



Become a globally recognized Chartered Public Finance Accountant

Opportunity for Master's in Governmental Accounting graduates

Graduates of Rutgers Business School's **Master's in Governmental Accounting program** now have the opportunity to qualify as **Chartered Public Finance Accountants** (CPFA), an internationally recognized designation for those wishing to practice government accounting outside the U.S. and for U.S.-based international institutions.

A partnership between Rutgers University and the **Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy** (CIPFA) means Master's in Governmental Accounting graduates can access and complete core elements of the CIPFA International Public Financial Management (IPFM) qualification, which leads to the Chartered Public Finance Accountant (CPFA) designation.

This is your chance to take your government accountancy career global and gain recognition for your skills and professional competencies.

Quick facts

- Qualify as a Chartered Public Finance Accountant (CPFA)
- Ideal for those who wish to practice government accounting outside the U.S. or for international institutions based in the U.S.
- Build on and extend the knowledge gained in your Master's in Governmental Accounting program
- Study with CIPFA, the only professional accountancy body in the world exclusively dedicated to government finance
- Complete all work and assessment online

Learn more and enroll at:
www.cipfa.org/pathwaytoCPFA



From Professor Irfan Bora, director, Master of Accountancy in Governmental Accounting program:



"It's our pleasure to collaborate with CIPFA, which helps both our organisations achieve our mutual goal of promoting excellence in government financial management and in serving the public interest. This agreement will help strengthen our graduates' accounting careers globally, providing them with tools and training, and the opportunity for membership in the only professional accountancy body in the world exclusively dedicated to government finance. CIPFA's expertise and ongoing commitment to working with partners internationally will put Rutgers Business School at the forefront of government financial management best practice."

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy?

Based in London in the UK, CIPFA is the only professional accountancy body in the world exclusively dedicated to government finance.

CIPFA's 14,000 members work throughout public services worldwide, in national audit agencies, in major accountancy firms, and in other bodies where public money needs to be effectively and efficiently managed.

CIPFA is committed to championing high standards in the accountancy profession. It is a member of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) and has provided specialist support to the public finance profession across all levels and specialisms since being founded in 1885.

What is the CIPFA International Public Financial Management qualification?

CIPFA's International Public Financial Management (IPFM) qualification is the professional accountancy program of choice for individuals seeking global government finance and accountancy careers. Like the Rutgers program, it covers a wide breadth of topics, from the fundamentals of public financial management to global strategic leadership and international finance.

Who is this opportunity open to?

All graduates of the Rutgers Master's in Governmental Accounting program can register to complete the IPFM qualification.

What do I need to do to complete the International Public Financial Management qualification?

The parallels between the Rutgers program and the CIPFA IPFM qualification mean that as a Rutgers Master's in Governmental Accounting graduate, you are exempt from 11 of the 12 IPFM exams. To gain the IPFM qualification – and then the CPFA designation – you will need to:

- Join CIPFA as a student member and register for the IPFM qualification
- Complete two CIPFA e-learning modules from the CIPFA IPFM qualification (you are not required to take the module exams)
- Complete the CIPFA case study examination

What is involved in the CIPFA e-learning modules?

There are two e-learning modules which must be completed prior to the case study examination:

- Strategy and Policy Development, which explores the way organisations develop the policies and strategies that drive their actions, from stakeholder analysis through to strategy delivery.
- Financial Management, which examines the financial management tools necessary to support decision making.

You will also have access to the remaining IPFM modules. We recommend that you look through these, in case there are any subjects or areas you want to brush up on before the final exam.

The e-learning modules are taught online via videos, reading materials and practice test questions and will each take approximately 100 hours or 14 to 20 days to complete.

What is involved in the CIPFA case study examination?

When you have completed the e-learning modules you will then begin preparation for the case study examination. This preparation will include online tutorials and a series of mock tests which will be marked by an experienced tutor and personal feedback provided. Additional technical revision sessions will also be available, to help refresh and consolidate your knowledge in advance of the final examination.

The case study itself is a written scenario based on a fictional organization. It will be emailed to you four weeks prior to your scheduled examination date and will present you with several challenges or issues that you will be asked to respond to in the final examination, applying all the knowledge you have gained over your Rutgers program and the two CIPFA e-learning modules.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed via a final, four-hour examination based on the case study.

How long will it take to complete the e-learning courses and case study?

Each e-learning module will take approximately 100 hours or 14 to 20 days to complete.

The preparation for the case study exam will take approximately 14 weeks to complete, depending on your prior knowledge or experience.

How is the International Public Financial Management qualification delivered?

Like the Rutgers program, everything is accessed and taught online, via CIPFA's online learning platform.

How do I obtain my Chartered Public Finance Accountant status?

When you have successfully completed the IPFM e-learning modules and case study examination, you will be invited to apply for full CIPFA membership and your Chartered Public Finance Accountant designation.

In addition to completing the IPFM qualification, you will need to show that you have at least three years' work experience in finance and/or accountancy. This work experience will need to be verified by your employer and signed off by a professional accountant, for example a registered Chartered Public Accountant, as part of your CIPFA membership application.

If you don't have at least three years' work experience, don't worry. You will be invited to join CIPFA as a student member and will be able to apply for your full CPFA designation when you have obtained the necessary work experience.

To maintain your CPFA status throughout your career, you will need to continue to be a member of CIPFA and comply with professional standards, including a commitment to Continuing Professional Development (CPD).

How will membership of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy benefit me?

In addition to the Chartered Public Finance Accountant designation, you will have access to a wide range of practical resources and support to help you excel in your global government finance career.

These include access to news, reports and analysis; online libraries of materials on international government and management issues; and an array of CPD opportunities to develop and extend your public finance skills and knowledge over the course of your career. You also become part of an international network of qualified government accountancy professionals.

Cost

The total cost for completing the IPFM qualification is GBP 2,000. This includes:

- Access to all of the IPFM e-learning modules
- Access to the CIPFA case study and associated learning materials
- The final examination
- Your student registration

This fee also includes your first year of CIPFA student membership. While you're working towards your IPFM qualification and CPFA designation you will be registered as a CIPFA student member, which normally costs GBP 158 per annum.

On successful completion of the IPFM qualification (and if you have the requisite three years of practical work experience), you will be able to apply for full CIPFA membership – and obtain your CPFA designation – which costs GBP 325 per annum.

Enroll now

To learn more and enroll, go to:
www.cipfa.org/pathwaytoCPFA

Any queries?

Phone: +44 (0)20 7543 5600

Email: victoria.strachan@cipfa.org

To learn more about CIPFA member benefits visit:
www.cipfa.org/memberbenefits