

THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT, PROFESSIONAL ETHICS AND THEIR IMPACT ON SOCIETY

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Abstract

The professions have been governed by a code of ethics in which it frames the way they should develop in their profession before society, framing the various values with which to have a better understanding between individuals. The public accountant is a professional prepared to develop various tasks, with which he helps to interpret various sources of financial information, as well as laws and regulations that are related to the accounting, business, and tax field, for their due compliance helping the administration through its reports and analysis to make the appropriate decisions for the well-being of the organization. The development of professional ethics within the professions has generated an important impact within society, with which the behavior of these professionals is efficient for growth and an adequate social environment where values and civic and ethical assets proliferate more recurrently so that society has an adequate coexistence environment. The research presented will address through documentary form the value of professional ethics in the public accountant and how this in turn generate an important impact within society by putting them into practice.

Keywords: *public accounting, companies, ethics, profession, society.*

INTRODUCTION

Professions have been developed for many years, taking great importance for a significant development of social growth, by preparing people in various subjects which are responsible for fulfilling a specific role within society, professions are specific activities carried out by people to fulfill such activity in an appropriate and efficient manner, to which it is compensated in an economic way.

The public accountant is a trained professional, who keeps an efficient control over the finances of either a person or a company where he efficiently records each of the costs and expenses incurred, to keep an adequate control where the financial situation of the company is reported in a timely manner, for help in decision-making, the task of the accountant is not only to keep an efficient control of finances but not to verify that the various laws and regulations governing the entire business economic environment are being complied with correctly, as well as the due fulfillment of their obligations to the tax authorities, that they are the corresponding body to monitor that all people with any business activity or salaried workers comply with their obligations in a timely manner, as well as apply the law when it is needed in case of any problem.

Public accountants have been developing their knowledge over the years, they have been reinforcing and discovering new ways to make existing accounting systems more effective, which facilitate the help to carry out accounting in a more effective way.

Just as the growing development of this profession has also generated an economic impact within society this due to the financial control that is had over the finances of various people who fully trust in the sincere judgment of the accountant, so ethics plays an important role for the professional development of these, since it establishes the relationship that people should have with their environment, offering an accounting service is not only to capture and make the financial statements, but also applying the values with which a sense of responsibility was sought assuming the duties that you have as a professional in an honest and dignified way.

The research will address the issue of professional ethics in the public accountant from a descriptive point where it will be mentioned how the accountant and his ethics have generated a great impact on society, especially at economic levels.

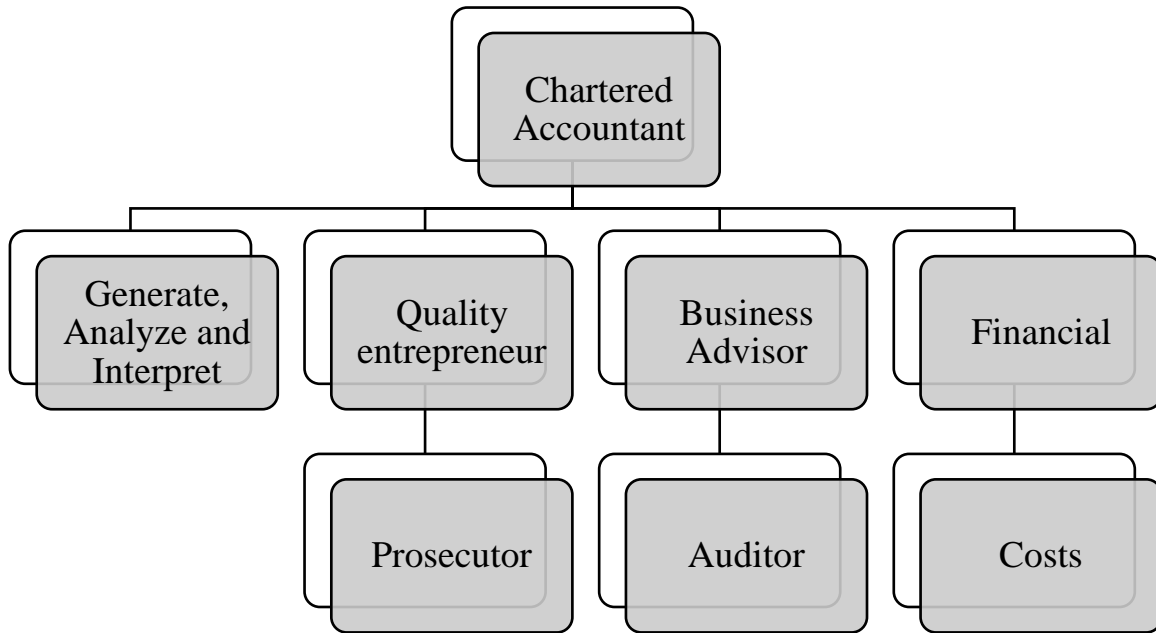
METHOD

The professional ethics of the public accountant represents the behavior, which must have before society, since it must be adequate and according to their profession, providing the necessary support in an effective way with their environment, so to raise this research will be carried out applying the qualitative method support of the documentary method, the first being defined by Guerrero (2016). As the Qualitative research that focuses on understanding and deepening the phenomena, analyzing them from the point of view of the participants in their environment and in relation to the aspects that surround them. While Botero Bernal, A. (2003). He defines documentary research by mentioning that it serves to promote the development of reflective and critical capacities in the researcher, forcing him to make his own effort by approaching various sources of information, being a more reflective process than the other that is limited to the description of quantitative variables found in an empirical work.

