

## IMPORTANT DISTINCTION

CFA Society of San Francisco (CFASF) and CFA Institute are **different organizations!**

We are **CFASF** - the local society serving Bay Area CFA charterholders. We assist candidates in the following ways:

- Provide information sessions about the exam process;
- Run live review courses for all 3 exam levels;
- Facilitate study groups;
- Hold *in-person* CFASF mock exams at levels I & II.



### **CFASF DOES NOT:**

- Administer, write or grade the actual CFA exams.
- Register candidates for the CFA exams.
- Set exam policies or make decisions regarding exam issues.
- Make determinations about job experience for membership qualification.

**CFA Institute** is the global association of investment professionals that awards the CFA® designation. Candidates will interface with CFA Institute to:



- Register for all CFA exams
- Take *online* CFA Institute sample, mock and practice exams
- Apply for membership\* when ready

### **Important links to exam information on CFA Institute Website:**

- **Course of Study** (main information page for candidates)  
<https://www.cfainstitute.org/cfaprogram/courseofstudy/Pages/index.aspx>
- **Exam registration**  
<http://www.cfainstitute.org/cfaprogram/process/Pages/index.aspx>
- **Level I withdrawal options**  
[http://www.cfainstitute.org/about/governance/policies/Pages/level\\_i\\_withdrawal\\_option.aspx](http://www.cfainstitute.org/about/governance/policies/Pages/level_i_withdrawal_option.aspx)
- **Exam Policies** (*Very Important – familiarize yourself with them!*)  
<http://www.cfainstitute.org/cfaprogram/resources/policies/Pages/index.aspx>
- **Approved Calculator Information** (2 approved calculators listed below)
  - TI BA II Plus** - including BA II Plus Professional  
<http://education.ti.com/educationportal/sites/US/homePage/index.html>
  - HP12C** - including the HP12C Platinum  
<http://www.hp.com/united-states/smb/calculator/education/index.html>
- **Study Guides – Learning Outcome Statements**  
[https://www.cfainstitute.org/cfaprogram/courseofstudy/Pages/study\\_sessions.aspx](https://www.cfainstitute.org/cfaprogram/courseofstudy/Pages/study_sessions.aspx)

### **\* Another Important Distinction – Candidate vs. Member**

**They are not the same thing!**

**Candidate:** When you register for the CFA Exam with CFA Institute, you are an **Exam Candidate** – *you are NOT a member of CFA Institute or CFASF.*

**Member:** Membership requires a separate application process which requires sponsors and work experience verification. You apply for membership when you are ready. At a minimum, you should not apply until you've passed the Level I exam.