

CMTA Certification Program FAQs

Which program is more challenging, the Bond School or CFA Investment Foundations?

The answer may be different for everyone as it largely depends on prior work experience. Generally speaking, current cohorts are reporting that Bond School may be a little more challenging because it is dealing with concepts and practical applications that many have not been exposed to in their careers.

How much time should I expect to put into studying for the test?

For the **CFA Institute Investment Foundations™**, plan to spend approximately 100 hours preparing for the exam, depending on your prior education and experience. You can schedule the exam at any time within 180 days of registration.

For the **Bond School**, on average, it takes students about 45 hours to watch the videos, review required reading, and complete the quizzes and exams. However, the amount of study time required also depends on your prior experience and on how much time you spend on reading the suggested resources provided for more in depth learning.

How accurate are the test questions in practice exams?

The practice questions for the **CFA Institute Investment Foundations™** are reflective and will prepare you for the actual questions on the exam. The questions on the mock exams are very close to the final exam questions.

In **Bond School**, you will have the option of taking 2-4 practice quizzes per course. The practice quizzes provide corrective responses and are meant to ensure you are learning the objectives before taking the course exam.

How difficult is the test?

The **CFA Institute Investment Foundations™** certificate program covers the essentials of finance, ethics, and investment roles, providing a clear understanding of the global investment industry. The difficulty level will depend on your background knowledge of the financial industry.

Bond School exams are taken at the end of each of the 17 courses. Like the CFA program, the level of difficulty of the **Bond School** exams highly depends on your prior education and work experience. The comprehensive exam at the end of the program is optional for those eligible and interested in earning the **Certified Fixed Income Practitioner (CFIP)** designation in addition to the CCMT designation.

If I fail the first time, how can I re-take the test? Is there an additional cost and how much?

You may take the **CFA Institute Investment Foundations™** exam up to three times per curriculum year (1 Feb -31 Jan) but no more than five times total. To retake the exam, you will need to request the discounted fee again (\$200).

The **Bond School** Course exams are taken at the completion of each of the 17 courses. All exams are online can be retaken multiple times without additional expense.

How will I receive the certificate for completion of CFA Institute Investment Foundations™ and Bond School?

Official exam results for the **CFA Institute Investment Foundations™** will become available within three business days of taking the exam. CFA Institute will notify you via email once your official results are available online. Successful candidates will receive their certificate approximately 4-6 weeks after their official results become available. You will be able to access your exam results on the CFA Institute website for one year following your exam date.

Once you successfully complete all 17 courses in **Bond School**, you will receive an email and PDF certificate of completion.

Regarding the CFIP designation certificate: If you complete all 17 courses in **Bond School** and meet the requirements, you have the option of also applying to earn the Certified Fixed Income Practitioner (CFIP) designation. There are ongoing continuing education credits required for maintaining the designation as well as a small annual renewal fee and application (\$195 or \$50 depending on option selected). If you apply for the CFIP designation, you will be mailed a certificate the month following the quarter in which you completed.

Can I keep the study material after I'm finished with the program?

All online study material for the **CFA Institute Investment Foundations™** is accessible after the exam has been taken.

All of the **Bond School** program materials are online and available during your license period. If you renew your Fixed Income Academy membership and pay \$195/year, you will also retain read access to all of your videos and study materials. Ongoing membership with Fixed Income Academy also includes new quarterly virtual workshops and the opportunity to earn NASBA eligible CPE credits online.

When will I receive my CTC or CCMT certificate from CMTA?

Once you complete all of the requirements of the program that you are enrolled in, submit your certificate(s) of completion to CMTA. Certifications will be awarded at the April's Annual Conference.