

# THE CHARTER



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Mumbai, INDIA

If you're looking for a passport to a competitive career in the fast-evolving world of investment and global finance, you should know about the CFA<sup>®</sup> charter.

The Chartered Financial Analyst<sup>®</sup> designation (or CFA charter) is a globally recognized, graduate-level investment credential awarded by CFA Institute. Earning it demonstrates mastery of a broad range of investment skills that will open doors for you anywhere.

To earn the CFA charter you must complete the three challenging levels of the CFA Program.

For more information, visit  
[www.cfainstitute.org](http://www.cfainstitute.org)

**Among the countless finance degrees around the world, the Chartered Financial Analyst qualification has become the gold standard.**

*Financial Times* 13 August 2010



Mumbai, INDIA

# BENEFITS OF THE CFA CHARTER

## Global Recognition

With a five-decade history of maintaining a rigorous focus on globally relevant investment knowledge, the CFA charter is the most widely known and respected investment credential in the world. When you earn the CFA charter, you will have global credibility.

## Career Advantage

Employers recognize the CFA charter as the definitive standard by which to measure the competence, integrity, and dedication of serious investment professionals. That's why they are increasingly making it a prerequisite for many positions.

## Community

When you earn the CFA charter, you join more than 90,000 respected investment professionals working in over 130 countries. Access to their collective expertise, networks, and resources is an invaluable asset.

## Convenience

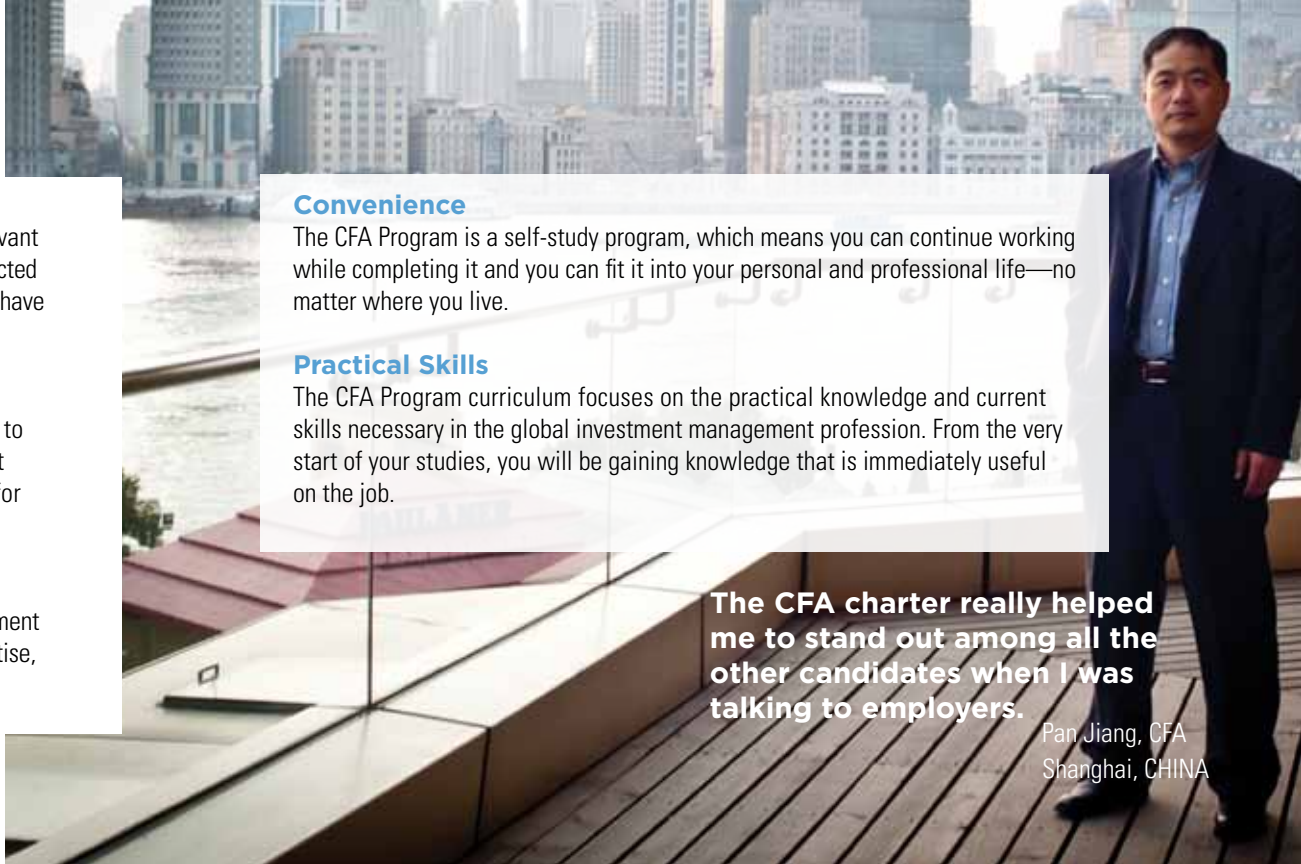
The CFA Program is a self-study program, which means you can continue working while completing it and you can fit it into your personal and professional life—no matter where you live.

