimbursed.[3]

c) Advise on the disclosure of contingent assets and contingent liabilities.[3]

19. Exchange rates

a) Advise on an entity's functional currency.[3]

b) Advise on the reporting of transactions which are denominated in a currency other than the entity's functional currency.[3]

20. Deferred tax

a) Advise on the deferred tax implications of accounting transactions, including lease contracts and equity-settled share-based payments.[3]

b) Evaluate whether a deferred tax asset should be recognised in respect of the carry forward of unused tax losses.[3]

c) Advise on the deferred tax implications of preparing consolidated financial statements.[3]

21. Fair value

a) Assess whether a market for an asset or liability is active.[3]

b) Assess the principal and most advantageous market for an asset.[3]

c) Advise on the fair value measurement of assets and liabilities, including the use of valuation techniques, the fair value hierarchy, and the concept of highest and best use.[3]

22. Events after the reporting period

a) Evaluate the impact on the financial statements of events after the reporting period.[3]

23. Operating segments

a) Evaluate whether a component of an entity meets the definition of an operating segment.[3]

b) Recommend whether two or more operating segments may be aggregated into a single operating segment.[3]

c) Advise on which operating segments should be separately reported in the operating segments disclosure note.[3]

24. Related parties

a) Advise on the related parties of a reporting entity and the implication for the financial statements.[3]

25. Separate financial statements

a) Advise on the accounting treatment of subsidiaries, associates, and joint ventures in the separate financial statements.[3]

26. The usefulness of financial information

a) Evaluate the usefulness of financial statements and other financial information (including management-defined performance measures, additional performance measures, and disclosure notes) to the primary users through application of the fundamental and enhancing qualitative characteristics of useful financial information.[3]

b) Evaluate the impact of different accounting policy choices, main business activities, and measurement models on entities' financial statements and their primary users.[3]

c) Recommend which measurement model would provide the most useful financial information to the primary users of the financial statements in situations where IFRS Accounting Standards permit a choice.[3]

27. Strategic advice

a) Advise on the potential impact of management proposals on cash flows, financial position, and financial performance, including earnings per share and diluted earnings per share.[3]

b) Evaluate management's plans and decisions by using information prepared in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards.[3]

B Consolidated financial statements

1. Subsidiaries

a) Evaluate whether an investor has control over an investee.[3]

b) Advise on the application of the acquisition method, including information obtained within and outside of the measurement period.[3]

c) Advise on the measurement and recognition of impairment losses, including goodwill impairment losses, in the consolidated financial statements.[3]

d) Apply the accounting treatment of a subsidiary acquired exclusively with a view to subsequent disposal.[2]

e) Advise on the accounting treatment of a business combination in which control has been achieved in stages.[3]

f) Advise on the accounting treatment of a transaction which increases or decreases the parent's ownership of a subsidiary.[3]

g) Advise on the accounting treatment and presentation of a transaction in which an investor loses control over the investee.[3]

h) Advise on the impact of subsidiaries, including acquisitions, disposals and dividends, in the consolidated statement of cash flows.[3]

i) Advise on the accounting treatment of a subsidiary which prepares its separate financial statements in a different currency to the group's presentation currency, including its acquisition or disposal, in the consolidated statement of financial position and the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.[3]

2. Associates and joint arrangements

a) Evaluate whether an investor has significant influence over an investee.[3]

b) Evaluate whether an investor has joint control over an investee.[3]

c) Evaluate whether a joint arrangement is a joint venture or a joint operation.[3]

d) Advise on the accounting treatment of a joint operation.[3]

e) Advise on the application of the equity method, including any difference between the cost of the investment and the investor's share of the fair value of the investee's identifiable net assets.[3]

f) Assess whether an associate or joint venture is impaired and advise on the measurement and recognition of any impairment loss.[3]

g) Advise on the accounting treatment when an investment ceases to be an associate or joint venture.[3]

h) Advise on the impact of associates and joint arrangements in the consolidated statement of cash flows.[3]

i) Advise on the accounting treatment of an associate or joint venture which prepares its separate financial statements in a different currency to the group's presentation currency, including its acquisition or disposal, in the consolidated statement of financial position and the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.[3]

