

THE CFP® PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCY PROFILE

CFP® Examination Blueprint

(Effective November 2007)




The CFP® Examination Blueprint, effective November 2007, is the direct outcome of the validation of the CFP® Professional Competency Profile ("the Competency Profile"), and one of the most important results of Financial Planners Standards Council's competency-based analysis of the financial planning profession in Canada. The Examination Blueprint sets out the weightings assigned to the examination criteria (the Competency Profile) for testing on the November 2007 and subsequent CFP Examinations. It also guides the Panel of Examiners, responsible for setting the CFP Examination, in the development of the certification examination and examination candidates in their preparation for the same.

Any given question on the CFP Examination may focus on a specific element of competency from the CFP Professional Competency Profile or, in representing the integrative nature of financial planning, may require the demonstration of

multiple elements of competency. When preparing for the CFP Examination, candidates should use this blueprint together with the Competency Profile to focus their preparations. While the inherent Professional Skills and required Technical Knowledge outlined in the Competency Profile are not explicitly weighted, candidates will be expected to have sufficient Professional Skills and Technical Knowledge to demonstrate their competence.

Content on the CFP Examination will be allocated as follows: by Financial Planning Function (Collection, Analysis and Synthesis); by Fundamental Financial Planning Practice and Core Financial Planning Competency within each Function; and, overall, by Financial Planning Component. These weightings are described in the following tables, of which Table 2 mirrors the CFP Professional Competency Matrix included with the Competency Profile.

ALLOCATION BY FINANCIAL PLANNING FUNCTION

1 COLLECTION 36% - 40% OF THE CFP® EXAMINATION	Allocation Within the Collection Function		
	1.0 Fundamental Financial Planning Practices	11% - 15%	 OF COLLECTION
	1.1 Collects the quantitative information required to develop a financial plan	38% - 42%	
1.2 Collects the qualitative information required to develop a financial plan	45% - 49%		
2 ANALYSIS 36% - 40% OF THE CFP® EXAMINATION	Allocation Within the Analysis Function		
	2.0 Fundamental Financial Planning Practices	10% - 14%	 OF ANALYSIS
	2.1 Identifies potential opportunities and constraints	43% - 47%	
2.2 Assesses information to formulate strategies	41% - 45%		
3 SYNTHESIS 22% - 26% OF THE CFP® EXAMINATION	Allocation Within the Synthesis Function		
	3.0 Fundamental Financial Planning Practices	11% - 15%	 OF SYNTHESIS
	3.1 Formulates and evaluates strategies to develop a financial plan	85% - 89%	

ALLOCATION BY FINANCIAL PLANNING PRACTICE AND COMPONENT

Fundamental Financial Planning Practices	10% - 14%	Financial Management	14% - 18%	Asset Management	18% - 22%
Risk Management	13% - 17%	Tax Planning	9% - 13%	Retirement Planning	14% - 18%
				Estate Planning	8% - 12%

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FINANCIAL PLANNING FUNCTIONS:

1 **COLLECTION**
36% - 40% OF THE
CFP® EXAMINATION

2 **ANALYSIS**
36% - 40% OF THE
CFP® EXAMINATION

3 **SYNTHESIS**
22% - 26% OF THE
CFP® EXAMINATION

Fundamental Financial Planning Practices

10% - 14%



FUNDAMENTAL FINANCIAL PLANNING PRACTICES

11% - 15%



10% - 14%



11% - 15%



Financial Planning Components

Financial Management 14% - 18%

Asset Management 18% - 22%

Risk Management 13% - 17%

Tax Planning 9% - 13%

Retirement Planning 14% - 18%

Estate Planning 8% - 12%

CORE FINANCIAL PLANNING COMPETENCIES

38% - 42%

1.1 Collects the quantitative information required to develop a financial plan

45% - 49%

1.2 Collects the qualitative information required to develop a financial plan

43% - 47%

2.1 Identifies potential opportunities and constraints

41% - 45%

2.2 Assesses information to formulate strategies

85% - 89%

3.1 Formulates and evaluates strategies to develop a financial plan

≡ 100%
OF THE CFP® EXAMINATION

≡ 100%
OF COLLECTION

≡ 100%
OF ANALYSIS

≡ 100%
OF SYNTHESIS