

\ experts in public financial management

The CIPFA Professional Accountancy Qualification



about CIPFA

14,000
members

4,000
students

3,400
organisations employ
CIPFA members

CIPFA is the professional body for people in public service finance – the only accountancy body in the world exclusively dedicated to the sector.

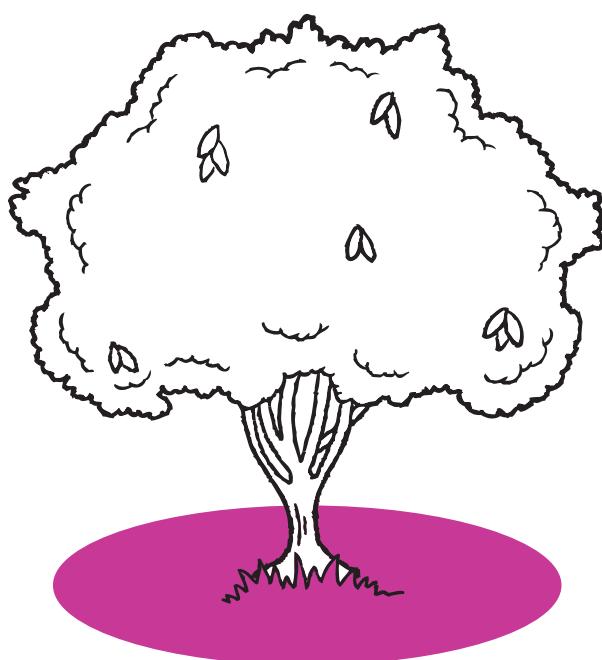
We champion the performance of public services globally and help to develop and promote careers in public sector financial management.

Our internationally recognised qualifications, training and learning solutions are widely considered as standard-setting and industry-defining.

From the moment you start the CIPFA Professional Accountancy Qualification you become a member of CIPFA. Our members lead the way in public financial management and are at the heart of everything we do.

As a CIPFA student, you'll have our full support throughout your studies and your career. Through exclusive events, accredited courses, e-learning and much more, we'll give you the guidance, skills and knowledge that you need to support your continued professional development.

In Ireland, CIPFA is a prescribed accountancy body with the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA) and our members work at Senior Director level roles in central government, health and local government.



the CIPFA professional accountancy qualification

If you want to become an expert in public service finance, the best place to start is by studying the CIPFA PQ (Professional Accountancy Qualification), the only specialist qualification for the sector.

Entry requirements

CIPFA does not require you to have a degree in accountancy to study our qualification.

You can study the CIPFA PQ if you have an Irish leaving Certificate in at least five separate subjects (including Mathematics & English) with at least 3 subjects at Higher Level (Grade C3 or above) and at least 2 subjects at grade D3 or above, either at Higher or Ordinary Level. Mathematics and English can be at Ordinary or Higher level (Grade D3 or higher).

If you do not meet the academic requirements, you can become a CIPFA student if you are 21 or over and have over three years' relevant experience and the support of your employer.

We also offer specific entry routes for AAT, IIA CIMA, ACCA, and Chartered Accountants Ireland (CAI) qualified individuals.

Fast Track for Experienced Accountants and Institute of Internal Auditors working in the Public Sector

CIPFA membership gives you access to the global CIPFA network of public finance experts and adds real direction to your career. By adding a CIPFA designation to your existing qualification you immediately improve your career prospects and professional standing within public finance.

■ CIMA, ACCA and Chartered Accountants Ireland Members

- Five years PQE working in the Public Sector in Ireland or UK: Direct Entry
- Less than five years PQE: Take two CIPFA exams

■ Institute of Internal Auditors – Take three CIPFA exams to become a qualified accountant (CIPFA)



STRATEGIC LEVEL	FULL CHARTERED PUBLIC FINANCE ACCOUNTANT (CPFA) STATUS	
Leader	Strategic Public Finance★ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Sources of public finance ■ Service integration strategies ■ Finance leadership ■ Performance evaluation ■ Business cases Strategic Case Study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Critical evaluation ■ Decision making ■ Integration ■ Leadership ■ Professional judgement 	
DIPLOMA	DIPLOMA IN INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (Adv Dip IPFM) Minimum of six CIPFA modules from below	
Enabler and Innovator Business Partner	Public Sector/Public Service Financial Reporting★ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Financial reporting frameworks ■ Public services financial statements ■ Consolidated accounts ■ Interpreting financial statements Public Finance** <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Public expenditure and revenues ■ Public borrowing, debt and management of the economy ■ Taxation Governance, Public Policy and Ethics** <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Governance and ethics ■ Government structures and ideologies ■ Policy making processes ■ Public, private and not for profit sectors ■ Transnational public policy making 	Business and Change Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Commissioning and Procurement ■ Contract management ■ Project management ■ Change implementation Strategy and Policy Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Stakeholder engagement ■ Competitive advantage ■ Collaboration strategies ■ Organisational configuration Financial Management★ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Financial management, financial institutions and sources of finance ■ Treasury management ■ Investment appraisal, risk management, ■ Pricing, Working Capital Management
CERTIFICATE	CERTIFICATE IN INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (Cert IPFM) Minimum of two CIPFA modules from below	
Steward	Management Accounting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Management information ■ Costing methods ■ Costing applications ■ Budgeting Financial Accounting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Professional ethics ■ Accounting concepts ■ Double-entry bookkeeping ■ Introductory financial statements 	Company Financial Reporting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ IFRS application ■ Financial statements preparation ■ Group accounts ■ Interpreting financial statements Audit and Assurance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Risk assessment ■ Audit testing ■ Audit evidence ■ External and internal audit

