

# CIMA Scholarship

For wealth management advisers/analysts/consultants

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BlackRock Investment Management and PortfolioConstruction Forum are pleased to invite applications for the Certified Investment Management Analyst (CIMA®) Scholarship 2016.

CIMA is the peak international, technical portfolio construction certification program designed for investment and wealth management practitioners and non-practitioners.

Sitting in the clear and uncluttered space between the CFA and CFP certifications, CIMA offers an unrivalled opportunity to formally equip yourself with the knowledge and skills to build better quality investment portfolios – and be recognised for it.

Valued at \$7,500, applications are open to Australian-based investment advisers, research analysts and multi-manager portfolio managers from wealth management companies, as well as fund research analysts and asset consultants from research and investment consulting companies.

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#### About the CIMA Certification Program

The CIMA Certification Program is a rigorous, five-step, 35-week program.

**Step 1. Application:** Completed online, this includes an initial background check.

**Step 2. Qualification Exam:** Candidates undertake a self-paced, online study program requiring a significant amount (recommended 10 hours per week for 10 weeks) of reading, completing topic quizzes and test exams in preparation for a supervised, online, two-hour exam in mid to late July 2016.

**Step 3. Investment Management Analyst Program:** After a recommended further four weeks (10 hours/week) of self-directed preparation, candidates undertake an intensive, one-week, residential program delivered by Registered Education Provider, the Paul Woolley Centre of University of Technology, Sydney. Led by Professor Ron Bird, the program features an outstanding faculty of academics and practitioners, and brings together theoretical and practical knowledge directly relevant to Australian-based portfolio construction practitioners. The program culminates in a four-hour, classroom exam. IMAP is scheduled for Sunday 04 to Friday 09 September 2016, and takes place at the H C Coombs Centre for Financial Studies in Kirribilli (Sydney).

**Step 4. Certification Exam:** Candidates undertake a further self-paced, online study program (another 10 hours per week for 10 weeks) in preparation for a supervised, online, four-hour exam in either November 2016 or February 2017.

**Step 5. Certification:** Formal certification is achieved after candidates undergo a second background check, commit to a Code of Ethics and Standards, sign a CIMA License Agreement and confirm three years relevant experience.

**Applications close 5.00pm Friday 22 Apr 2016.**

**For more info about CIMA certification, contact PortfolioConstruction Forum - email [certification@portfolioconstruction.com.au](mailto:certification@portfolioconstruction.com.au)**

#### Program topics

Statistics and methods  
Portfolio theories and models  
Client discovery  
Investment Policy Statement  
Applied economics  
Markets history & valuation  
Efficient Market Hypothesis  
Behavioural Finance Theory  
Equity investing  
Fixed income investing  
Issues in asset allocation  
Managing currency risk  
Alternative investments  
Options and futures  
Risk measurements  
Performance measurement  
Portfolio risk management  
Manager selection, monitoring  
IMCA Code & Stds of Practice  
Regulatory considerations

IMCA<sup>+</sup>  
australia<sup>+</sup>  
investment  
management  
consultants  
association

# CIMA Scholarship

Application Form 2016

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To apply for the BlackRock/PortfolioConstruction Forum CIMA Scholarship 2016, complete this form and return by 5.00pm Friday 22 April 2016 to Mark Thomas, General Manager, IMCA australia. Post to Level 7, 50 Clarence Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000 or email [mthomas@imca.org.au](mailto:mthomas@imca.org.au)

Your Full Name:

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Your Position:

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Your Organisation:

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Your Address:

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Your Email:

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Your Phone:

Your Mobile:

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1. Explain how and why you would benefit from completing the CIMA program.

**2. Outline your responsibilities in your current position.**

**3. Outline your prior education and studies.**

#### 4. Outline your experience in the financial services industry.

#### BlackRock/PortfolioConstruction Forum CIMA Scholarship 2016 Terms and Conditions

By applying for the BlackRock/PortfolioConstruction Forum CIMA Scholarship 2016 (“the Scholarship”), you acknowledge that:

1. You understand that PortfolioConstruction Forum is IMCA australia’s strategic partner in the management and delivery of CIMA certification and member continuing education services; the Investment Management Consultants Association (IMCA) is the global professional association for advanced investment management consultants and wealth managers, and owner of the registered CIMA certification marks; and, PortfolioConstruction Forum is Australia’s specialist, independent, investment continuing education and certification service for portfolio construction practitioners. The information we collect about you in this application form will be held by IMCA australia and PortfolioConstruction Forum.

2. The Scholarship is open to IMCA australia members or non-members who have at least three years of relevant financial services experience. To be eligible to apply, you should be spending at least 50% of your time on investment advice, research, asset consulting, and/or multi-manager portfolio management processes and related activities.

3. As described on page 1 of this application form, a significant time commitment is required of CIMA candidates to successfully complete the CIMA certification process.

4. Applications received after the specified deadline will not be considered. Unsigned applications will not be accepted.

5. All applications will be treated with confidence.

6. No IMCA australia directors, PortfolioConstruction Forum staff or BlackRock staff are eligible to apply for this Scholarship.

7. The decision of the Scholarship selection panel is final and no subsequent correspondence will be entered into.

8. The Scholarship recipient will be required to complete a CIMA Application Form, become an IMCA australia member and undertake the 35-week CIMA Program according to the timetable described on page 1 of this application form. Information about the Scholarship recipient’s progress through the CIMA Program will be available to IMCA australia, PortfolioConstruction Forum, and the US-based IMCA certification team.

9. The BlackRock/PortfolioConstruction Forum CIMA Scholarship 2016 covers the cost of IMCA australia membership for 1 year, as well as the CIMA candidate application cost, the cost of the recommended textbook, and IMAP residential program costs (tuition, meals and accommodation) only. The Scholarship recipient must meet associated travel expenses to and from Sydney.

10. Should the Scholarship recipient fail to pass any of the three exams described on page one of this application form on the first attempt, the Scholarship recipient agrees to resit the exam(s) within a six month period and pay the relevant resit fees charged for the exam(s).

Signed:

Date:

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**Return this completed Scholarship application form by 5pm Friday 22 April 2016 to:**

**Mark Thomas, General Manager, IMCA australia**

**Level 7, 50 Clarence Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000**

**Or email [mthomas@imca.org.au](mailto:mthomas@imca.org.au)**