

Ref: FPSBI / OPR / 2 - 01 / 2010  
February 9, 2010

**Examination Notification**  
**Examination 5 (Advanced Financial Planning) and Challenge Status Examination**  
**Examination Date: March 20, 2010 (Saturday)**

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**Important Note**

- **The applicable Assessment Year for all Income Tax purposes will be 2010-11, unless specified otherwise in the question body.**
- All students filling up the examination form shall be deemed to have read and understood the Examination Notification and agree to abide by the terms and conditions thereof.
- Students are not allowed to bring or use Laptop/Palmtop or such other gadgets. Access to Excel sheet shall be available to the students in the computer provided by NSE at their Examination Centers.
- Hall Tickets will NOT be issued. Students will get SMS alerts and email from NSE/FPSB India informing about the Examination schedule and test centre address prior to the Examination.
- Students are requested to carry their identifiable Photo ID Proof.
- **Students should ensure that all personal information such as mobile number and email address, provided by them on NSE website & with FPSB India is correct. This is in order to ensure proper communication.**
- **No request for carry forward of examination OR change in exam dates and exam centre, etc. would be entertained by FPSB India under any circumstances.**

**I Examination Center**

Examination Centers for the March. 2010 Examination shall be NSE Centers at Ahmadabad, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Mumbai, New Delhi and non-NSE center at Bangalore.

**II Examination Schedule**

- Timings, Duration & Mode: The examination will be of 4 hours duration and will be conducted online.
- It is mandatory for the students to obtain NCFM number, if not already obtained.
- It is mandatory for the students to upload their photograph with NSE, if not done earlier. The same has to be done at website [www.nseindia.com](http://www.nseindia.com) (link NCFM →online registration/enrolment →photograph upload).
- Reporting Time for the students will be half an hour before the start of the Examination.
- The Examination shall be bilingual (English and Hindi). However the student has to choose the option at the time of submitting the Examination form to FPSB India. Students should note that their question paper shall be in the same language as opted by them and NO switch between languages will be available before / during Examination by the system.

**III Examination Pattern**

- FPSB India intends to send four probable case studies, in advance, to each student on their registered email-id at least two days prior to the date of examination in order to help students familiarize with the cases, thus optimizing time for working on the problems based on cases during the examination.
- The Question paper shall consist of a Test Booklet having any two similar Case studies depicting real life scenarios of Personal Financial Planning situations. The Test Booklet shall be distributed at the time of Examination.
- Set of questions or incomplete statements based on the given case study shall appear on the system.
- Each question or incomplete statement is followed by four alternatives. Students are expected to select the correct alternative on the system and also fill-in the back-up sheet provided by FPSB India.
- Each question will carry pre-specified marks for each correct answer.
- FPSB India will provide the students with answer backup sheet and rough sheets for doing their workings. The student has to return the Test Booklet and the answer backup sheet along with all rough sheets, to the invigilator before leaving the examination hall. Students are required to fill the answer backup sheet simultaneously in order to avoid loss of time due to system failure, if any.
- Students will be evaluated based on the following learning objectives:

- ✓ Determining the client's financial status by analyzing and evaluating the client's information.
- ✓ Ability to comprehend and analyze client specific situations and select the best solution among the given options. This entails a thorough and sound understanding of the well-defined comprehensive CFP<sup>CM</sup> Curriculum, covering all the Modules (Module I to Module VI).

The students are expected to know the names and generic features of Key Financial Products (Mutual Funds, Insurances, Debt instruments etc.) available in the market today, under broad categories.

FPSB India would treat the instances of resorting to unfair means or malpractices noticed during examination very seriously and any student found doing so will be expelled from taking the examination and his/her candidature will be cancelled.

**Permitted Accessories:** Students are permitted to use their own calculators – scientific / financial. No exchange of accessories will be permitted during the examination. Students shall also have access to Excel/Calculator in the computers provided by NSE.

