

BRIEF WRITE UP ABOUT CFA (US)

WHAT IS CFA?

If the candidates are serious about a career in finance, the CFA (Chartered Financial Analyst) program can help you achieve your place among the elite in the profession.

Administered by CFA Institute, the CFA Program offers you a graduate level curriculum and examination program intended to expand your working knowledge and practical skills relating to investment decision-making. Successful completion of the program and its requirements will earn you the CFA designation, one of the profession's most valued credentials.

PROGRAM LEVELS

The CFA program is divided into three “levels,” each of which builds on the preceding one and concludes with a full-day (six-hour) examination which is divided in to two sessions of three hours each, Candidates must pass one examination before advancing to the next higher level, but may repeat an examination if they fail to pass.

RELEVANCE OF CFA IN INDIA

Liberalization and globalization have brought about a sea change in the financial services sector in India. The scope of the financial services broadly covers money market operations, merchant banking services, international banking services, portfolio management, lease financing, mergers, acquisitions buy-outs mutual funds, factoring services, etc. Chartered financial analysts (CFA) utilize their managerial skills in the core areas of corporate finance, investment management, international finance and financial services. Their training and skills are useful for providing a host of financial services.

The constantly developing industrial scenario has created a demand for experts in the field of finance. This has created a niche that can be filled by a person specially trained to handle financial matters with all its ramifications. The qualification of a CFA is not merely an additional qualification;. The CFA course enjoys wide recognition all over the country. In fact, bank employees who have completed the CFA course are exempted from appearing for certain papers in the various examinations that they are required to appear for.

BENEFIT OF A CFA QUALIFICATION

- CFA is a specialization that gives a person a distinct advantage over others in the field.
- A Globally recognized certification.
- Achieving your CFA & (Chartered Financial Analyst) charter can place you among the elite in the finance profession.
- The most frequently held positions among charterholders are Relationship Manager, Risk Manager, Portfolio Manager, Corporate Financial Analyst, Research Analyst, Chief Investment Officer, Investment Banker, Financial Consultant etc.

ELIGIBILITY

The following are the requirement for enrolling in the CFA Program

- The Candidate must have a bachelor's degree or equivalent OR be a college/university senior (in the final year of studies) scheduled to receive a bachelor's degree OR meet experience requirements (below).
- Prospective candidates without a degree may qualify if they have four years of acceptable professional work experience OR a combination of four years of college/university and professional work experience. (Experience need not be investment related. Summer, part-time and internship positions do not qualify.)

REGISTERING FOR THE CFA EXAMINATION

The candidate may register for their Level I exam once they have paid an initial enrollment fee to CFA Institute. In addition to the initial fee, they are required by CFA Institute to pay a registration fee for each exam.

- Candidates may register for only one exam at a time, and cannot register for a subsequent exam until they have received their passing results for the prior level exam.
- Early registration can save them money because CFA Institute imposes a graduated fee schedule that increases over time

CHARTERHOLDER REQUIREMENT

CFA Institute has established the following requirements for achieving the CFA charter:

- Successful completion of Levels I, II, and III examinations.



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- At least four years of acceptable professional work experience related to the investment decision-making process. This may be accrued prior to, during, or after completing the exams.
- Membership in CFA Institute and application for membership with a CFA Institute society. For more information,
- Agreement to comply with, among other things, the CFA Institute conditions, requirements, policies, and procedures as defined in the CFA Institute Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct.
- Once a charter holder, you must submit an annual Professional Conduct Statement and pay annual membership dues.

CFA ENROLLMENT, FEES & EXAM SCHEDULE

Payment Deadlines	Program Enrollment (New Candidates only)	Exam Registration	Total Cost
23 Sep 2009	\$ 400	\$ 620	\$ 1020
17 Feb 2010	\$ 400	\$ 710	\$ 1110
17 Mar 2010	\$ 480	\$ 955	\$ 1435

CFA Level 1 examination will be held on June 6th 2010.

SUBJECT TESTED & THEIR WEIGHTAGE

TOPIC AREA	WEIGHTAGE
Ethical and Professional Standards (Total)	15
Quantitative Methods	12
Economics	10
Financial Reporting & Analysis	20
Corporate Finance	8
Investment Tool (Total)	50
Equity Investments	10
Fixed Income	12
Derivatives	5
Alternative Investments	3
Asset Classes (Total)	30
Portfolio Management & Wealth Planning (Total)	5
Total	100

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Level I Examination Focus

The focus at Level I is on knowledge and comprehension, with emphasis on the tools and inputs relating to investment valuation and portfolio management. Level I also introduces basic concepts regarding securities laws, regulations, and ethical and professional conduct. The 2009 Level I exam consists entirely of free-standing multiple-choice questions. It includes a total of 240 questions with three possible answers per question divided evenly between the two sessions. This means that over the course of each session you'll have, on average, 90 seconds to answer each question.

COURSE FEES

RS. 18,000 + Rs. 1,854 (Service Tax)

CFA Institute permits candidates to use only two models of business calculators during the CFA Examinations. Concorde Academics will be providing one of the calculator as a complimentary gift to all its enrolling students.

TOP 10 REASONS TO CHOOSE CONCORDE CFA REVIEW

- 1. Comprehensive coverage of CBOK content specification outline (Syllabus)**
- 2. Live interactive classes using latest educational techniques**
- 3. Thorough grounding of all concepts by experienced faculty from international finance firms & multinational**
- 4. Prepares you not only for the exam but also for the practical scenario.**
- 5. All Faculties are CFA level 3 passed out and are placed in key positions in various MNCs**
- 6. 120 hours of live coaching**
- 7. 6 live mock test**
- 8. 14 online mock test**
- 9. Assistance / guidance for exam application & schedules**
- 10. Doubt clearing sessions on one to one basis by our faculty**

Why delay?

The question you have to ask yourself is:

Not - Can I afford to do the CFA?

But – Can I afford NOT to do the CFA?!?

Do not lose this opportunity to arm yourself with the highest financial degree of the U.S.A. and gain an upper edge in this competitive, liberalized economy. Start preparing for the CFA Level 1 exam from today!

And see your career graph soar!

For more details CFA Exam and our course please visit our website:

<http://www.concorde-cpa.com>