

PRESS RELEASE

December 2014 CFP^{CM} Certification Examinations Results Release

Examinees committed to raising professional standards Seize the opportunities of industry growth and professional skills shortage

(Hong Kong – 4 February, 2015) – The Institute of Financial Planners of Hong Kong (IFPHK) today announces the results of the Certification Examinations held in December 2014, including the CFP Certification Examination (Foundation Level), the CFP Certification Examination (Level 1) and the CFP Certification Examination (Level 2). The majority of examinees are employees of the banking, insurance and independent financial advisory sectors, and possessing a bachelor's degree or above.

Pass Rates –The CFP Certification Examination (Foundation Level) and CFP Certification Examination (Level 1) recorded similar pass rates at 64.47% and 64.71% respectively, whilst 50.55% of the examinees passed in the CFP Certification Examination (Level 2).

Meritors and Top Scorers – Six examinees attained Merit status in the CFP Certification Examination (Foundation Level). Two examinees were awarded with Top Scorer status in the CFP Certification Examination (Level 1). No examinee has been awarded Top Scorer status in the CFP Certification Examination (Level 2).

Examinees' Education Level – Over 80% of the total number of examinees possess a bachelor's degree or above.

Examinees' Industry Background – Of the three examinations, over 83% of examinees come from banking, insurance and independent financial advisory sectors.

Dennis Lau, Chief Executive Officer of the IFPHK, said, "the examination results release is highly topical, as it coincides with the financial industry in Hong Kong reporting greater optimism on its future development. According to the research report 'Developing Hong Kong's Human Capital in Financial Services' issued by the Financial Development Council in late January, the key challenges facing the industry include hiring staff with diverse skill sets to meet the industry's growing needs. These include communication and presentation skills, which are important components of the CFP certification curriculum.

He added, "The CFP Certification is a globally-recognized professional qualification which equips practitioners with core competences including financial management, investment planning, asset management, insurance planning, risk management, retirement planning, tax planning and estate planning. These skills boost certificants' competitive edge in the financial industry and are practical for job duties in the front, middle and back offices."

The CFP Certification is the world's oldest and most-recognized advanced certification for financial planners. To obtain the CFP Certification, individuals have to satisfy the "4E" requirements of Education, Examination, Experience and Ethics. The certification process ensures that all CFP professionals are committed to providing competent and ethical financial planning services to clients.

The AFP Certification equips financial industry practitioners with a wide range of core competencies in financial planning for their everyday professional needs. Individuals who passed the CFP Certification Examination (Foundation Level) may obtain the AFP Certification after satisfying the rigorous "4E" certification requirements before moving onto the CFP Certification.





For results of the CFP Certification Examination (Foundation Level) in December 2014, please click HERE.

For results of the CFP Certification Examination (Level 1) in December 2014, please click HERE.

For results of the CFP Certification Examination (Level 2) in December 2014, please click HERE.

The next CFP Certification Examination (Foundation Level) and CFP Certification Examination (Level 1) will be held on 21 March, 2015, please visit our website <u>www.ifphk.org</u> for details.

Media Enquiry

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About IFPHK

IFPHK was established in June 2000 as a non-profit organization for the fast–growing financial services industry. It aims to be recognized in the region as the premier professional body representing financial planners dedicated to upholding the highest professional standards.

The Institute is the sole licensing body in Hong Kong authorized by Financial Planning Standards Board Limited to grant the much-coveted and internationally-recognized CFP^{CM} Certification and AFPTM Certification to qualified financial planning professionals in Hong Kong and Macau.

It represents more than 6,800 financial planning practitioners in Hong Kong from such diverse professional backgrounds as banking, insurance, independent financial advisory, stock broking, accounting, and legal services.

Currently there are more than 153,000 CFP certificants in 26 countries/regions; the majority of these professionals are in the U.S., Canada, China, Australia and Japan, with more than 4,700 CFP certificants in Hong Kong.

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