

# CIMA Professional Qualification: how to start if I have some experience in finance or business management?



Criteria	CIMA Diploma in Performance Management	CGMA Top Manager Program		CIMA CFO Program
		Option 1	Option 2	
Fast pathway	Route 1	Route 2	Route 3	Route 4
<b>Target audience</b>	Business professionals involved in measuring, analysing and reporting of data for planning, control and decision making.	Experienced managers and team leaders (or other equivalent mid-level roles).		CFOs, CEOs and senior management who have previously worked in finance.
<b>Program focus</b>	Making short/medium-term decisions and managing costs and performance.	Translating long-term decisions into medium term plans.	Translating long-term decisions into medium term plans. Long-term strategic decision making.	Long-term strategic decision making.
<b>Skills (learning outcomes)</b>	<p>Candidates will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• prepare costing information for different purposes to meet the needs of management;</li> <li>• prepare budget information and assess its use for planning and control purposes;</li> <li>• analyse performance using financial and nonfinancial information;</li> <li>• prepare information to support short-term decision-making;</li> <li>• use cost management and cost transformation techniques to manage costs and improve profitability;</li> <li>• apply capital investment appraisal techniques in order to support long-term decisions;</li> <li>• apply suitable tools and techniques for managing risk and uncertainty in capital projects;</li> <li>• explain which pricing strategies are appropriate;</li> <li>• advise on the measurement, analysis and reporting on the performance of responsibility centres;</li> <li>• explain transfer pricing issues.</li> </ul>	<p>Candidates will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• use data and relevant technology to manage organisational and individual performance, allocate resources to implement decisions;</li> <li>• monitor and report implementation of decisions;</li> <li>• prepare and interpret financial statements to show performance.</li> </ul>	<p>Candidates will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• use data and relevant technology to manage organisational and individual performance, allocate resources to implement decisions;</li> <li>• monitor and report implementation of decisions;</li> <li>• prepare and interpret financial statements to show performance;</li> <li>• support organisational leaders to craft strategy;</li> <li>• evaluate and manage risks that might prevent organisations from successfully implementing strategy;</li> <li>• value organisations;</li> <li>• source financial resources required to implement of strategy.</li> </ul>	<p>Candidates will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• support organisational leaders to craft strategy;</li> <li>• evaluate and manage risks that might prevent organisations from successfully implementing strategy;</li> <li>• value organisations;</li> <li>• source financial resources required to implement of strategy.</li> </ul>



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Entry requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No specific education level requirements.</li> <li>Understanding of accounting basics.</li> <li>Good command of mathematics.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Professionals with at least 6 years of work experience in finance.</li> <li>CIMA will review the CV and assess eligibility into the program.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Candidates who hold membership of a recognized professional accounting body, a finance related degree or an MBA/Masters in Accounting.</li> <li>Professionals with at least 10 years of management in finance or senior business functions.</li> <li>CIMA will review the CV and assess eligibility into the program.</li> </ul>
Exams	Two exams: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P1 Management Accounting</li> <li>P2 Advanced Management Accounting</li> </ul>	Only one exam – Management Case Study exam.	Two exams: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Management Case Study exam</li> <li>Strategic Case Study exam</li> </ul>	Only one exam – Strategic Case Study exam.
Duration	1 year	0.5 year	1 year	0.5 year
Award	CIMA Diploma in Performance Management	CIMA Advanced Diploma in Management Accounting	CGMA Designation & CIMA Membership	CGMA Designation & CIMA Membership



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Possibility to continue the CIMA Professional Qualification	Yes	Yes	Not applicable, as candidates have already completed the program.	
Exams to be taken to complete the CIMA Professional Qualification	5 exams: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management Case Study</li> <li>• E3 Strategic Management</li> <li>• P3 Risk Management</li> <li>• F3 Financial Strategy</li> <li>• Strategic Case Study</li> </ul>	4 exams: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• E3 Strategic Management</li> <li>• P3 Risk Management</li> <li>• F3 Financial Strategy</li> <li>• Strategic Case Study</li> </ul>		
Time required to complete the program	2.5 years	2 years		
Total route duration	3.5 years	2.5 years	1 year	0.5 year