Who is the CPA?

The public accountant is a professional prepared to carry out a financial control over the resources of people or companies that carry out some economic activity, since its purpose is to inform about the costs and expenses in which they incur as well as to verify and ensure that all the obligations imposed by the corresponding tax authorities are being duly complied with. The Mexican Institute of Public Accountants defines it as: A professional capable of exercising various tasks which help an efficient development for companies helping them to have a better decision making and helps to give a better understanding about business by knowing in a more appropriate way the economic environment in which the company develops. in Figure 1 it specifically defines the various tasks it can perform.

Figure 1.- What is a public accountant according to the IMCP?



Own elaboration. **Source:** Instituto Mexicano de Contadores Públicos, (IMCP)

In the figure presented describes various aspects that you have as a public accountant which denotes the great capacity you have to develop in various areas, thus demonstrating the knowledge that each of them has to be efficient in each of their professional activities, helping not only to have a financial control of the company, if not also advising and helping for better decision making as well as identifying possible errors or frauds that may affect the companies and especially their profits, generating a better organizational environment in respect of it every organization has specific characteristics that model the organizational climate, being key factors of management, actions, performance and new challenges. A fundamental element is the institutional climate, which has an impact on the conditions that will achieve the fulfillment of the established objectives. (Martínez et. al. 2021).

Accountants have a very important task that is to safeguard the financial situation of the entities where they are developing their activity, so that it is more efficient and uses resources in a more effective way saving on expenses and maintaining adequate costs to be able to be competent and obtain an adequate profitability, always complying before the current regulations.

the exercise of the accounting profession also requires general rules that regulate the actions of professionals and their ethical behavior, when preparing the financial information of companies, as well as in all actions that are directly or indirectly related to the exercise of the profession.

Professional ethics

The issue of ethics has existed for several years, this is because through it the correct behavior of individuals with another within the same society is sought, seeking the common good for all through acts of morality with which an adequate conduct and coexistence is sought for an adequate environment before others. For Jiménez (2016).

Ethics are norms, guidelines, parameters that dictate and define the best way to act to achieve an ideal behavior whose function is to regulate behavior. ethics has been considered as general principles, theory, science, and part of philosophy; however, regardless of the approach with which ethics is studied, it could be understood to be A body of knowledge that addresses the nature of human actions in social life, from the perspective of moral concepts and precepts. (Hernandez, 2014) in the same context Adler (2003). He mentions one of the basic values within professional ethics where he describes it in 4 important points:

- Take charge.
- The ability to answer for one's actions to others and to oneself.
- An obligation, recognized by the professionals themselves.
- Self-realization.

The points described demonstrate the various factors to which every professional must submit to efficiently apply professional ethics within society. Garcia (2005). He mentions that ethics deals with the way of living humanly; it is the science that studies the action of man to his own realization, in all fields and in an integral way; as well as the effects or consequences of human action.

Society has had great changes with the implementation of ethics in it, having a way to help in the appropriate behavior within society as well as an adequate coexistence helps to sustain the foundations of an integrated society with values.

The sociable environment has had several changes to seek an appropriate behavior between individuals so applying it within the professions has meant an important help to continue with a growth where there are responsibilities and values, but above all where morality is always there, to safeguard social coexistence.

Impact Of Accountant Ethics on Society

Ethics in society implies an important development for the proper behavior between individuals where the application of values and responsibilities is significant to have an adequate environment and to make society can have an appropriate growth in the place where they are.

The impact generated by ethics in society has been significant for the development of people by having values with which a free coexistence is marked between the various individuals that make up a society, with whom through these values they delimit their way of acting in certain aspects to avoid conflicts and cause damage to the sociable environment where it is located.

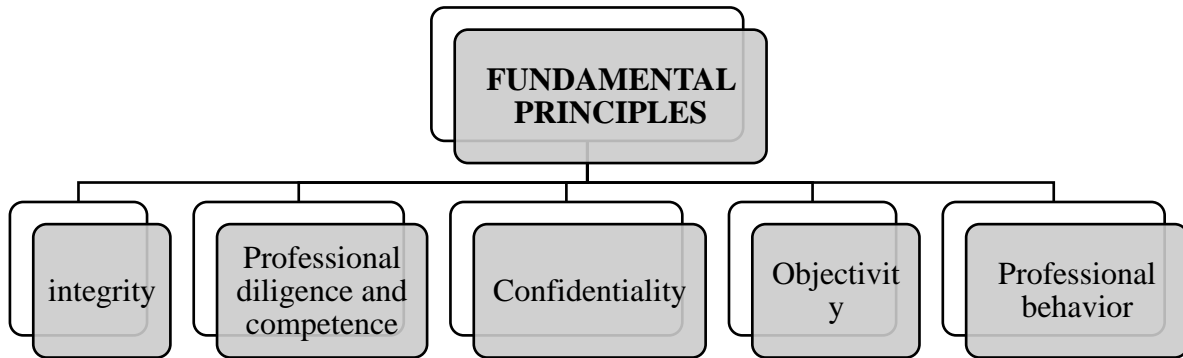
One of the important points equals to highlight is social mediation, which Silva (2021). It mentions that it is to understand particularities of the group or community that allow to revalidate those same particularities, to improve the conditions of coexistence between the members and future generations.

