



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[®] Program is an educational program that entails three levels of exams. Level I exams are held in May, July, August and November and Levels II and III are held in May, August and November. 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[®] 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

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[®] 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[®] 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. 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 an 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

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.

Students can apply for the scholarship through the CFA website at the following link:

<https://www.cfainstitute.org/en/programs/cfa/scholarships/student>

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.

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.

Due to the time commitment required, it is recommended that Masters students register for the November sitting to avoid interfering with their MSc studies.