Kindly note:

1. Students are not allowed to carry Laptop, Palmtop, Log Tables, Annuity tables etc.
2. Students are not allowed to use Calculator in their Mobile Phones.
3. Mobile phones have to be necessarily kept in the “switched off” mode during the examination.

#### **IV** Examination Results

Results will be declared by the system itself once the student clicks the ‘SUBMIT’ button after the Examination is completed OR if the Examination duration is elapsed the system will treat the answer sheet as ‘submitted’ and result will be displayed on the screen. Students shall get a printout of their result at the test center after the Examination.

#### **V** Confidentiality Policy

- The results of all candidates who remain unsuccessful shall be kept confidential in the custody of FPSB India. However, results of successful candidates in terms of grades received in the examination are intended to be displayed on FPSB India's website for a period of about a month. The information also includes the successful candidates' eligibility or otherwise to receive CFP<sup>CM</sup> Certification.
- The documents submitted by the candidates at examination hall, viz. rough sheets, score back-up sheets, feedback form and other examination documents containing case studies are the property of FPSB India, are kept confidential in custody of FPSB India, and are not subject to any public scrutiny. The same is to preserve the confidentiality of candidate specific information. These are also used for useful information to strengthen our examination system and cross-check the relevant information in case of review or appeals received post-examination.

#### **VI** Non-discrimination Policy

FPSB India follows a policy of non-discrimination among candidates who appear in this exam through separate pathways, viz. Regular Pathway and Challenge Status Pathway, and within the Regular Pathway, two modes, viz. through authorized Education Providers and through Self-Study. The on-line testing medium, algorithm, facilities provided in terms of on-line content and physical documents, testing and threshold criteria are the same for all candidates. On the strength of the aforesaid, there is no discrimination of any kind among eligible candidates on the basis of sector, region, caste, religion, age, gender or on the basis of additional qualification and experience than those mandated depending on the pathway chosen, or on the basis of the allegiance of candidates to institutional entities or authorized educational entities.

#### **VII** Evaluation System

- A student who scores 50% or more will pass the examination and anyone who scores below 50% (exclusive) will fail the examination.

- There is no negative marking in the Examination.
- Successful students in the CFP<sup>CM</sup> examination are not given their scores or ranks as practiced in most International Professional Certification Examinations. However, given the aspiration needs of the students, grades will be provided to the successful students. The unsuccessful students shall get their marks in percentage terms along with the result.
- The following Grading System will be used to provide grades.

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Score (Percentage)</b>
<b>A</b>	Equal and above 75%
<b>B</b>	Equal and above 60% and less than 75%
<b>C</b>	Equal and above 50% and less than 60%
<b>Fail</b>	Less than 50%

### **VIII Review and Appeals Process**

Students who want their scores reevaluated may appeal for such a request in writing within 7 days of the declaration of the result. The fee for re-evaluation is Rs. 1,500 (Rupees One Thousand Five Hundred only) to be paid by Demand Draft, in favor of FPSB India. Written request for re-evaluation should be addressed to FPSB India - Knowledge Management Division. The request must include the student name, EP name, NCFM / FPSB India Registration Number, the examination date, time & venue for which the request is being made, the fee and the specific reason for a recheck. Requests without the fee will be returned and requests postmarked more than 7 days after the declaration of the result shall not be processed.

Specific query related to a particular question/s, if any, should be pointed out by the student during the course of the examination only. For this the student is expected to submit his/her query in writing to the exam coordinator after completing the examination, while submitting all other examination related documents. Subsequent queries through mail or post to FPSB India shall not be admitted. Also no question/s should be taken out of the examination hall as it shall lead to disqualification of the candidature.

FPSB India would treat the instances of resorting to unfair means or malpractices noticed during examination very seriously and any student found doing so will be expelled from taking the examination and his/her candidature will be cancelled.

**Decisions of FPSB India in all matters pertaining to the Examinations shall be final and binding.**

**Priti K Gharat**  
**AM - Operations**  
**Financial Planning Standards Board India**