## Practical Skills

The CFA Program curriculum focuses on the practical knowledge and current skills necessary in the global investment management profession. From the very start of your studies, you will be gaining knowledge that is immediately useful on the job.

**The CFA charter really helped me to stand out among all the other candidates when I was talking to employers.**

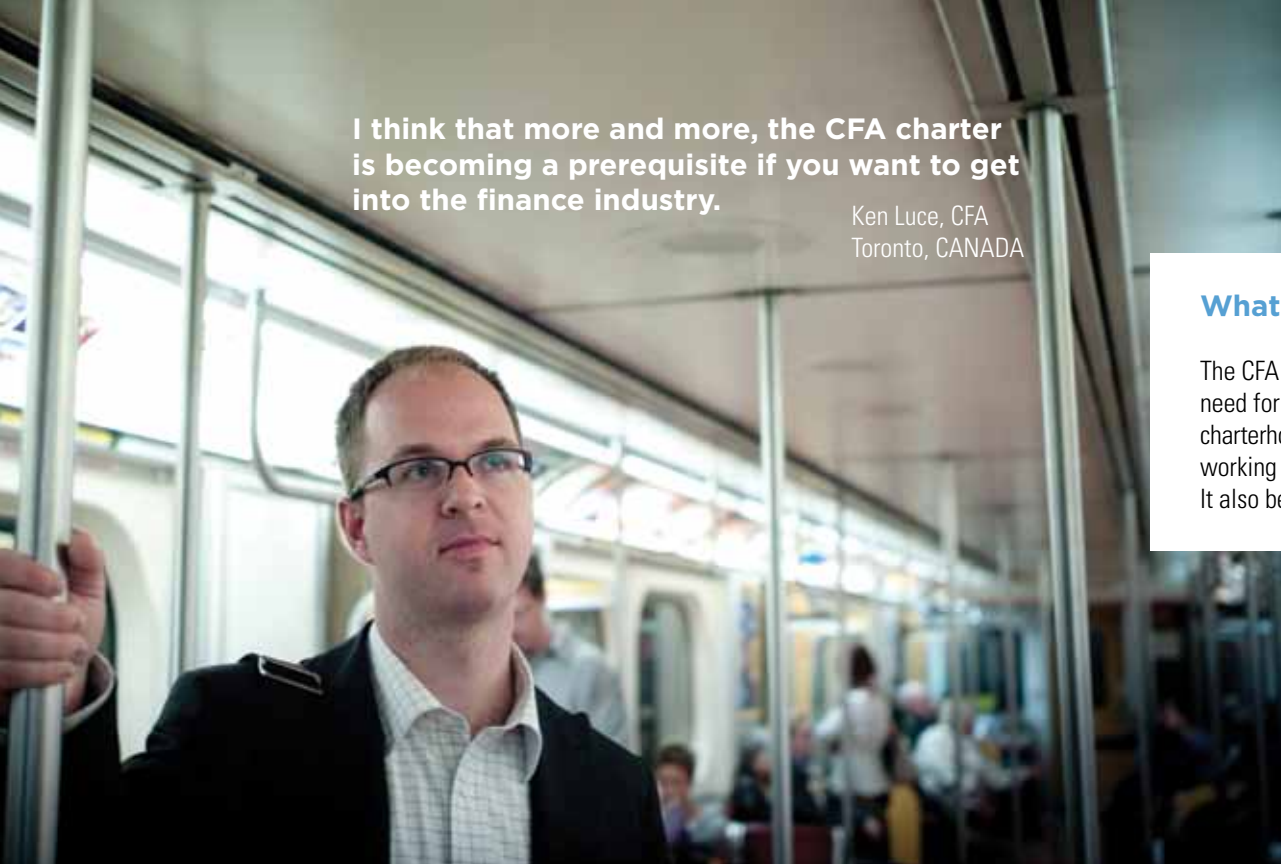
Pan Jiang, CFA  
Shanghai, CHINA



**If you want to have international recognition and mobility within the financial world, then you really should consider doing the CFA program.**

Zouheir Tamim-Jarkas, CFA  
Abu Dhabi, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES





I think that more and more, the CFA charter is becoming a prerequisite if you want to get into the finance industry.

Ken Luce, CFA  
Toronto, CANADA

# CAREER ADVANTAGE

## What jobs does the CFA Program prepare you for?

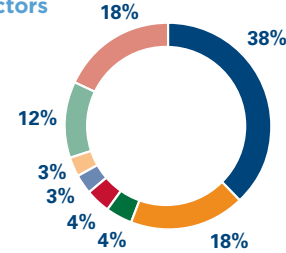
The CFA Program equips you with the comprehensive practical knowledge you need for a wide variety of career choices in the investment profession. Many CFA charterholders find that earning the CFA charter provides them with a passport for working within numerous investment specialties and markets around the globe. It also better equips them to change specialties as their careers evolve.



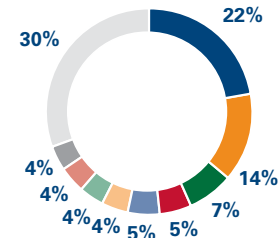
Tokyo, JAPAN

CFA charterholders hold the following types of positions in more than 130 countries around the world:

**Charterholder Sectors**



- Equities
- Fixed Income
- Derivatives
- Private Equity
- Hedge Funds
- Real Estate
- Other
- Not Applicable



- Portfolio Managers
- Research Analysts
- Chief Executives
- Consultants
- Risk Managers
