

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

**1. What is the CFP<sup>CM</sup> programme?**

CFP<sup>CM</sup> (Certified Financial Planning) is a Certification which is administered by FPSB India and is designed for professionals working in the Financial Planning sector.

**2. What is the minimum qualification required to register for the program?**

The qualification required to register for the CFP<sup>CM</sup> Certification Programme is 10th pass from a recognized board.

**3. Where can I sit for the exam?**

There are ten examination centres across the country. The examinations are conducted by the National Stock Exchange. The examination centers are as follows:

1. Delhi, 2. Mumbai, 3. Chennai, 4. Chandigarh, 5. Lucknow, 6. Bangalore, 7. Hyderabad, 8. Pune, 9. Kolkata, 10. Ahmedabad

**4. Do I have to attempt the Modules in sequence only?**

You can appear for any Module at any time, apart from the Advanced Financial Planning Module (Exam 5) for which you can appear only after clearing Examinations 1-4.

Exam 1: Risk Analysis & Insurance Planning

Exam 2: Retirement Planning & Employee Benefit

Exam 3: Investment Planning

Exam 4: Tax & Estate Planning

**5. What will be the minimum passing criterion in the examinations?**

The minimum pass criterion is 60% for Exams 1 to 4 and 50% for Exam 5. Pass grades A to C are allocated on the basis of score attained.

**6. What is the eligibility criterion for obtaining the CFP<sup>CM</sup> Certification ?**

In addition to passing the 5 exams, the following number of years of work experience in the Financial sector is also required to earn the CFP<sup>CM</sup> Certification

- 12<sup>th</sup> pass or equivalent : 6 years

- Graduate : 3 years

**7. How many attempts are allowed to clear the CFP<sup>CM</sup> exams?**

You can appear for a Module any number of times until you clear it.

**8. What is AFP?**

AFP stands for Associate Financial Planner. AFP Certificates are given on passing the following Modules:

- AFP Risk Analysis & Insurance Planning
- AFP Retirement Planning & Employee Benefit
- AFP Investment Planning
- AFP Tax & Estate Planning

**9. In what language will the exam be conducted?**

Challenge Status / Exam 5 is now available in both English and Hindi. To apply for the appropriate one, please fill the relevant option in the Examination Enrollment Form.

**10. What are the benefits of the CFP<sup>CM</sup> Certification?**

Benefits of CFP<sup>CM</sup> Certification include:

- Certificants can indicate their certification status on their professional documents, including their name cards gaining recognition from peers and customers, and becoming part of a prestigious group of financial services dedicated to providing excellent services with high standard of ethics.
- Free subscription to Financial Planning Journal - India's leading financial planning publication with news, analysis and comments on current issues.
- Newsletter.
- Special rates to attend seminars, forums and conferences organized by FPSB India.

**11. I might consider upgrading my status to that of a CFP<sup>CM</sup> certificant sometime in the future. Can I just maintain my AFP license in the meantime?**

Yes. You can maintain your AFP license, but we would encourage you to continue with the program that would ultimately lead you to the prestigious CFP<sup>CM</sup> mark that is globally recognized. If for some reason you are unable to continue with the program, you have a maximum of 7 years to complete the CFP<sup>CM</sup> Certification Education Program course from the date of your first module registration.

**12. What happens if I have not completed the CFP<sup>CM</sup> Certification Education Program even after 7 years?**

You will be required to re-register for the CFP<sup>CM</sup> Certification Education Program course. In other words, you will need to undergo all the modules 1-6 once again.

**13. I have successfully cleared all the CFP<sup>CM</sup> certification exam but I only have 2 years of relevant work experience. Am I eligible for the CFP<sup>CM</sup> certification?**

In your case, you will be issued a Special Certificate by FPSB India mentioning that you have successfully accomplished the CFP<sup>CM</sup> Certification exams against an annual fee which is equivalent to the certification fee and following your successful completion of 3 years of work experience, you shall be awarded the CFP<sup>CM</sup> Certification.

**14. What is the difference between AFP<sup>CM</sup> and CFP<sup>CM</sup> certification?**

- Completion of any one of the first four modules along with the mandatory module ensures qualification for AFP certification.
- For CFP<sup>CM</sup> certification, all the modules need to be completed along with the required experience criterion.

### **15. What is Financial Planners Standards Board India (FPSB India)?**

- FPSB India is a non-profit organization dedicated to benefiting the public by leading the development of the Financial Planning profession in India.
- It sets, enforces and promotes the highest competency and ethical standards in Financial Planning as defined by individuals who have earned the Certified Financial Planner (CFP<sup>CM</sup>) credential. FPSB India grants the use of the CFP<sup>CM</sup> marks (CFP<sup>CM</sup>, Certified Financial Planner; CFP<sup>CM</sup> flame logo) to individuals who meet its standards.

### **16. How do I register through "Challenge Status Pathway"?**

The Challenge Status Program is for professionals who already possess certain skill sets and proficiency which is expected of Financial Planners. In order to enroll for the Certification through the Challenge Status Pathway, the candidate needs to meet the education and experience criteria. A candidate applying for the Challenge Status pathway needs to appear only for a single examination (Exam 5). Nevertheless, the syllabus under the Challenge Status program is same as in the Regular Pathway.

Registration Fee: Rs 20,000/-

Exam Fee: Rs 5,000/- (Module 6 only)