

● Building a Solid Foundation – Academic Achievement

The standard qualification to obtain the designation Cert. Fin. Officer (SA) is a Masters level degree in Financial Management, Business Administration or Accounting. However, RPL will be applied to persons that have an unrelated or part qualification but have obtained leadership experience or obtained skills through volunteer experience and working with a mentor. Ideally the qualifications required to obtain the Cert. Fin. Officer (SA) designation will be obtained in the following order:

- B Com
- B Com Honours
- Masters in Business Administration with specialisation in Finance

● Building a Solid Foundation – Workplace Experience

Candidates should obtain eight to 10 years' experience in a managerial or senior position.

Workplace experience typically includes:

- Develop the company's strategic plan or goals together with the CEO, Board of Directors and other executives.
- Develop and implement financial strategies and monitor their performance.
- Manage/Oversee the company's or organizations financial departments (i.e. human resources, accounting, investments, taxes, legal, loan, budgeting, equity and debt financing, payroll, etc.).
- Facilitate benefits packages to be the most cost-effective as possible.
- Help lead the company or organization through acquisitions or mergers.

- Ensure all necessary financial information is filed or reported according to regulations.
- Report the company's or organization's financial status to the Board of Directors and other relevant parties.
- Direct all relevant risk management procedures (such as preparing for audits, insurance coverage, forecasting, legal issues and reporting and preventing financial risks).
- Acting as a liaison between the company or organization and banks, investors and other financial entities as well as financial services that have been outsourced.

Competency Assessment

Competency assessment takes the form of an examination of experience, sponsor confirmation and a peer review process. The competency assessment is linked to the agreed competency framework. The candidate must demonstrate how the competencies were met by completing an examination by experience. This examination must be supported by a verification from a sponsor. In addition, each applicant is subject to a verbal assessment performed by a committee consisting of senior financial executive peers. Applicant have right to request an additional verbal assessment if they do not agree with the initial outcome. A separate committee will be appointed independently.

The competency assessment is appropriate for CFOs that operate in either the private or public sector.