The professions have been of great help for the social and economic growth of various social environments, where through their knowledge they help the well-being and satisfaction of the needs of individuals to obtain an economic remuneration. A professional is prepared for any situation if it was developed in an environment where their knowledge can be applied, to meet their objectives efficiently to provide the best possible work. The professional transformation of a Public Accountant then lies in the knowledge of his environment and the economic and social reality, in the relationship he makes of his knowledge and in being trained to analyze everything that intervenes in his function, but above all in thinking about the common welfare and not in the. (Vallejo et. al. 2011).

The purpose of professional work is the common good. The training that is required to exercise this work is always oriented to a better performance within the specialized activities for the benefit of society, otherwise, a profession becomes a means of profit or honor, or simply, in the instrument of the moral degradation of the subject himself. Hernandez (2010).

Therefore, professional ethics when applied in terms of professions helps individuals to develop their activities in a more effective way to their environment, so that their jobs are efficient and generate a great impact where they are, giving to demonstrate all the knowledge acquired. Figure 2 shows the fundamentals that every CPA must follow to effectively apply professional ethics.

Figure 2. Fundamental principles of the public accountant in professional ethics



Own elaboration. **Fountain:** Código de Ética Profesional.IMCP (2018)

Public accounting is governed by various ethical and moral aspects with which it seeks to dignify its profession as well as to do good for society, through its principles that govern it as a professional that its social behavior is adequate and is responsible to any client or company where it develops its activities.

The accountant is a professional with one of the most important jobs, which in most cases is to take financial control of the commercial entities in which various economic activities are developed to meet social needs, therefore helps by reporting properly through reports and the realization of financial statements to how the company is economically, and whether it is profitable or not, so that managers can make the right decisions for the benefit of it.

DISCUSSION

Ethics is an issue that frames society by various factors one of them is the lack of values of certain individuals which unbalance the healthy coexistence within society, ethics is a transversal concept of different disciplines, areas, and moments, regarding which, various authors have studied and written about moral systems, in search of the good to achieve social stability and therefore happiness. (Mancilla et.al. 2018). That is why the ethical issue has generated a great impact

on professional development, since through its application it helps the way in which professions should progress with society, although despite this certain professionals leave aside each of these values having improper acts that generate economic damage to entities or people who are involved involuntarily, therefore, applying a professional ethic will not always ensure that professionals behave appropriately, despite the fact that most do, that small part that does not have an ethics as an accountant, will indirectly affect society.

RESULT

The research showed that professional ethics represents an important point for the environment where people grow, by applying values and responsibilities in which it is sought to have a system where people coexist correctly with each other, respecting each other, since effectively applying the way in which an individual should behave within society helps this as it grows, have the right knowledge about how to deal with other individuals as well as their environment to be in harmony. The same happens with the professional ethics of the public accountant, in this research it was demonstrated how this profession when applying ethics becomes more efficient as well as giving it a greater sense of responsibility according to each of its objectives for an effective development by carrying out each of its activities more responsibly and efficiently creating an adequate environment for a better coexistence with other individuals.

CONCLUSION

The application of ethics, in society has brought various approaches and conflicts deciphering what is their mission for each of them, this is because a certain part of society sets them aside, behaving inappropriately causing havoc within society, therefore the proper application of ethics should not only be done through autonomous or governmental bodies, if not to do it in their own way, effectively applying code of ethics that are efficient for an adequate business development, with which they can obtain benefits as well as an improved economic growth.

The issue of ethics in the professions has become a fundamental part of the growth of these individuals who in their professional career acquire the necessary knowledge to develop in a specific economic activity for mutual benefit and society, showing how a discipline where ethics is present is integrated by principles and values that represent professionals as responsible people who will carry out their activities correctly. avoiding conflicts and problems that may cause problems in the social environment.

Public accounting has generated a great impact on the social environment, but especially on the business environment, by having efficient control over the financial situation of these, recording the costs and expenses in which they incur, in order to analyze and report in a detailed way the administration the economic situation in which they find themselves, to help better decision making.

It is concluded that professional ethics in the public accountant has a great impact on their personal development as well as before society, demonstrating that the action of the professional must always be with values and respect for other individuals, to have an adequate environment where they respect each other, avoiding conflicts that affect the common welfare.

The task of the accountant is not only to keep an adequate control over the resources of commercial entities and people, but also to apply his knowledge for help and growth of the ones, contributing part of his knowledge for the well-being of them and having a greater impact on the cause of the economic growth of society.

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