

# FP CANADA™ BLUEPRINT: CFP® EXAM

## Introduction

The *FP Canada Blueprint: CFP Exam* sets out the parameters as to what is assessed on the examination and the percentage value assigned to competencies as defined within the *FP Canada Standards Council™ Competency Profile for CFP Certification (Competency Profile)* effective with the May / June 2024 CFP exam. *FP Canada Blueprint: CFP Exam* guides test developers and the CFP Exam Panel in the development of the CFP exam and assists candidates in understanding what will be tested on the examination.

Every score point on the CFP exam focuses primarily on a specific element of competency from the *Competency Profile* and may also require integration across several financial planning competencies.

**Examination candidates should use the *FP Canada Blueprint: CFP Exam* together with the *Competency Profile* to focus their studies.**

Candidates are also expected to have proficiency in the Professional Skills included within the *Competency Profile*. Those competencies assigned as Professional Skills will be integrated into at least 25% of the examination questions, although the demonstration of such is inherent in many questions, and at least 10% of the CFP exam will integrate competencies from the Professional Conduct section.

The *Financial Planning Body of Knowledge* provides the listing of the technical knowledge necessary for proficiency as a CFP professional as of entry into practice. Knowledge is a fundamental expectation though it is not explicitly weighed on the exam in the same way as are the competencies; candidates will be required to sufficiently apply the knowledge necessary to demonstrate competence in the practice of financial planning throughout the examination.

## Question Format

The CFP exam includes a combination of multiple-choice and constructed response items requiring a written response. Multiple-choice questions are presented as single independent items, with four options, and constructed response questions are linked to a case scenario.

Multiple Choice	20% – 30%
Constructed Response	70% – 80%

# Duration

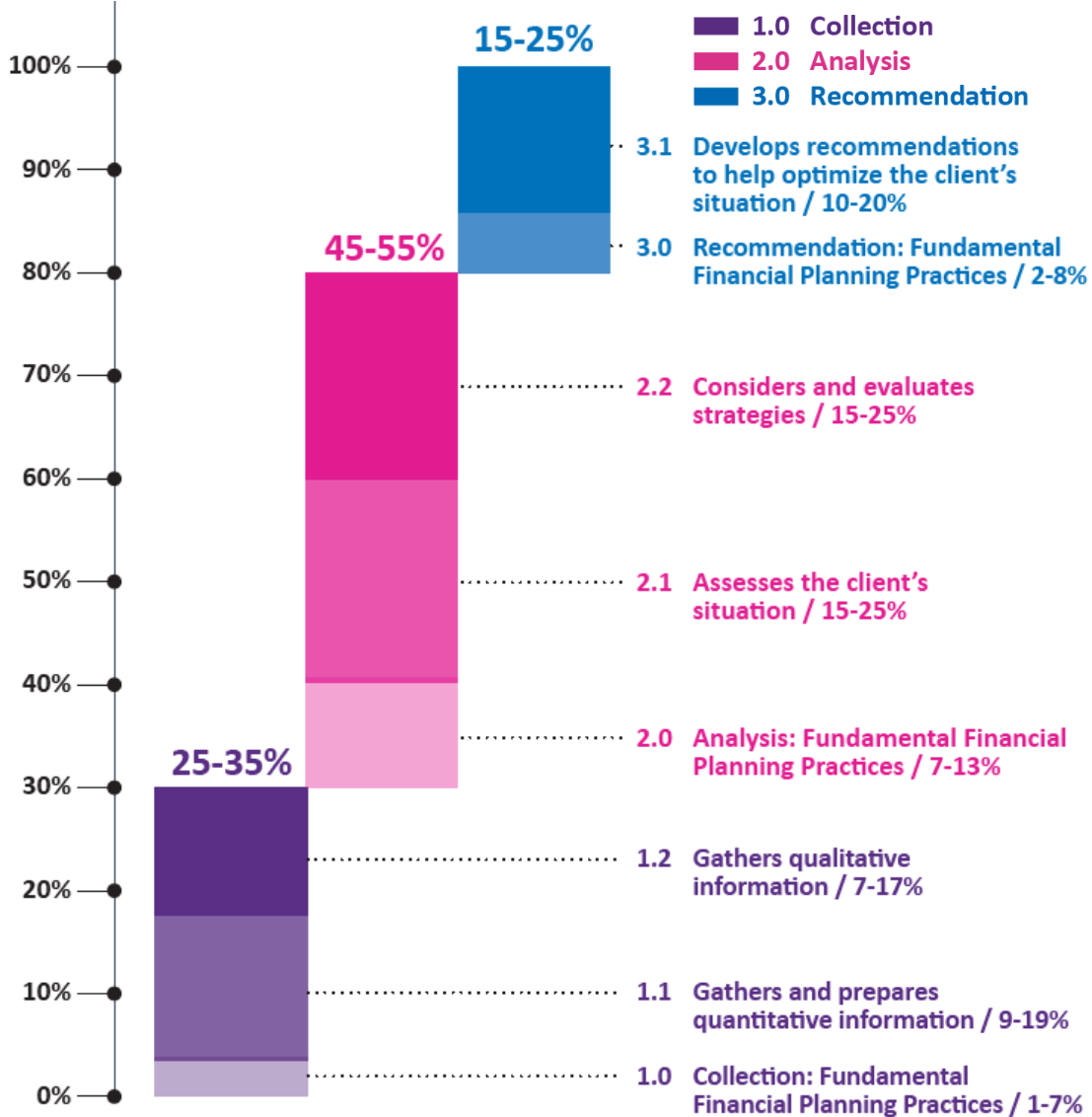
CFP examination: 6 hours

# Content

Content on the examination will be allocated by the elements of competency outlined in the *Competency Profile* and percentages are illustrated in the following three images.

