


4Point Learning Systems Inc.



In preparation for the May 2010 CMA case examination

for more information please contact:

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Further Changes - Qualifying as a CMA

In 2007, the Society of Management Accountants announced further changes to their pre professional and strategic leadership programs.

Students graduating from an accredited university degree program will be able to directly enter into the Strategic Leadership Program (SLP) (this continues unchanged from 2007). Students that do not meet this requirement will write a four hour multiple choice examination that covers the areas of **strategic management**; **risk management and governance**; **performance management** (cost management, cost behavior, cost allocation, pricing, and variance analysis); **performance measurement** (individual and organizational performance measurement and compensation); **financial management** (corporate finance and corporate tax topics); and **financial reporting** (financial accounting). This exam will be offered in June and October.

Commencing in 2008, students that have not successfully passed what was known as the Day 2 case exam will be required to write the CMA Case Exam at the end of the first year in the SLP. This exam will be similar to the former Day 2 exam in that it will be timed, done individually under exam conditions, and it will consist of a Backgrounder and Additional Information. This exam will be offered twice per year, in May and August and the candidate must pass this exam in order to continue into year two of the SLP.

In the final year, of the SLP candidates are required to prepare and present a Board Report. Candidates must pass this component to earn their CMA.

In short, there are four things that students must do in order to earn their CMA:

1. Gain entry to the SLP through their degree earned at an accredited university or by successfully completing the multiple choice entrance examination (testing strategic management, risk management and governance, performance management, performance measurement, financial management and financial reporting).
2. Demonstrate the required competencies through the SLP (there will no longer be marks earned per se).
3. Pass the CMA Case Exam at the end of year one of the SLP (Backgrounder and Additional Information under timed exam conditions).
4. Pass the Board report at the end of year two of the SLP.

It is our intent to provide coaching and support for both the Entrance Examination and the Case Exam.



Welcome

On behalf of 4 Point Learning Systems Inc., thank you for your interest in our CMA Entrance Examination preparation program. The attached information provides some additional details concerning the program.

Brief History

4 Point Learning Systems Inc. was formed in June 2004 to fill the void left by the discontinuation of Grant MacEwan College's Accounting Boot Camp. Its managing director, Gary Biggs, was involved with Accounting Boot Camp from its inception to its demise - the victim of budget cuts. Gary has extensive experience in preparing students to write the CMA Entrance Examination. In addition to his involvement with Accounting Boot Camp, he has also delivered preparation courses through the Society of Management Accountants of Canada in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba.

Our CMA Entrance Examination Preparation Program consists of a series of at-distance study modules that include a structured study plan designed to cover the CMA Entrance Examination syllabus in the months that lead up to the examination. Following the at-distance component, there is an intensive residential program that is held in Edmonton, Alberta in the final days leading up to the examination. Further details of each of these components follow.

Preparing for the Case Exam

The Case Exam

The case exam will be offered twice per year, once in May and once in August. It will be taken individually, consist of a backgrounder and additional information. Students failing the exam in May will have a chance to re-write in August and continue with their cohort into year two of the SLP. Students failing the September write will have to re-take year one of the SLP.

The dates for the 2010 Case exam are Wednesday May 12, 2010 and Wednesday August 18, 2010. The Backgrounders for the Case Exams will be released (in electronic format) 48 hours in advance of the examination.

We will only be providing support for the May Case Exam offering.



Prior to the Residential Session

Commencing approximately six weeks in advance of the Case Exam, our at-distance program will prepare students for success on this component of their accreditation as a CMA. The preparation will consist of at distance lectures on writing case exams coupled with some technical review in areas such as ratio analysis, capital budgeting and cost volume profit analysis delivered in streaming video (currently we are using wmv - Windows Media Video file format). The program will consist of several modules culminating with two practice cases to be submitted for feedback.

It is suggested that students commence the program no later than April 1 for the May write.

Candidates must complete all of the pre-session work in advance of their arrival at the residential session.

The Residential Session

The primary focus of the at-distance material is to provide the candidate with the process for successfully writing a CMA Case Exam. The focus of the residential sessions centers on exam strategies and techniques. The combination of these two efforts will ensure that the candidate gives “a personal best” effort on exam day.

In addition to the at-distance component, there will be a 1½ day residential component commencing on the Monday prior to the exam and ending on the Tuesday afternoon before the exam. The Monday will be spent briefly reviewing techniques and strategies in case writing and the Tuesday will be spent analyzing the Backgrounder.

Review of the syllabus with the intent of “teaching” the technical subject areas is kept to a minimum at the residential sessions. The daily session runs from approximately 8:30 am to 5:00 pm on Monday and 8:00 AM to 2 PM on Tuesday. This will allow those from out of town sufficient time to travel home to write the examination.



Fees

The fee for the course is a non refundable \$995 plus GST and is payable upon registration. For those that have taken the Entrance Examination Preparation session through 4Point Learning Systems there is a \$200 discount resulting in a fee of \$795 plus GST (again non refundable - due in full upon registration).

We reserve the right to cancel Preparation Sessions due to insufficient enrollment

To Conclude

Our program provides an at-distance program of study to assist the candidate in achieving the required level of readiness. The distance learning program guides candidates through the syllabus topics, covering the technical requirements of the CMA Examination Process. The program includes two practice exams which are submitted for review and feedback.

We have enhanced the technical review component by providing participants with a set of "internet movie" files .

Determine what you need from a CMA Examination Preparation program. Read through the information contained on this website with the aim of finding out if our program will provide what you require.

Feel free to give my office a call @ 780.448.9221, or e-mail me info[at]4pointlearningsystems.com



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May 2010		
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1) I have read and understood all the conditions regarding our refund policy (<i>please see below</i>).	Please initial _____.	
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Mail to:

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