EXEMPTIONS

University Graduates
Check with CIPFA

Qualified Accountants
Check with CIPFA

IIA Members
Only need to take three modules ★

** Students with prior qualifications including Taxation and Law may also be eligible for exemptions – please check with CIPFA for further details

\ member benefit

Once qualified your career journey doesn't stop, we provide Continuing Professional Development (CPD) to support you in becoming a finance leader.

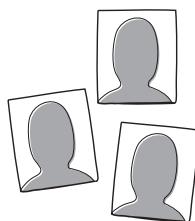
Chartered Public Finance Accountant 'CPFA'

Add the widely respected designatory letters after your name.

The CPFA to CA Top Up

Extend your professional reach

– obtain dual designation through the ICAS Pathways route.

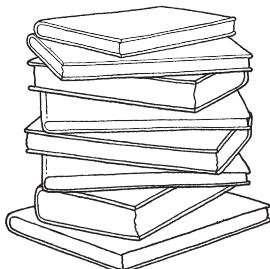


Network with top finance professionals

Join the leading network of global public finance practitioners and connect to share information and experience.

Expert publications

Access the latest knowledge, opinion and technical news.



ManagementDirect

Free access to over 12,000 online resources including videos, checklists, e-journals and e-books.

Exclusive discounts

We've negotiated discounts for professional, social and lifestyle items.



Events and training

Members receive one free open training course and can access regular regional CPD events.



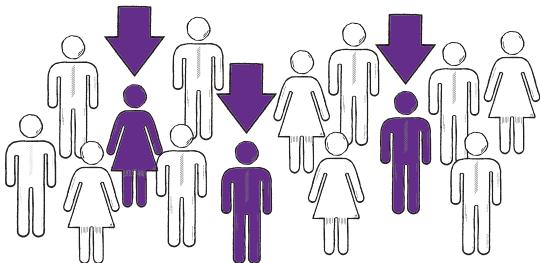
CIPFA membership means being involved in, and being part of, an institute which has public services at its core and focuses on all aspects of public financial management and governance. The professional practice networks are very valuable, as are the expert publications, written by expert practitioners. There is a wide range of training options including workshops, online CPD and webinars.

Geraldine Smith CPFA, Assistant National Director of Internal Audit, Health Services Executive (HSE)

why CIPFA?

Get increased recognition

As a qualified CIPFA member you are entitled to use the designation CPFA – Chartered Public Finance Accountant. This is globally recognised and will help you to stand out throughout your career.

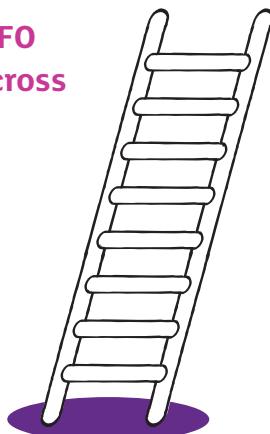


Learn from a wealth of experience

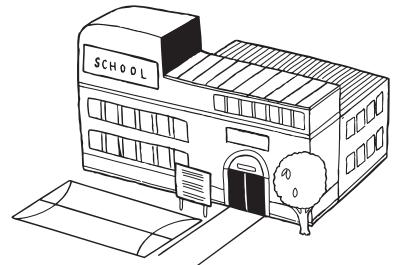
All our specialist teaching staff have real experience from the public and corporate sector. In Ireland, the CIPFA Republic of Ireland branch allows you to shape activities and gain access to a mentor who is an experienced professional in the public sector.

CIPFAs progress to CFO and Director Level across the public sector

Our members work at Senior Director level roles in central government, health and local government in the Republic of Ireland.



Shape society from the inside out



Play a central role in ensuring that public money is efficiently raised and spent; supporting critical services, transforming communities and changing lives.



Job satisfaction

80% of our members choose to stay in public services after qualifying.

Continuous Professional Development

CIPFA is a member based organisation with local support, CPD offerings and access to a wide range of CIPFA toolkits online.



Enhance competencies to become a PFM Expert, Finance Partner & Leader

There are a number of progression routes for our members within the public sector. In addition to financial and management accountants, our members work in specialisms such as auditing, capital projects, value for money, forensic accounting, and in turn progress their careers in senior finance and general management.

\contact us

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