

QUICK GUIDE · 2026 EDITION

The path to CGMA

Everything you need to know to start your CIMA journey with IBTC – from entry and exemptions to exams, study methods and support.

CHARTERED GLOBAL MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT

A global pathway to CGMA



The CIMA Professional Qualification is the world's leading route to becoming a Chartered Global Management Accountant - combining finance, strategy and leadership.

- 01 A globally recognised syllabus

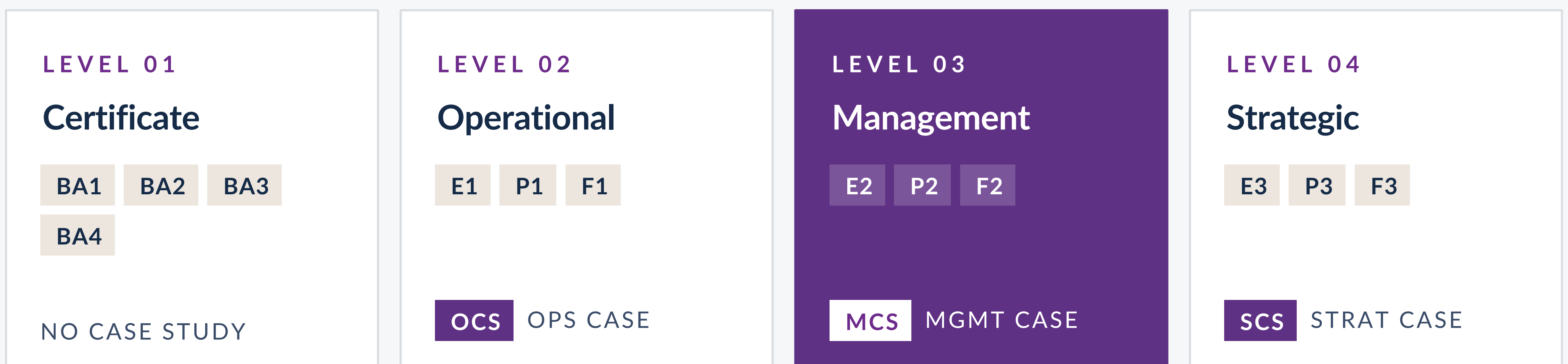
- 02 13 on-demand Objective Tests

- 03 3 Case Study Exams (Feb, May, Aug, Nov)

- 04 Practical Experience (PER) to complete your designation

Course Structure

FOUR LEVELS · 13 SUBJECTS · 3 CASE STUDIES



TWO WAYS TO QUALIFY

One designation. *Two routes.*

CIMA offers two pathways to the same CGMA designation. Most students follow the traditional Professional Qualification. Experienced professionals may prefer the faster, more flexible FLP route.

ROUTE 01 · TRADITIONAL

Professional *Qualification*

The traditional route. Work through four levels of Objective Tests and Case Study Exams, level by level, at your own pace.

- 13 Objective Tests across four levels
- 3 Case Study Exams (OCS, MCS, SCS)
- Clear structure and progression
- Best for students and early-career professionals

DETAIL IN THIS GUIDE

CH. 01 - 05

ROUTE 02 · FASTER

Finance Leadership *Programme (FLP)*

A modern, continuous-learning route designed for working finance professionals. Built around practical application and flexible assessment.

- Integrated, continuous assessment
- Only Case Study Exams at each level
- Flexible, workplace-aligned learning
- Best for experienced finance professionals

DEDICATED FLP GUIDE

DOWNLOAD

Not sure which route is right for you?

We'll help you choose,
and send you the full FLP guide if it's the better fit.

ASK FOR
Our FLP Guide

THREE STEPS

Three steps to *get started.*

From exemptions to exam plan, we'll walk every part of it with you. Here's how it works.

01 **Check your exemptions**
 Your starting level depends on your highest qualification. We determine your exemptions and entry route – email info@ibtc.co.za and ask for CIMA Assist.

COMMON ENTRY POINTS

MATRIC	Certificate Level
BCOM	Operational Level
BCOM ACC	Management Level
SAICA/SAIBA	Elite Pathway

02 **Register with CIMA**
 Create your profile at cimaglobal.com, apply for exemptions and receive your CIMA account number. We'll guide you through the full registration process.

YOU'LL RECEIVE

ACCOUNT NUMBER	Your unique student number
MYCIMA	Access to the student portal
ROUTE	Confirmed starting level

03 **Choose your study method**
 Once you know your starting point, select the study option that fits your pace, schedule and learning preference. We'll match you to the right path.

THREE OPTIONS

VIRTUAL	Live Zoom classes
ONLINE	Monthly start, tutor-led
HOME+	Self-paced, any time

*Not sure **where you fit?**
 Let us sort exemptions, registration and route.*

EMAIL [INFO@IBTC.CO.ZA](mailto:info@ibtc.co.za) →

TWO EXAM FORMATS

How you're assessed.

13

ON-DEMAND OBJECTIVE TESTS
ACROSS THE QUALIFICATION

CIMA uses two complementary exam formats. Objective Tests prove your subject knowledge. Case Studies prove you can apply it.

FORMAT 01

Objective Tests (OTs)

- One OT per subject, taken independently
- On-demand, computer-based at a test centre
- Results available immediately on screen
- Can be re-sat without waiting for a sitting window

ON-DEMAND · ANY DAY

FORMAT 02

Case Study Exams

- One Case Study Exam per level
- Applies your E, P & F knowledge to real scenarios
- Pre-seen case study released before the exam
- Four fixed sittings per year

FEB

MAY

AUG

NOV



PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

Put theory to work.

Once you've passed all your exams, you'll need to complete 36 months practical workplace experience to earn your CGMA designation.

PER ties everything together. **The final step from student to Chartered Global Management Accountant.**

THREE WAYS TO STUDY

Find the pace that *fits*.

Every student's context is different. Choose the format that matches your schedule, your learning style and how much structure you want around you.

01

Virtual Classes

Live, interactive classes delivered via Zoom. Real lecturers, real-time questions, and a fixed weekly rhythm.

BEST FOR

Students who learn best with structure and live engagement.

02

Online Courses

Monthly start dates. Tutor-guided online programme with video lectures, assessments and structured support.

BEST FOR

Self-directed students who still want a cohort and deadlines.

03

Home Study Plus

Start anytime, study at your own pace. Includes a study plan, textbooks and tutor access when you need it.

BEST FOR

Working professionals balancing study around a busy job.

WHY IBTC

Premium Partner.

Personal Support.

IBTC is a CIMA Premium Partner and has been preparing students for CIMA exams since 2008 — combining local care with globally recognised qualifications.

01 Expert tutors, local support

A dedicated student team on South African time, not a chat queue.

02 Higher-than-global pass rates

Our students consistently outperform international averages.

03 Clear, structured study plans

Week-by-week guidance so you always know what's next.

04 All-in-one from registration to exam

We handle the admin so you can focus on studying.

READY WHEN YOU ARE

Let's start your *CIMA journey.*

CIMA ASSIST – EMAIL US

info@ibtc.co.za

OR CALL

+27 86 111 1411

FINANCING AVAILABLE

We've partnered with Student Hero – ask about financing on enrolment.

Success is on your side.