- Relationship Managers, Sales & Marketing
- Financial Advisers
- Corporate Financial Analysts
- Investment Banking Analysts
- Other *ex. trader, auditor, broker, academic*

**Charterholder Occupations**

Source: Self-reported employment data as of 1 August 2011. Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

# A GLOBAL COMMUNITY

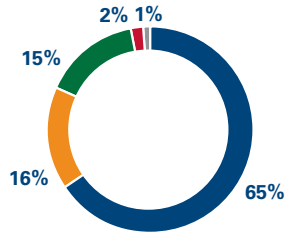
## Who earns the CFA charter?

Candidates seeking to earn the CFA charter come from a wide range of backgrounds around the world. They include students planning to enter the investment profession, investment professionals who wish to increase their skills and marketability, and those making a career change into the investment profession from other disciplines.

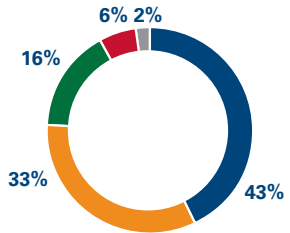


Beijing, CHINA

### Charterholder Geographic Profile



- North America
- Europe
- Asia Pacific
- Africa/Middle East
- Latin America & Caribbean



- Asia Pacific
- North America
- Europe
- Africa/Middle East
- Latin America & Caribbean

### 2011 Candidate Geographic Profile

Source: Self-reported geographic data as of 1 August 2011. Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

**One of the huge benefits is that it's a global designation...If I want to move to Paris or Hong Kong or New York, people know what the CFA charter is.**

Anna Nemeth, CFA  
Victoria, CANADA



# PRACTICAL SKILLS

## CFA Program Curriculum

Through a practice-analysis process that leverages the broad expertise and specialized knowledge and input of our global membership, panels of industry experts, and employers, the CFA Program curriculum is designed to deliver the comprehensive knowledge and practical skills most needed by those working in the investment profession.

