

Fasset Learnerships: Association of Certified Fraud Examiners – South Africa



Professional Body:	Association of Certified Fraud Examiners – South Africa (ACFE SA)
Learnership Title:	Certified Forensic Practitioner
Learnership Code:	01Q010035001206
NQF Level:	7

ABOUT US

The South African Chapter of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE SA) is a recognised South African professional body, representing and governing fraud examination professionals in South Africa. Being a registered professional body, recognised in more than 180 countries, we are governed by the South African National Qualifications Framework Act and the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE) Chapter Bylaws.

This learnership is based on a qualification awarded by the ACFE. The ACFE is an international, professional organisation dedicated to fighting fraud and white-collar crime. With chapters around the globe, the Association is networked to respond to the needs of anti-fraud professionals everywhere. Our Members (84,000 worldwide) support our mission of reducing the incidence of fraud and white-collar crime through prevention, education and development of technology.

The ACFE SA is a collection of professionals from all industries and professions, who all have a single goal in mind; the reduction of white-collar crime in South Africa. ACFE SA is tasked to provide ongoing skills development courses to our members, and raising the competency and professionalism through continuous professional development. The ACFE SA paves the way for career advancement raising the standard of performance in the workplace.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Access to the Qualification:

To promote high standards of professionalism and ethics, the ACFE SA requires candidates who wish to enrol for this qualification to meet certain professional, academic and character-based criteria. Learners must meet the

following requirements:

- Be an associate member of the ACFE SA in good standing.
- Meet the minimum Academic and Professional requirements.
- Be of high moral character.
- Agree to abide by the Bylaws and Code of Professional Ethics of the ACFE.
- Have at least one year of professional fraud-related working experience and a Bachelor's degree.

The following requirements apply:

Academic requirements:

Generally, applicants for CFE certification have a minimum of a Bachelor's degree (or equivalent) from an institution of higher learning. Learners must have at least one year of professional fraud-related working experience and a Bachelor's degree.

Professional Requirements:

Learners must have at least one year of professional fraud-related working experience in a field either directly or indirectly related to the detection or deterrence of fraud. The Board of Regents has established the following categories as acceptable fraud-related experience:

- Accounting and Auditing: learners may qualify if they have experience as an accountant or auditor (e.g. internal or external auditor), and have certain responsibilities for the detection and deterrence of fraud by evaluating accounting systems for weaknesses, designing internal controls, determining the degree of organisational fraud risk, interpreting financial data for unusual trends, and following up on fraud indicators.
- Criminology and Sociology: Only those professionals with education or research in the fraud and white-collar crime dimensions of sociology or criminology may claim experience under this category. Experienced background in the general sociological field is insufficient.
- Fraud Investigation: Experience in the investigation of civil or criminal fraud, or of white-collar crime for law enforcement agencies or in the private sector, qualifies. Examples include federal, state, or local law enforcement (e.g. IRS, inspectors general, district attorneys, investigators). Insurance fraud investigators and fraud examiners working for corporations, businesses, or associations qualify as well.
- Loss Prevention: Security directors for corporations and associations who deal with issues of loss prevention may claim this experience as credit. Security consultants dealing with fraud-related issues also are eligible. Experience as a security guard or equivalent is not acceptable.

- Law: Candidates with experience in the legal field might qualify, provided the experience deals with some consideration of fraud. Examples include prosecuting lawyers, fraud litigators, and others with an anti-fraud specialisation.

If the learner's experience does not fall into one of the above categories, but his/her responsibilities include the detection, investigation, or deterrence of fraud, he/she may apply and it will be considered.

Structure of Learnership:

The learnership leads to the completion of the Advanced Certificate: Fraud Examiners Qualification, which is a level 7 qualification on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF).

During the learnership, learners will receive training on the following fundamentals:

1. Financial transactions and fraud schemes
2. Law
3. Investigation techniques
4. Fraud prevention and deterrence

CONTENT OF LEARNERSHIP

The learnership covers the following areas:

Financial Transactions and Fraud Schemes:

- Asset Misappropriation: Cash Receipts
- Theft of Data and Intellectual Property
- Consumer Fraud
- Identity Theft
- Accounting Concepts
- Financial Statement Fraud
- Asset Misappropriation: Fraudulent Disbursements
- Payment Fraud
- Computer and Internet Fraud
- Bribery and Corruption
- Contract and Procurement Fraud

- Asset Misappropriation: Inventory and Other Assets
- Financial Institution Fraud
- Healthcare Fraud
- Insurance Fraud

Law:

- Overview of the Legal System
- Individual Rights During Examinations
- The Criminal Justice System
- Basic Principles of Evidence
- The Law Related to Fraud
- Testifying
- The Civil Justice System
- Securities Fraud
- Money Laundering
- Bankruptcy (Insolvency) Fraud
- Tax Fraud

Fraud Prevention and Deterrence:

- Understanding Criminal Behaviour
- White-collar Crime
- Corporate Governance
- Management's Fraud-related Responsibilities
- Auditors' Fraud-related Responsibilities
- Fraud Risk Assessment
- Fraud Risk Management
- Fraud Prevention Programmes
- Ethics for Fraud Examiners

Investigation:

- Interview Theory and Application
- Planning and Conducting a Fraud Examination
- Data Analysis and Reporting Tools
- Analysing Documents
- Tracing Illicit Transactions
- Report Writing
- Sources of Information

- Digital Forensics
- Covert Examinations.

Registration and Assessment:

Learners must enrol for the training and assessment components of the programme with the ACFE SA. Information can be found on www.acfesa.co.za or by contacting Chantell Schoeman at chantell@acfesa.co.za / (012) 346 1913.

LEARNERSHIP DURATION

The duration of this learnership is variable, depending on the learner's previous experience and formal education. It, however, is likely that this learnership could take between six months and one year.

The learnership is completed once the learner has been formally assessed by two means:

1. Successful completion of the CFE International exam;
2. Successful completion of all the learnership modules presented by ACFE SA or their authorised training provider.

Once learners have completed and successfully passed the CFE International exam, they will be awarded the ACFE SA *Advanced Certificate: Fraud Examination Qualification* and further receive the ACFE *International Certified Fraud Examiners Certificate* thereby completing their learnership.

Employer Requirements:

It is the responsibility of the employer to identify/recruit and screen aspirant candidates for the programme. As this is an NQF level 7 programme, it is recommended that candidates have an NQF level 7 academic qualification (degree or diploma). The programme is not suitable for direct school leavers.

The employer further needs to ensure that the learner is registered as a member with the ACFE SA.

It is a further requirement of the programme that **workplace mentors** are appointed to guide and advise the learners, and that regular evaluation of progress in workplace training should be conducted by senior supervisory staff and feedback be given to the ACFE SA on areas of shortcomings. ACFE SA will offer assistance in this regard by facilitating interventions. Dates of these will be advised (five-day review course).

All participating employers will be required to sign an Operational Agreement with the ACFE SA. This agreement will deal with the responsibilities of both parties and will include matters such as the provision of training, evaluations,

and assessments, payment procedures and cancellation conditions.

Contact Details:

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