



INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED BANKERS

A Subsidiary of the American Bankers Association

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Rigorous Qualifications of a Certified Trust & Financial Advisor

The Certified Trust and Financial Advisor (CTFA) designation exists to promote professional competence in the wealth management and trust profession. The certification aims to provide wealth management and trust professionals with a form of recognition based on attainment of prescribed standards of knowledge. For management and the public, the designation is an indication of wealth management and trust professionals who possess the knowledge and skills required by the profession.

Certification for CTFA is a voluntary process and is managed by the Institute of Certified Bankers (ICB), a subsidiary of the American Bankers Association, along with practicing CTFA advisory board members. Qualification for the CTFA designation requires substantial levels of experience and education, including a minimum of three years of experience in wealth management and completion of an ICB-approved training program. A letter of recommendation and commitment to the ICB Code of Ethics are also required.

Earning the designation involves passing a comprehensive exam covering fiduciary responsibilities and trust activities, personal finance and insurance (including retirement planning, estate transfer planning and income tax planning), tax law, investment management and ethics. Maintaining the certification requires completing 45 credits of continuing education every three years with a minimum of six hours in the four core knowledge areas – fiduciary and trust activities, personal financial planning, tax law and investments management – plus three continuing education credits in ethics.

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About Institute of Certified Bankers

The Institute of Certified Bankers (ICB), a national association of certified professionals in the financial services industry, was established in 1990 to meet industry needs for programs to help banking professionals improve proficiency. As a subsidiary of the American Bankers Association, ICB promotes the highest standards of performance in the financial services industry by validating individuals' knowledge and expertise.