Each of the three levels covers a full range of topics but with a different focus. The topic focus for Level I is on investment tools; Level II is on asset valuation; Level III is on portfolio management. The learning focus also changes with each exam, from knowledge and comprehension (Level I) to application and analysis (Level II) and to synthesis and evaluation (Level III). The curriculum is organized into 10 general topic areas that provide a framework for making investment decisions:

- I. Ethical and Professional Standards
- II. Quantitative Methods
- III. Economics
- IV. Financial Reporting and Analysis
- V. Corporate Finance
- VI. Equity Investments
- VII. Fixed Income Investments
- VIII. Derivatives
- IX. Alternative Investments
- X. Portfolio Management and Wealth Planning

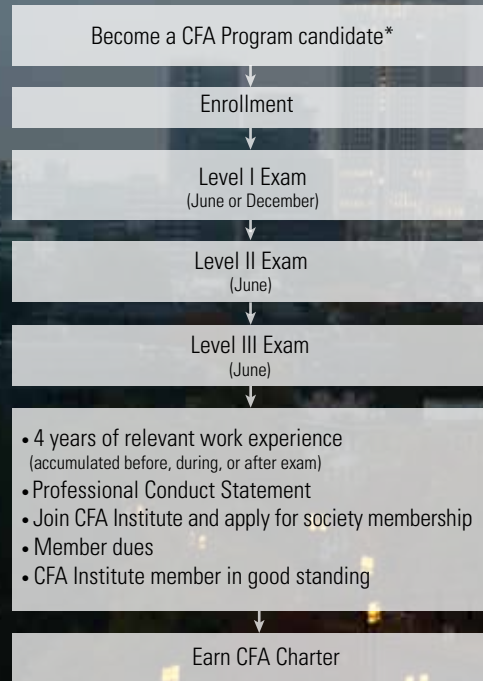
Tokyo, JAPAN



**I earned BA and MBA degrees,  
but they are not enough. It is only  
the CFA charter that gave me the  
strong background I needed to  
work in the investment profession.**

Le Thanh Hung, CFA  
Ho Chi Minh City, VIETNAM

## How to Earn the Charter:



### \*Basic Entrance Requirements for CFA Program Candidacy:

- Have a bachelor's (or equivalent) degree, or be in the final year of your bachelor's degree at the time of registration, or have four years of qualified, professional work experience or a combination of work/college experience that totals four years
- Meet the professional conduct admission criteria
- Be prepared to take the exams in English
- Have a valid international travel passport

# A CONVENIENT COURSE OF STUDY

The three levels of the CFA Program are offered in a self-study format, which means that earning the charter does not have to disrupt your work life or other studies. While some candidates pursue additional prep courses, all the required curriculum materials and sample exams are provided to you either in the mail, online as downloads, or both, so that you can complete the program wherever you are and on your own schedule.

- The Level I exam is offered in June and December, and Levels II and III in June only.
- Exams are offered in over 180 test centers around the world.
- Successful candidates report spending an average of 300 hours\* preparing for each exam, and completing the entire Program takes most candidates between two and five years.
- You may take as long as you need to complete the CFA Program. Your exam results never expire, and we don't limit the number of times you can sit for each exam level.

\*Based on the June 2011 Post-Exam Candidate Survey



Chicago, Illinois, UNITED STATES

# CONTACT US

If you're ready to earn the most respected investment credential in the world, then enroll in the CFA Program and register for the exam today:  
[www.cfainstitute.org/cfaprogram](http://www.cfainstitute.org/cfaprogram)

For more information, email [info@cfainstitute.org](mailto:info@cfainstitute.org) or follow CFA Institute online:  
[www.facebook.com/CFAInstitute](https://www.facebook.com/CFAInstitute)  
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Join our CFA Institute candidates group on [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com)

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