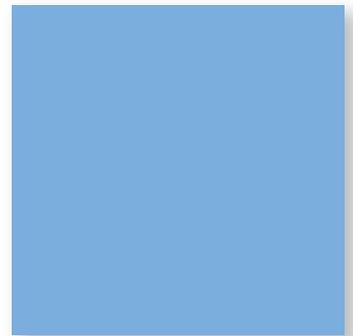


Quality, Innovation and Relevance in Financial Education

Level 6 Advanced Diploma in Financial Advice (Adv DipFA®)



*A relevant and practical
Level 6 financial advice qualification
that can lead to Chartered status*



www.iofs.org.uk/AdvDipFA

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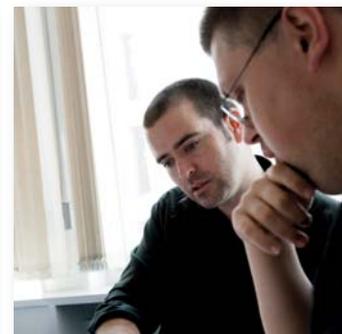
The Advanced Diploma in Financial Advice (Adv DipFA®) is a qualification for ambitious retail investment advisers that can lead to Chartered status.

It is ideal for those who wish to differentiate themselves from their peers and demonstrate the highest level of professional standards and commitment to their clients and to their own personal development.

The Adv DipFA® has been developed in response to feedback from, and in close consultation with, the financial advice sector. It builds on existing qualifications and explores the theories and practices associated with the effective management of wealth. It equips students with a deeper understanding of investment strategies, taxation, trusts, and later life planning and develops the expertise needed to provide a sophisticated financial advice and planning service to customers.

Areas of learning include:

- Understanding the environment in which wealth management and advanced financial planning operates focusing on the range of products that may be used to develop a client's investment portfolio
- Developing higher level skills in financial analysis and the preparation and interpretation of financial data for effective decision-making
- Interrogating existing UK rules, legislation and regulations to facilitate advice, guidance and recommendations to meet a client's pension transfer needs and aspirations
- Developing effective strategies for client's later life planning and advise clients of the implications of financial decisions taken in later life
- Understanding and interpreting the relevant tax legislation and regulation in order to develop effective and appropriate tax and trust strategies
- Applying an ethical approach within a legal and regulatory framework to making client recommendations on courses of action to optimise their asset portfolio
- Applying effective management structures and processes within organisations that take into account commercial, ethical, governance and regulatory considerations
- Demonstrating to clients, employers and regulators a commitment to ongoing development and the highest professional standards



Facts at a glance

- The **ifs** Advanced Diploma in Financial Advice (Adv DipFA®) is a Level 6 qualification
- Adv DipFA® consist of three mandatory units and two optional units from a selection of three topics
- Registration for Adv DipFA® costs £425 per unit and includes online access to learning support materials and resources
- Units 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 are assessed by coursework and paper-based examination, unit 3 is assessed by an 8,000 word project report which requires underpinning knowledge learned from the other units

Chartered Status

Successful completion of the Adv DipFA® can lead to Chartered status with the Institute. Applicants for Chartered status must have at least two years relevant work experience.

Achieving and maintaining Chartered status is mark of professional standing that recognises academic achievement, an ongoing dedication to professional development and a commitment to the highest of ethical and business standards.

Once Chartered status has been achieved it must be maintained through membership of the Institute and completion of a programme of high quality, structured, continuing professional development such as that required to qualify for a Statement of Professional Standing in line with the FSA's requirements for maintaining competence for retail investment advisers.

Registration

To register, please complete the registration form which can be found in your information pack or online at www.iofs.org.uk/AdvDipFA

To be eligible to study Adv DipFA®, applicants are required to hold:

- i. O Level / GCSE Mathematics at minimum grade C (or equivalent); **and**
- ii. O Level / GCSE English Language at minimum grade C (or equivalent); **and**
- iii. The Institute QCF Level 4 Diploma in Financial Advice (DipFA®) or an equivalent benchmark qualification in financial advice and planning; **or**
- iv. Some applicants may be required to submit a CV supported by a 500 to 600 word statement indicating why they have chosen to undertake the programme and how it will support their career plans if any of the above requirements have not been achieved.

This will be undertaken to establish if the work experience of the applicant is of sufficient fit for the student to realistically achieve the Adv DipFA®.

Study and learning resources

Adv DipFA® is a distance learning qualification, students are given online access to learning support materials and resources in addition to support through a variety of resources including:

- Online unit tutor support
- Webinars
- Access to *ifs KnowledgeBank*
- Exemplar coursework and examination papers

Technical requirements

As Adv DipFA® is an online learning course, you are required to have a computer with:

- Internet access and a web browser
- Adobe Flash Player version 10.1 or higher
- A headset and microphone

Cost

Registration fee (per unit - includes online access to learning support materials and resources)	£425
Coursework resit fee (coursework element)	£150

Qualification structure

Mandatory units

Unit 1	Taxation, Trusts and Tax Compliance 150 recommended learning hours
Unit 2	Managing Investments 150 recommended learning hours
Unit 3	Wealth Management Services 100 recommended learning hours

Optional units

CHOOSE TWO	
Unit 4	Pension Transfers 100 recommended learning hours
Unit 5	Later Life Planning and Advice 100 recommended learning hours
Unit 6	Strategic Management in Financial Services 100 recommended learning hours

**Qualification: Adv DipFA®
(Advanced Diploma in Financial Advice)**



Level 6 Advanced Diploma in Financial Advice (Adv DipFA®)

Membership

Membership of the Institute of Financial Services provides access to cost-effective and appropriate services that meet the very specific needs of the financial and mortgage adviser community and costs just £66 per annum. Chartered membership costs £96 per annum. Further information can be found at www.iofs.org.uk/Membership

About the Institute of Financial Services

The Institute of Financial Services supports and promotes professionalism in the regulated advice sector and the wider financial services industry. It does so through the provision of qualifications, continuing professional development services and through the dissemination of best practice. The Institute is a division of the *ifs* School of Finance, a registered charity, incorporated by Royal Charter and is recognised as an awarding organisation by Ofqual.

As an FSA Accredited Body, the Institute of Financial Services is able to issue Statements of Professional Standing (SPS) to retail investment advisers wishing to operate unsupervised after 31 December 2012.

The Institute also offers a number of complementary services designed to support advisers in meeting the necessary requirements for achieving and maintaining competence. Find out more by visiting www.iofs.org.uk/SPS



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