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March 2025

CII Level 2 Award in Life and Pensions Foundations Qualification specification



Thank you for considering study with the CII. This specification summarises the purpose and the content of this qualification to help you decide whether it meets your learning needs.

The qualifications section of the CII website, unit syllabus documents and CII policies provide further detail on the features summarised here.

Qualification overview

The **CII Level 2 Award in Life and Pensions Foundations** is a single-unit introductory-level qualification providing a broad initial understanding of the sector, its purpose, its customers and the financial solutions and operational practices that underpin delivery of good customer outcomes.

Who is this qualification for?

This qualification is particularly appropriate for:

- Those who are new to the life, pensions and long term savings sector, providing essential learning that complements their induction process.
- Anyone looking to build their foundation knowledge of the life, pensions and long term savings sector.

Benefits for individuals and employers

The Award has been developed in collaboration with employers across the life, pensions and long term savings sector, to provide a more formalised and consistent approach to defining entry-level professional standards, helping to underpin improved customer outcomes and support staff development.

You will be able to use the qualification content to underpin your understanding of your organisation's practices and your role within these. The Award also supports your further development by introducing aspects of the industry that you may aspire to learn more about or progress into in your career. Key progression routes include the Certificate in Financial Services, the Award in Financial Administration or technical professional development using specific units.

Summary of content

The single compulsory unit will introduce and assess knowledge and basic understanding of:

- the value of the life and pension sector to society and the economy;
- key customer needs relating to pensions, protection, investments and savings;
- a range of potential solutions available to meet customer needs; and
- how individuals and organisations work as a profession to treat customers fairly and meet their needs effectively.

Entry and professional completion requirements

Entry requirements

There are no entry requirements for this qualification.

Additional completion requirements

There are no additional completion requirements for this qualification.

Qualification structure

Single compulsory unit

You will need to complete the following unit.

(LF1) <u>Life and pensions foundations</u> <i>0 CII credits</i>
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Learning and assessment

Learning materials provided

For units in this qualification, students typically have access to the following materials as part of their enrolment:

- Study text (digital only or printed and digital) with online updates
- Online support including exam guide via RevisionMate

Additional or different resources may be available for some units.

Study time

Specific study time guidelines are provided for each unit on its webpage and in the CII qualifications brochure.

The notional Ofqual 'Total Qualification Time' for this qualification is 40 hours*. This represents the time a student might typically take to complete the qualification.

*'Total Qualification Time' is a term that awarding organisations are required by Ofqual (the qualifications regulator in England) to use to describe the size of qualifications.

Assessment format

Each unit is assessed by a single multiple-choice on screen exam, exams are available weekly at UK and non-UK online exam centres or via remote invigilation. The qualification award will be graded pass/fail.

The nominal pass mark for this qualification is 70%. Please note, pass marks may vary from examination to examination to take account of the relative difficulty of examinations presented to candidates, ensuring that the pass standard remains constant.

We regularly update our qualifications, units and assessments to maintain industry relevance and assessment standards.

Further information on learning and assessment for each unit

Please ensure that you refer to the individual unit syllabus for unit-specific details:

- learning outcomes and assessment criteria
- further reading and resources
- important notes, such as the legislative position that will be assessed

This is available on each unit webpage, accessible from the qualification webpage:

www.cii.co.uk/learning/qualifications/award-in-life-and-pensions-foundations-qualification

Please also select your unit from the webpage to find out about any unit updates.

Important assessment policies

Details of terms and conditions which apply to candidates entering for assessments with the CII are set out on the CII website. By entering any assessment with the CII, you agree to be bound by these terms and conditions and our [assessment policies](#).

Fair access to our qualifications

The CII acts at all times to ensure that no unfair barriers apply to those seeking to gain the qualifications it offers. If, due to disability or illness, you may require adjustments in order to access an assessment, please read the [Qualifications accessibility and special circumstances policy and guidance](#) and contact the CII Customer Service team as soon as possible to discuss how we can meet your needs.

Qualification Fees

We are required by our regulators to publish a standardised set of qualification fees and these are set out below. The best way for you to calculate the cost of completing a qualification is by looking at the unit shop pages for the units you are planning to take.

The terms, 'Standard Qualification Fee', 'Package fee' and 'Associated Learner Fees' are defined by our regulators, Ofqual, CCEA and Qualifications Wales, to create consistency between UK-based awarding organisations. It is a regulatory requirement to illustrate our pricing in this way. The total price paid will depend upon specific pathway chosen, membership status and local currency. Further pricing information by unit and component relevant to your specific pathway remains available on your qualification webpage. The table below describes what each fee indicates.

Fee	Description
Standard Qualification Fee	The standard total fees payable for the assessment elements of the core qualification throughout a typical course of study.
Package Fee	Where applicable, the total of the fees payable for mandatory learning materials elements of the core qualification throughout a typical course of study.
Associated Learner Fees	Additional fees for optional services payable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at the learner's discretion. • in specific circumstances only; or, • for additional study requirements prior to completing this qualification.

Please note these fees are based on non-CII members taking the qualification in the UK, following a typical route to completion, using digital only options where available. Costs may vary for those residing outside the UK and depending on the route to completion. Substantial discounts are available to members and are detailed on the individual unit shop pages.

Standard Qualification Fee £77.00

Package Fee £67.00

Associated Learner Fees

Annual

Non-Mandatory Annual Membership (per annum)
(Assumes entry level membership) £84.00

One off

Digital and printed enrolment £86.00

Study text update (digital only) £33.00

Study text update (Printed and Digital only) £49.00

For post results services prices, please visit the [Post results services webpage](#).

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