



CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER BOARD OF STANDARDS, INC.

What to Expect on Exam Day: Frequently Asked Questions

1. What time should I arrive at the testing center?

Plan to arrive 30 minutes before your scheduled appointment to allow time for the check-in procedures. If you arrive after your scheduled appointment time, you will not be allowed to test and will forfeit your exam fee.

2. The name on my ID does not match exactly with the name listed on my CFP Board account. Will that cause a problem when entering the exam room?

Ensure that the first and last name listed on your valid government-issued ID matches what is listed within your online CFP Board account. Derivatives of your first name (e.g., Robert to Bob) are not an issue.

3. Can I access my locker during a session?

You will have access to your locker **only during the scheduled 40-minute break between the two exam sessions**. Due to security reasons, you will not be able to access your locker during any unscheduled breaks.

4. Are the tax tables and formula sheet provided prior to exam day?

Yes. Visit CFP Board's website to download the [tax tables](#) and [formula sheet](#). Electronic versions of these documents are incorporated in the testing software (paper versions may not be used during the exam).

5. How do I know if my calculator is allowed in the testing room?

Only the calculators on CFP Board's [pre-approved calculator list](#) are allowed in the testing rooms. Please ensure that your calculator is listed, and become familiar with the memory clearing procedure for your calculator model. Calculators are inspected by Test Center Administrators prior to the start of the exam.

6. How many questions are in each session?

There are **85 questions in session one** and **85 questions in session two**. The exam will include at least one case study. After completing session one, you *will not* have access to the questions from that session while you complete session two.

7. How many hours of total preparation are needed to pass the exam? Is there a preferred method of preparation for the exam?

The total preparation time needed will vary from one individual to the next. We recommend you develop a plan that provides adequate time to reviewing items related to each of the 8 Principal Knowledge Topics and 8 Job Task Domains.

It can be helpful to develop practice questions that integrate ideas from your readings, lectures, and notes. You may also use the [practice exams](#) and [sample questions](#) available from CFP Board, or the services and exam preparation materials from exam review course providers.

8. How can CFP Board's practice exams assist me in preparing for the CFP® exam?

The [practice exams](#) consist of 50 unique, authentic CFP® exam questions. Although these actual questions will not appear on any future CFP® exam, they are typical of the types of questions asked and represent the full range of topic areas covered. You have the option to reveal the correct answers, with explanations, after you have marked your answers.

9. How is the exam scored? Is there a specific score that is needed to pass each domain or the overall exam?

The CFP® exam is a criterion-referenced, pass-or-fail exam with scoring based upon a minimum standard (the “cut score”) established during the standard-setting process. It is the candidate's overall performance on the exam that determines a pass or fail result.

10. Does CFP Board provide feedback if I am unsuccessful in passing the CFP® exam?

Candidates who do not pass receive a diagnostic report of their exam performance across the Principal Topics, with indications of relative strengths and weaknesses. This report is only provided to candidates that are unsuccessful in order to assist them in preparing to retake the exam.