



**CFA Level 1 Video Series**  
**by Prof. James Forjan**



# The CFA Program

- Achieve the highest distinction in the investment management profession – the CFA® designation.
- The Chartered Financial Analyst® (CFA) credential is held by over 150,000 professionals around the world. The charter gives a strong understanding of advanced investment analysis and real-world portfolio management skills.
- The CFA Program is a self-study, graduate-level program divided into three levels of exams. Passing these exams is one step to becoming a CFA charterholder.

# How to earn the charter?

- Steps to earn the charter
- Enroll in the CFA program and register for an exam
  - One-time fee of USD 450 to enter into the CFA Program
  - Each exam costs between USD 650 (early registration) and USD 1,380 (late registration) to sit
- Take and Pass Level I exam (December or June)
  - Latest pass rate: 45%
- Take and Pass Level II exam (June only)
  - Latest pass rate: 45%
- Take and Pass Level III exam (June only)
  - Latest pass rate: 56%
- Possess four year of investment related decision making experience
- Join the CFA Institute as a member
  - Annual membership dues of USD 275

# What is Level I exam like?

- Body Of Knowledge
- Learning Focus is Knowledge and Comprehension
- Topic Focus is Investment Tools
- **Structure:** The Level I exam consists of 240 multiple choice questions, split between two 3-hour sessions. Candidates must attend both sessions.
  - **Timing:** On average you should allow approximately 90 seconds for each multiple choice question.
- Two basic formats are used:
  - Sentence completion with three unique choices
  - Questions with three unique choices

# Area Weights

- Ethics and Professional Standards 15%
- Quantitative Methods 10%
- Economics 10%
- Financial Reporting and Analysis 15%
- Corporate Finance 10%
- Equity Investments 11%
- Fixed Income 11%
- Derivatives 6%
- Alternative Investments 6%
- Portfolio Management and Wealth Planning 6%

# Read each LOS carefully!

Exams are derived from the 58 Level I readings, which all begin with command words:

- Define
- Describe
- Compare
- Identify
- Calculate
- Explain

# Tools to help you pass the CFA Level 1 exam

Given to you by the CFA Institute:

- The curriculum eBook
  - i. Assigned readings
  - ii. Learning outcome statements (LOS)
  - iii. Practice problems

Available for purchase via [AnalystPrep.com](http://AnalystPrep.com):

- **CFA Level 1 videos** made by Prof. James Forjan
- **A question bank** with over 3,000 practice questions
- **Printable mock exams** to simulate actual test conditions
- **Study notes** that summarize each LOS from the curriculum
- **Performance tracking tools** to quickly identify your strengths and weaknesses
- **Amazing customer support** ready to answer your questions 24/7 via an online chat

# Who am I?

- James Forjan
- PhD in Finance
- Completed the CFA Program in 2004 and earned the CFA charter later that year.
- College professor
- Taught at six institutions since earning Master of Science in Finance 1985
- Corporate Finance, Investments, Derivatives Securities, International Finance
- BS in Accounting, PhD in Finance (minor in Economics, two PhD level courses in Econometrics)
- Crafted, edited, updated, and upgraded a multitude of CFA type questions at all levels.