

become an IPSAS expert

Qualifications in International Public Sector Accounting
Standards from the global leader in public finance



about CIPFA

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) is the only professional body exclusively for people in public finance. CIPFA champions high performance in public services around the world. Our members lead the way in public financial management and work throughout a range of sectors and organisations where public money needs to be effectively managed.

CIPFA's mission is focused on the specialist and complex needs of finance professionals in the public sector, providing them with the expertise to excel in their roles. The CIPFA qualifications are internationally recognised by governments, donors and public finance professionals seeking to advance public financial management and deliver better outcomes for public services.

Developing the capacity of staff is a key component of successfully adopting and working with IPSAS. CIPFA has an excellent track record in developing the knowledge and skills of public finance staff, working with governments, international organisations and institutes across the world. We at EY are pleased to see the renewal of IPSAS specific courses for a wide range of staff involved in public sector accounting and audit from the only institute dedicated to this sector. We believe they will provide invaluable support in developing relevant expertise.

Dr. Jens Heiling, Manager, Professional Practice Group GSA, Government & Public Sector, EY Germany and former Technical Manager at IPSASB



CIPFA and international public sector accounting standards

Across the world public sector organisations are recognising the benefits that International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) bring and are making preparations to adopt them.

IPSAS represents the future of public financial management (PFM) helping governments and citizens access relevant and transparent information about the financial consequences of political decisions. Adopting IPSAS will help understand the financial situation of a government and enables public sector organisations to:

- present a fair view of governmental financial performance
- achieve comparable standards across services through one accrual-based accounting financial reporting system
- improve cash-based reporting for organisations that continue to report on a cash basis
- make better informed financial decisions that lead to more efficient and effective public services for the benefit of citizens.

CIPFA's expertise in PFM means we have the knowledge and experience to help develop and interpret the standards. CIPFA provides relevant qualifications and training to meet the needs of many governments, local governments, state enterprises, transnational organisations and public entities around the world as they move towards IPSAS reporting.



CIPFA suite of IPSAS qualifications

As the first professional accountancy organisation to have developed an IPSAS qualification, our focus is to support governments and public sector organisations at any stage of adopting IPSAS including; moving from cash to accruals and helping to prepare for the adoption of IPSAS.

CIPFA has developed IPSAS qualifications which are accessible anywhere through a flexible online learning and assessment programme.

CIPFA Certificate in IPSAS

The **CIPFA Certificate in IPSAS (Cert IPSAS)** provides trainees with a foundation knowledge of some of the published standards, and important related documents. Successful completion of this course will demonstrate knowledge of the basic technical content of IPSAS and the ability to explain how certain events and transactions to public service organisations should be treated.

The Cert IPSAS is suitable for:

- those with knowledge of double entry book-keeping or basic accounting knowledge
- finance staff
- trainers
- external auditors
- consultants who only need a basic knowledge of IPSAS
- staff with significant financial responsibilities.

The Cert IPSAS has no formal examination and is intended for learning to take place on the job. It provides the perfect basis to progress to the CIPFA Diploma in IPSAS.

CIPFA Diploma in IPSAS

The **CIPFA Diploma in IPSAS (Dip IPSAS)** qualification is designed to provide trainees with a thorough knowledge of the published IPSAS and related documents and covers all the IPSAS standards providing comprehensive guidance on applying the accounting requirements of the Standards.

The Dip IPSAS is suitable for:

- accountants
- senior finance staff
- IPSAS implementation and maintenance teams
- external auditors
- consultants dealing with financial reporting
- trainers wishing to refresh their knowledge of the standards
- senior budget holders
- policy makers.

Learning and assessment

The CIPFA Certificate and Diploma in IPSAS learning materials consist of a series of online modules with interactive workbooks including practical examples and self-test questions. A Certificate of Completion is available at the end of the CIPFA Certificate in IPSAS programme.

The CIPFA Diploma in IPSAS goes further and prepares trainees for an end-of-course online assessment. Trainees must achieve a minimum of 60% to pass the examination and will receive the CIPFA Diploma in IPSAS qualification upon successful completion. Trainees may attempt the examination up to four times during the 12 month registration period.

CIPFA Certificate and Diploma in IPSAS workbooks:

CIPFA Diploma in IPSAS (Dip IPSAS)

CIPFA AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP

- Workbook 1: The financial reporting context for public sector entities
- Workbook 2: Accruals basis financial statements – advanced level
- Workbook 3: Accounting for tangible and intangible Assets – advanced level
- Workbook 4: Accounting for impairments – advanced level
- Workbook 5: Accounting for revenue and provisions – advanced level
- Workbook 6: Accounting for inventories, accounting policies and events – advanced level
- Workbook 7: Consolidation
- Workbook 8: The cash flow statement – advanced level
- Workbook 9: Reporting and disclosing financial performance and position
- Workbook 10: IPSAS financial reporting under the cash basis of accounting – advanced level

CIPFA Certificate in IPSAS (Cert IPSAS)

- Workbook 1: Introduction to IPSAS accruals accounting
- Workbook 2: Accruals basis financial statements – an introduction
- Workbook 3: Accounting for tangible and intangible assets
- Workbook 4: Accounting for impairments
- Workbook 5: Accounting for revenue and provisions
- Workbook 6: Accounting for inventories, accounting policies and events
- Workbook 7: The cash flow statement – an introduction
- Workbook 8: IPSAS financial reporting under the cash basis of accounting – an introduction



get recognised in IPSAS

Getting the right training in IPSAS will demonstrate knowledge and a strong competence in key technical content related to IPSAS which is relevant to public sector organisations.

Benefits gained upon successful completion will:

- enable staff to match the demands of IPSAS by acquiring a greater level of knowledge than offered by other short courses.
- provide formal recognition from CIPFA demonstrating the right skills and knowledge.
- highlight expertise in this technically demanding area.
- support professional development and career ambitions.
- ensure content and learning is of a high quality from CIPFA, the leading authority and experts in global public financial management.

Become qualified in IPSAS to demonstrate an in-depth understanding of IPSAS and their application and get the recognition you deserve.

I was surprised by the strong learning experience of CIPFA's new online training platform. Unlike many other online courses, which too often fail to transfer the practical aspects of the learning, CIPFA was able to provide an interactive learning experience. Thanks to the numerous built-in exercises, together with a possibility to track results across different workbooks, the course achieves a great mix of theory and practice.

On a more personal level, taking a great interest in today's public finance issues, and also working as a consultant at EY in the field of public finance management, the CIPFA certificate provided me with new opportunities in terms of career and business development. Especially in Europe, where IPSAS is seen as a point of reference for public accounting reforms, CIPFA's IPSAS course clearly equipped me with a strong competitive advantage!

Georges Ortmann, Consultant,
Financial Accounting Advisory Services,
Belgium, Ernst & Young



\ fees

- CIPFA Certificate in IPSAS – £220
- CIPFA Diploma in IPSAS – £550

Discounts are available for training providers and group registrations.

\ register now

Find out more about the CIPFA IPSAS qualifications and purchase the most relevant IPSAS qualification online at www.cipfa.org/ipsas. For group registrations and discounts email CIPFA at: customerservices@cipfa.org





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