



CFP Financial Plan Development Course (aka: “Capstone” or “CFP 6”) requirement

The Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards announced changes to the educational requirement for those students beginning January 1, 2012 or later. These changes will require a Financial Plan Development course be added to the College for Financial Planning’s Professional Education program. All students enrolling into a CFP Certification Professional Education program with the College after January 1, 2012, will be required to take this additional course to meet the educational requirement of the CFP Board and be eligible to sit for the CFP® Certification Examination.

Any student who has a matriculation date into the College for Financial Planning’s CFP Certification Education Program before January 1, 2012, and completes the CFP Certification Professional Education Program requirements by December 31, 2014, will not be required to take this course and will be able to sit for the CFP® Certification Examination assuming completion of the College’s pre-2012 requirements (five courses in the certification program and seven courses in the master’s program).

Below is a breakdown of who will be required to take the “Capstone Course” and who is exempt.

Required to complete the Financial Plan Development Course

- Students who enroll in the CFP Certification Professional Education Program January 1, 2012 or later.
- Students who enrolled in the CFP Certification Professional Education Program before January 1, 2012, but do not successfully complete and graduate from the program by December 31, 2014.
- Individuals challenging the CFP® Certification Examination for the first time after January 1, 2012*

Exempt from completing the “Capstone Course”

- Students who enroll in the CFP Certification Professional Education Program before January 1, 2012, and complete the program by December 31, 2014. This includes the following:
 - Students enrolled in the CFP Certification Professional Education Program prior to January 1, 2012, regardless of their enrollment status (i.e., dismissed, inactive, active, complete, graduate)
 - Students who enroll in one course of the CFP program (including CFP challenge courses) prior to January 1, 2012, regardless of their status prior to January 1, 2012 (i.e., dismissed, inactive, active, complete, graduate)
 - Individuals who challenge the CFP® Certification Examination prior to January 1, 2012*

All students, especially challengers, should be advised to confirm their status and qualifications to take the CFP® Certification Examination with the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards.

*These are the CFP Board rules as they currently (October, 2011) relate to challengers. The CFP Board has not yet addressed required completion dates for challengers. Accordingly, we anticipate some eventual changes regarding rules as they relate to challengers.