3. Preparing consolidated financial statements

a) Apply relevant principles to prepare a consolidated statement of financial position, consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, or consolidated statement of cash flows (or an extract thereof) by adjusting a draft statement for a range of accounting errors and omissions.[3]

C Sustainability reporting

1. Reporting sustainability-related risks and opportunities

a) Assess the benefits and costs of sustainability-related financial disclosures to preparers and users.[2]

b) Apply the definitions of Scope 1, Scope 2 and Scope 3 greenhouse gas emissions in order to categorise and disclose and entity's greenhouse gas emissions.[2]

2. IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards

a) Advise on the sustainability-related risks and opportunities which could reasonably be expected to affect an entity's prospects through consideration of its value chain, its resources and relationships, and its dependencies and impacts.[3]

b) Assess whether information about a sustainability-related risk or opportunity could be material to the primary users and assess the impact on the sustainability-related financial disclosures.[3]

c) Evaluate climate-related disclosures and other sustainability-related financial disclosures in relation to governance, strategy, risk management, and metrics and targets.[3]

d) Evaluate the adequacy of the comparative data and comparative information presented in sustainability-related financial disclosures.[3]

e) Advise on the impact of measurement uncertainty, prior period errors, and events and conditions which occur after the end of the reporting period on sustainability-related financial disclosures.[3]

f) Advise whether information can be omitted from sustainability-related financial disclosures on the grounds of commercial sensitivity.[3]

g) Evaluate the interconnectedness between sustainability-related financial disclosures and the financial statements.[3]

3. The usefulness of sustainability-related financial information

a) Evaluate the usefulness of sustainability-related financial information to the primary users through application of the fundamental and enhancing qualitative characteristics of useful sustainability-related financial information.[3]

4. Strategic advice

a) Advise on the potential impact of management proposals on sustainability-related financial disclosures.[3]

b) Evaluate management's plans and decisions by using information prepared in accordance with IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards.[3]

5. European Sustainability Reporting Standards

a) Advise on the meaning and application of double materiality, including the process to identify and assess material impacts, risks and opportunities.[3]

b) Advise on an entity's material sustainability-related impacts, risks and opportunities.[3]

c) Evaluate the disclosure of an entity's material sustainability-related impacts, risks and opportunities and their interaction with the entity's strategy and business model.[3]

d) Evaluate climate-related disclosures in relation to governance, strategy, impact, risk and opportunity management, and metrics and targets.[3]

D Ethics and the impact of judgement and uncertainty

1. Ethical behaviour

a) Evaluate whether the preparation of financial information and sustainability-related financial information, including the use of artificial intelligence (AI), is in accordance with the ACCA Code of Ethics and Conduct.[3]

b) Evaluate whether the collection, storage, use and sharing of data by accountants is in accordance with the ACCA Code of Ethics and Conduct.[3]

c) Assess the consequences of unethical behaviour when preparing business and sustainability reports.[3]

d) Recommend actions and safeguards which can be taken to resolve or minimise ethical issues and ethical threats.[3]

2. The impact of judgement and uncertainty

a) Evaluate the impact of management estimates and judgements on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.[3]

b) Assess the potential impact on the financial statements if actual outcomes differ from the estimates used when measuring assets, liabilities, income and expenses.[3]

E Professional skills

1. Communication

a) Inform concisely, objectively and unambiguously, adopting a suitable style and format, and using appropriate technology.[3]

b) Advise using compelling and logical arguments, demonstrating the ability to counter argue where appropriate.[3]

c) Clarify and simplify complex issues to convey relevant information in a way which adopts an appropriate tone and is easily understood by, and reflects the requirements of, the intended audience.[3]