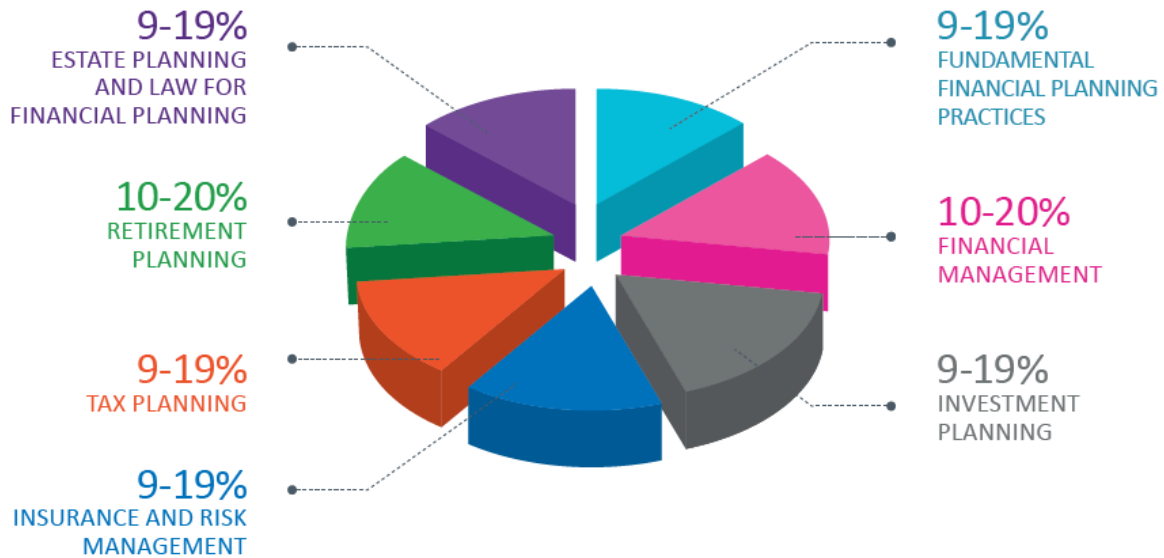
## Financial Planning Functions

The following bar graph shows the percentage of content on the examination related to Collection, Analysis, and Recommendation and graphically illustrates the specific Core Financial Planning Competencies within each function. Refer to the *Competency Profile* for descriptions.



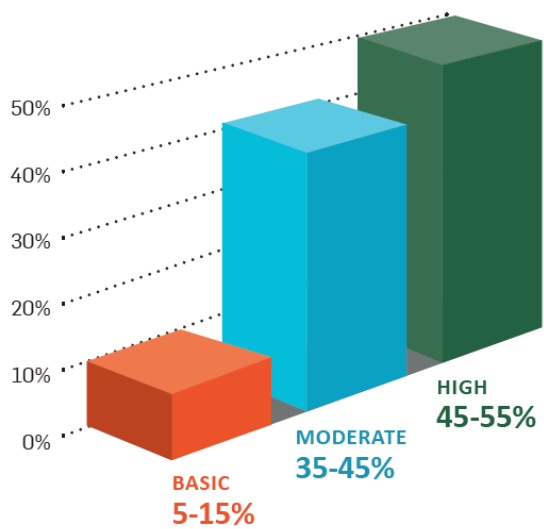
## Financial Planning Areas

This pie chart shows the weightings for the seven Financial Planning Areas that span across all functions. Refer to the *Competency Profile* for descriptions.



## Level of Complexity

The level of complexity generally increases as (1) the difficulty of the situation and information to process increases and (2) the number of variables to consider and the need to integrate different variables increases. Level of complexity is broken down into three levels for the exam questions: basic, moderate, and high and is visually represented in the following bar graph. The CFP exam content focuses on more complex financial planning situations.



### **Basic: 5% to 15%**


Application of knowledge of various facets of financial planning to straightforward financial planning situations. Questions at the basic level focus on specific content areas and may require, for instance, basic calculations, evaluation across single or a small number of topics, or making simple recommendations.

### **Moderate: 35% to 45%**

Application of knowledge in average financial planning situations with multiple variables. Requires the assessment and processing of a number of elements to identify a solution or formulate a recommendation. Questions at the moderate level focus on more complex situations and may require, for example, multistep calculations and the assessment and integration of multiple variables and interrelated factors.

### **High: 45% to 55%**

High complexity is defined as the application of advanced knowledge of complex financial planning situations involving multiple variables and considerable integration to analyze situations and form recommendations. Questions at this high level can focus on sophisticated situations that may require, for instance, complex, multistep calculations and understanding of complicated family or business situations.

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