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**Press Release**

# BKR International sets up worldwide scholarship programme for young accountancy practitioners

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**Young future accounting practitioners around the world are to benefit from a scholarship program that will see them awarded \$2,000 to put towards some of the costs they will incur in the process of obtaining a professional accounting designation, thanks to BKR International, a leading association of independent accounting and business advisory firms. The award will be in recognition of academic or career achievement.**

The Asia Pacific chairman of BKR International, which represents the expertise of more than 135 firms in 300 offices around the world, Peter Chong said: "Quality people are the heart and soul of a professional accounting practice. We at BKR recognise that in order to maintain the flow of our future leaders in the profession we need to assist in the early stages of career development."

"In many countries throughout the world, including developed countries, many bright students face the challenges, both academic and financial, of attaining a professional accounting designation. BKR's hope is that this scholarship program, in some small way, will give a helping hand to some of these young people."

Six awards will be made to students each year, two in each of the three BKR regions, Europe Middle East and Africa, the Americas, and Asia Pacific.

Stephen Hamlet Executive Director of the EMEA region who is based in London said: "Through this initiative, BKR International is sending a clear message to young people around the world, that our economy's future depends on education and professional training. Not only in developing countries, but even in the United Kingdom, pressures are increasing due to high university costs and the added uncertainty for future employment. BKR members will be given the chance to promote recognition of a particular individual's dedication and enthusiasm to better themselves in such struggling times."

Mr Chong added: "The young practitioners must be working toward obtaining a professional accounting qualification and to have shown some initiative or innovation in their daily work, studies or a special project. They may, but do not need to be working with the local member firm."

Recipients will be proposed by the local firm and approved by the regional board and awards will be made at regional conferences.

- Ends -

*BKR International is a worldwide association of independent accounting, taxation and business advisors which brings together firms that offer up-to-date global expertise. BKR member firms are large enough to offer a full range of independent and objective advisory services, but small enough to attend to specific needs and offer personalised attention. BKR member firms can be depended upon for practical services to clients through highly trained, skilled and motivated professionals.*

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