2. Analysis and evaluation

a) Investigate relevant information from a range of sources, and use appropriate numerical techniques, to advise on the accounting treatment and presentation of transactions in business and sustainability reports.[3]

b) Consider information, evidence and findings in a careful and structured way, including the ability to identify and utilise relevant principles from relevant accounting and sustainability standards and reflecting on the implications for business and sustainability reports.[3]

c) Assess and apply appropriate judgement when making decisions about measurement, recognition, disclosure, and presentation, considering the implications of such decisions on current and future business and sustainability reports.[3]

3. Scepticism

a) Explore the underlying reasons behind plans and decisions, applying the attitude of a questioning mind, beyond what is immediately apparent.[3]

b) Challenge and critically assess the opinions presented or decisions made through application of relevant accounting and sustainability standards.[3]

4. Commercial acumen

a) Demonstrate awareness of organisational and wider external factors affecting the information to be presented and disclosed in business and sustainability reports.[3]

b) Recognise key issues in determining how to address or resolve problems and use judgement in proposing and recommending solutions which are in accordance with relevant accounting and sustainability standards.[3]

7. Approach to examining the syllabus

The Business and Sustainability Reporting (S1 IRL) examination builds upon the technical knowledge and skills developed in the E2 Financial Reporting examination. At the Strategic Professional level, candidates will be expected to demonstrate an integrated approach to the subject combined with professional skills to evaluate and advise on the impact of an entity's business transactions and business model in its financial statements and in its sustainability reporting to maximise the value of financial information and meet the needs of the primary users. The study guide specifies the wide range of contextual application which is required to achieve a satisfactory standard at this level.

The syllabus is assessed by a three-hour 15-minute computer-based examination.

The examination will consist of two sections:

Section A will contain one 50-mark question

Section B will contain one 30-mark question and one 20-mark question

Section A

Section A of the examination will be a 50-mark scenario-based question based on a group accounting scenario. The 50 marks will comprise 36 technical marks, eight professional ethics marks, and six professional skills marks. The professional skills examined in Section A will be communication, and analysis and evaluation.

In Section A, candidates will be required to apply their technical accounting knowledge to advise on the accounting treatment needed to correct a range of transactions in the consolidated financial statements. The technical marks will cover syllabus sections A and B.

Section A will also require candidates to prepare one draft consolidated financial statement (or extract thereof) by correcting a draft statement provided in a pre-populated spreadsheet response option. This could be a statement of financial position, a statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, or a statement of cash flows.

In Section A, there will always be a requirement which covers syllabus area D1, in that it tests a candidate's ability to apply ethical principles to identify threats to compliance with the ACCA Code of Ethics and Conduct. Candidates will also be required to recommend appropriate safeguards and actions to minimise those threats. The scenario itself could cover topics from syllabus sections A, B, or C.

Section A will ask candidates to produce a response in a specific format, for example a report to the board of directors.

Section B

Section B contains one 30-mark question and one 20-mark question.

The 30-mark question will comprise 26 technical marks and four professional skills marks. It could examine syllabus sections A and B, and syllabus area D2.

The 20-mark question will comprise 18 technical marks and two professional skills marks. This question will be set within a sustainability context, and will always examine syllabus section C. The question may also examine syllabus sections A and B, and syllabus area D2.

The professional skills which will be examined across Section B will be analysis and evaluation, scepticism, and commercial acumen.

8. Guide to ACCA examination structure and delivery mode

The structure of examinations varies, depending on the level of the qualification.

The Strategic Professional level is comprised of Essentials and Options examinations. The Strategic Professional examinations contain 100% compulsory questions to encourage candidates to study across the breadth of each syllabus.

The Essential examinations are S1 Business and Sustainability Reporting and S2 Strategic Business Leader.

The S1 Business and Sustainability Reporting examination contains two sections and is comprised of 80 technical marks and 20 professional ethics and professional skills marks.

