



The University of Manchester  
Alliance Manchester Business School

### **What is the CFA Institute?**

The CFA Institute is a global association of investment professionals with more than 90,000 members and 135 societies worldwide. The CFA Institute publishes research, conducts professional development programs and sets ethics-based professional and performance reporting standards for the investment industry. They also offer a range of educational services across the world and the associated professional exams. The CFA<sup>®</sup> Program is an educational program that entails three levels of exams. Level I exams are held in June and December and Levels II and III are only held in June. The exams occur at CFA Institute test centres. It is widely considered as the investment profession's most rigorous credentialing program with less than one in five candidates enrolling in the program achieving success in earning the CFA<sup>®</sup> Charter. To become a CFA Charter holder, all CFA Institute requirements have to be met in addition to passing all three levels of the exams sequentially and adhering to specified standards of professional conduct.

CFA website [www.cfainstitute.org](http://www.cfainstitute.org)

### **What is the CFA programme partnership?**

The CFA Institute has partnerships with select universities around the world that have imbedded a minimum 70% of the CFA<sup>®</sup> Program Candidate Body of Knowledge (curriculum) into their degree programs. Recognition as a partner signals that the degree's curriculum is closely tied to professional practice and is well suited to students preparing to sit for the CFA<sup>®</sup> examinations.

### **Which Alliance MBS Undergraduate degree programmes are accredited to the partnership?**

BA Econ (Accounting and Finance streams), BSc Management(Accounting and Finance) and BA/BSc International Business, Finance and Economics.

### **Which Alliance MBS Postgraduate degree programmes are accredited to the partnership?**

MSc Finance and MSc Accounting and Finance.

No other Alliance MBS degree programmes are currently linked to the partnership. However, students from any program can apply for a scholarship given they fulfil the academic criteria.

### **What is the primary benefit of the programme partnership?**

The CFA Institute offers a total of 10 Student CFA Scholarships per year to students at **Alliance MBS**. The 10 scholarships are applicable for the fiscal period 1st July to the following 30th June and therefore relate to one December and one June sitting of the CFA exams. The scholarships are awarded at all levels. To be eligible to apply as an undergraduate, students **MUST** be in their final year of one of the above Undergraduate degree programmes. Postgraduate applicants **MUST** be currently registered on a MSc or MBA programme.

### **What is the Scholarship?**

For the current Level exam offering (subject to change at any time), the CFA Program enrolment fee is waived and the exam registration fee is discounted. Scholarship recipients pay only the cost of curriculum (texts) plus any applicable taxes and import duties. For more information, please visit the following link:

[https://www.cfainstitute.org/programs/cfaprogram/scholarships/Pages/awareness\\_scholarships.aspx](https://www.cfainstitute.org/programs/cfaprogram/scholarships/Pages/awareness_scholarships.aspx)

If you download the form from the CFA Website, ensure you use the partner based scholarship application form, 'CFA Program Partner Scholarship Application', which is under Awareness Scholarship, Student Scholarship. At the moment, successful candidates for the CFA scholarship will only pay \$350, which includes the e-book.

### **How do students apply for a scholarship?**

- 1) Students must register and pay for their enrolment into the CFA program before applying for the scholarship.
- 2) If successful in applying for a scholarship, the candidate will be refunded the difference between the amount paid and the scholarship amount.

Email your interest to Mrs Margaret Nelson ([Margaret.Nelson@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:Margaret.Nelson@manchester.ac.uk)) (the administrator of the Alliance MBS Accounting and Finance Division). Your email must include;

- 1) Copies of your University exam transcripts
- 2) University coursework results
- 3) Your CV and a cover letter detailing why you should be considered for the Scholarship.
- 4) Print off and complete the Scholarship application paperwork on the CFA website. Please sign it before scanning it in and attach it to your email. Completed application forms need to be signed by Lecturer Patricia Perlman-Dee once the above information is included. ([patricia.perlman-dee@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:patricia.perlman-dee@manchester.ac.uk))

Applications will not be considered until all of the paperwork has been received in full.

Please note: Mrs Nelson is not responsible for reviewing any applications, she will just pass your paperwork onto the appropriate member of staff and will not know the status of your application.

- You will be sent an appointment date and time to discuss your application with a member of staff from the Accounting and Finance Division. If your application is successful, you will be informed via email. At that stage, –The CFA Director will email or fax the signed and completed application form to the CFA Institute Scholarship Office, Charlottesville, USA, on 00 434 951 5290.

### **Academic requirements**

Undergraduates will only be considered if they have achieved an average mark of 65% or above in their university exams and coursework to date. Postgraduates must have achieved a high 2:1 at undergraduate level and have an average mark of 65% or above in their MSc exams and / or coursework to date.

For MBA students, previous academic records will be considered as well as any employer recommendation letter.

You can apply for scholarships as long as you are a student at **Alliance** MBS, even if the exam falls outside of your study time.

### **What are the deadlines for applying for a scholarship?**

If applying for a scholarship for the June 2017 exams, the CFA Institute must receive the correctly completed application paperwork by 3rd February 2017.

The scholarship application for the December 2016 exams is already closed.

Given the above deadlines, please ensure that we receive your application well before the given date. This will allow appropriate deliberation and consideration to be given to an application before making a decision.

### **How much study time is involved at each level of exams?**

The CFA Institute believes that candidates need to commit to a minimum of 250 hours reading and reviewing the curriculum and taking online sample and mock exams to master the material.

**Download application form from the CFA website;**

[https://www.cfainstitute.org/Forms/dec\\_june\\_student\\_scholarship.pdf](https://www.cfainstitute.org/Forms/dec_june_student_scholarship.pdf)