OPERATIONS CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME
I highly recommend this course to anybody working in operations. The OCP is very thorough and a highly useful programme.

Andreas Grimm
Senior Expert, Financial Operations Services
European Central Bank

The Operations Certificate Programme (OCP) is regarded as an essential qualification for professionals intending to develop their knowledge of financial market operations.

The syllabus has been specifically designed to deliver the information necessary for delegates to further develop their understanding of operations relating to both equity and debt securities. This includes detailed training on subjects such as repos, securities lending & borrowing, corporate actions, regulatory initiatives, derivatives and collateral management.

By completing the programme you will:

• Develop a broader knowledge of financial market operations which may be outside the scope of your current job
• Understand at a deeper level the fundamental nature of key financial products
• Be fully aware of the processing steps necessary to maintain control and to mitigate internal and external processing risks
• Understand mandatory external regulation as it relates to the central clearing of OTC derivatives
• Be part of a network of securities operations professionals around the world

This is a demanding and examined course aimed at developing a broad and in-depth knowledge of the crucial aspects of financial market operations. In order to prove a candidate’s full understanding of the course topics, numerous simulations are run with candidates working both independently and in small ‘firms’, competing against each other for accuracy and speed of calculation.
SYLLABUS

The OCP syllabus is organised around two key areas, broken down into multiple subtopics, concluding with the OCP exam:

1. Securities Operations
   - Securities trade life-cycle covering both equities and bonds
   - Securities trade life-cycle simulation; a ‘firm-versus-firm’ detailed exercise that mimics the tasks, deadlines and pressures experienced in an operations department
   - Repos - a detailed spotlight
   - Repo trade life-cycle simulation; a ‘firm-versus-firm’ detailed exercise on the tasks involved in processing a repo trade over multiple days
   - Securities lending & borrowing - a detailed spotlight
   - Corporate actions - a detailed spotlight
   - Regulatory overview

2. Derivative Operations and Collateral Management
   - Derivative fundamentals
   - Introduction to OTC derivatives
   - OTC derivative products & their processing
   - Collateral management for OTC derivatives
   - OTC derivative collateral life-cycle, incorporating a ‘firm-versus-firm’ detailed exercise on the tasks involved in collateral management of a trade over multiple days
   - Regulatory change for OTC derivatives
   - Central clearing & its impact on collateral

FORMAT

The Operations Certificate Programme is a five day, classroom-based training course taking place in various locations across Europe.

The carefully considered sequence of topics results in the candidates gradually accumulating their understanding in a series of linked building blocks.

The programme format is as follows:

- **Monday - Wednesday**: Securities Operations training
- **Thursday - Friday morning**: Derivative Operations and Collateral Management training
- **Friday afternoon**: OCP Exam and course conclusion

TARGET AUDIENCE

The programme is primarily intended for candidates working in operations and back office roles within a bank or fund management company, although it has become increasingly popular with those working in the middle office, collateral management and compliance areas. Other candidate profiles include those working for financial IT service companies, exchanges, data vendors and central securities depositories.

PROGRAMME RECOGNITION

The OCP is included on the UK’s Financial Skills Partnership (FSP) qualifications list for the ‘Operations’ area.

As a result of the continuing high standard of content within our training, candidates who study ICMA Executive Education qualifications will receive a designated number of credit hours which can be used towards study with the CFA.

“The OCP was certainly one of the best technical training courses I have attended in my professional life.”

Khaled Lachiheb
Senior Manager - Financial Services, PwC
This course increased my basic understanding of clearing & settlement work flows, as well as recognition of certain correlations.

Fabian Cosmann
Vice President, Eurex Bonds GmbH