S2 Strategic Business Leader is ACCA's case study examination and includes pre-seen information which is released to candidates two weeks prior to the examination sitting. The pre-seen information contains background and contextual details in order for candidates to familiarise themselves with the fictitious organisation which they will be examined on and the industry in which it operates. This examination contains 80 technical marks and 20 professional skills marks.

All Options examinations have two sections and contain a total of 80 technical marks and 20 professional skills marks.

All Strategic Professional examinations are assessed by three-hour 15-minute computer-based examinations. ACCA will provide permitted reference materials for candidates to use during the examinations.

The pass mark for all Strategic Professional examinations is 50%.

9. Guide to ACCA examination assessment

ACCA reserves the right to examine anything contained within the study guide at any examination session. This includes knowledge, techniques, principles, theories, and concepts as specified.

For specified financial accounting, audit and tax examinations, except if indicated otherwise, ACCA will publish examinable documents once a year to indicate exactly what regulations and legislation could potentially be assessed within identified examination sessions. Regulation issued, or legislation passed on or before 31 August annually, will be assessed from 1 September of the following year to 31 August of the year after. Please refer to the examinable documents for the examination (where relevant) for further information.

Regulations issued or legislation passed in accordance with the above dates may be examinable if the effective date is in the future, unless explicitly stated otherwise in the syllabus and study guide or examinable documents. The terms ‘issued’ or ‘passed’ relate to when regulation or legislation has been formally approved.

The term ‘effective’ relates to when regulation or legislation must be applied to entity transactions and business practices.

The study guide offers more detailed guidance on the depth and level at which the examinable documents will be examined. The study guide should therefore be read in conjunction with the examinable documents list, where applicable.

10. Learning hours and education recognition

The ACCA Qualification does not prescribe or recommend any particular number of learning hours for examinations because study and learning patterns and styles vary greatly between people and organisations. This also recognises the wide diversity of personal, professional and educational circumstances in which ACCA candidates find themselves.

As a member of the International Federation of Accountants, ACCA seeks to enhance the education recognition of its qualification on both national and international education frameworks, and with educational authorities and partners globally. In doing so, ACCA aims to ensure that its qualifications are recognised and valued by governments and regulatory authorities and employers across all sectors. To this end, ACCA qualifications are currently recognised on the educational frameworks in several countries. Please refer to your national education framework regulator for further information about recognition.

11. Irish guidance notes

The main purpose of these Guidance Notes is to highlight the modifications made to the S1 IRL examination in the ACCA Qualification in order to reflect legislation and practice in the Republic of Ireland.

If a candidate lives, or intends to live, in the Republic of Ireland, or are an Irish national resident in another country, they may wish to sit examinations adapted to reflect Irish legislation and practice. At the time of registration, the candidate may choose to enter for either the International (S1 INT) or the Irish adapted (S1 IRL) examination.

The S1 IRL examination is adapted from the S1 INT examination. It is checked by Inspectors who are conversant with Irish legislation and practice to ensure that it is suitable for Irish Stream candidates.

Accounting Standards

S1 INT and S1 IRL examine IFRS Accounting Standards.

Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD)

SI No. 336/2024 was signed into law in July 2024, with additional updates SI No.498/2024 requiring the reporting and assurance of large companies and listed companies to report on their environmental, social and economic impacts and strategies. SI No. 309/2025 European Union (Corporate Sustainability Reporting) Regulations 2025 has clarified the scope and companies required to report sustainability information.

S1 INT and S1 IRL examine IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards, however, the S1 IRL examination will also cover European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS). Section 6 of this document details the specific areas of ESRS which are examinable.

Sources of information

Candidates who are sitting S1 IRL may obtain further information and advice from ACCA's Irish Office. The contact details are as follows:

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The Office is open from 9.00am until 5.00pm Monday to Friday. Staff are available to help candidates who may have queries or problems ranging from exemption from ACCA's examinations, experience for membership, training schemes, vacancy lists, information on colleges, details on Open Learning and district/functional society activities amongst others.

