FINANCIAL QUALIFICATIONS & TRAINING PROGRAMMES
ICMA Executive Education is a unique partnership between the International Capital Market Association (ICMA) and the ICMA Centre, Henley Business School, University of Reading. We work together to develop the highest quality of training, delivered by current and former financial markets practitioners. This approach enables us to blend practical and academic know-how, so that candidates have a thorough understanding of the topics being discussed.*

The combination of almost four decades of market experience and academic expertise gives ICMA Executive Education a unique advantage in the provision of quality training and education for the financial markets. ICMA Executive Education courses are internationally recognised and are required training by many of ICMA’s member firms. The programmes are benchmark qualifications for both the front office and operations areas of the business and combine the best of both market and academic practice. They are designed to be interactive and equip participants with practical skills they can use in their day-to-day jobs.

The courses attract an international client base and are also an opportunity to network with counterparts from a whole host of financial institutions. Delegates who benefit from our courses work in the top tier investment banks, stock exchanges, law firms and regulatory bodies.

**BENEFITS**

The benefits of studying with ICMA’s Executive Education include:

- Almost 40 years’ experience of front and back office training, driven by the needs of the financial markets
- Market-wide recognition and approval
- Course tutors are leading experts in their fields
- New training programmes added on a regular basis
- In-house training can be tailored to each firm’s individual needs
- Highly discounted rates for ICMA member firms
- Two diplomas available in Securities & Derivatives and Financial Market Operations
- Unique scholarship programme available to ICMA member firms
- Several of our courses are available to study online
Financial Qualifications & Training Programmes

**FOUNDATION QUALIFICATIONS**

**Financial Markets Foundation Qualification (FMFQ)**
An introductory qualification intended for anyone entering into a career in the financial markets. The course provides an in-depth overview of the debt, equity, FX and derivative markets.

**Securities Operations Foundation Qualification (SOFQ)**
Aimed at new entrants to the operational side of the securities industry, this qualification provides a thorough knowledge of the life cycle of a securities transaction, as well as a deep understanding of the various processes that result in a transaction being settled and the securities either going into or being taken out of custody.

**Introduction to Fixed Income Qualification (IFIQ)**
A qualification designed to provide the essential knowledge and skills required to work in the fixed income market. Candidates will cover everything from the function of the market to bond trading strategies, equipping them with the requisite tools to add value to their company.

**Introduction to Primary Markets Qualification (IPMQ)**
The IPMQ syllabus is aimed at candidates who are new to origination, syndication and transaction management. Emphasis is placed on using the knowledge gained in practical, real life situations that occur in the primary markets.

**ADVANCED QUALIFICATIONS**

**ICMA Fixed Income Certificate (FIC)**
The benchmark qualification for the fixed income market, the FIC puts emphasis on developing practical skills for trading, investment and risk management. A proven, internationally recognised standard of competence, the FIC is a demanding, examined course aimed at developing a broad and in-depth knowledge of the key fixed income instruments, derivatives and markets.

**Operations Certificate Programme (OCP)**
A qualification that places strong emphasis on developing practical skills based on a thorough understanding of the main operational processes for cash markets securities (equities, bonds and hybrid securities). It is very valuable for those who manage operational departments and need to have a broad and in-depth understanding of the operations area as a whole.

**Primary Market Certificate (PMC)**
The PMC examines the entire life cycle of bond issuance, from considering the financing choices through to the closing of transactions in the marketplace. While the syllabus examines the theoretical principles underpinning the markets and the instruments and financing techniques that are available, emphasis is placed on interpreting and using that knowledge in practical case studies.

**TRAINING PROGRAMMES**

The programme subjects include:
- An Introduction to Securitisation
- Capital Market Overview of Islamic Finance & Sukuk
- Collateral Management
- Commodities - An Introduction
- Commodities - Trading and Investment Strategies
- Corporate Actions - An Introduction
- Corporate Actions - Operational Challenges
- Credit Default Swaps (CDS) - Operations
- Credit Default Swaps (CDS) - Pricing, Applications & Features
- Fixed Income Portfolio Management
- ICMA Guide to Best Practice in the European Repo Market
- Inflation-linked Bonds and Structures
- Securities Lending & Borrowing
- Trading and Hedging Short-Term Interest Rate Risk
- Trading the Yield Curve with Interest Rate Derivatives

Please note:
- The qualifications and courses offered by ICMA Executive Education cannot be used as credits towards courses or degree programmes offered by the ICMA Centre, Henley Business School or the University of Reading
- These qualifications are available to study online
Programme Recognition

As a result of the continuing high standard of content within our training, ICMA Executive Education has been confirmed as an 'Approved Provider' under the CFA Institute's Continuing Education Programme. Candidates who study with us will receive a designated number of credit hours which can be used towards study with the CFA.

In addition, the ICMA Fixed Income Certificate (FIC) and Operations Certificate Programme (OCP) are both recognised by the UK's Financial Skills Partnership (FSP).

ICMA Centre

The ICMA Centre, University of Reading has an international reputation for providing quality teaching programmes tailored to the capital markets industry. Established in 1991 with funding provided by the International Capital Market Association (ICMA), the Centre is housed in a purpose-built modernist building with state-of-the-art facilities including two dealing rooms. In 2008, ICMA enabled an expansion to the building that now includes an additional 50 seat dealing room, 170 seat lecture theatre as well as new seminar rooms and a dedicated research area.

The International Capital Market Association

The International Capital Market Association (ICMA) represents financial institutions and other participants in the international capital market worldwide with over 500 members in over 60 countries. ICMA’s market conventions and standards have been the pillars of the international debt market for close to 50 years, providing the framework for good market practice which facilitates the orderly functioning of the market.

ICMA actively promotes the efficiency and cost effectiveness of the capital markets by bringing together market participants including regulatory authorities and governments.

Diplomas

ICMA Executive Education offers candidates the opportunity to achieve a recognised financial markets diploma by completing their studies in a defined pathway.

Relevant to all financial market practitioners, an ICMA Executive Education Diploma acknowledges a candidate's commitment to a period of self-development, which equips them with up-to-date and practical knowledge to advance their skill set and career.

Candidates who successfully complete the required courses will receive the:
- Diploma in Securities and Derivatives; or
- Diploma in Financial Market Operations

Scholarships

ICMA Executive Education offers a unique scholarship programme to ICMA member firms, allowing their employees to participate in our range of leading financial market qualifications at a highly reduced cost. Aimed at candidates under the age of 25, this initiative will help equip the capital market's future leaders with the knowledge and qualifications they need to reach their potential.

Contact

For full details regarding any of our courses please visit www.icmagroup.org/education
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