

# Certificate in Financial Services (CeFS) and Diploma in Financial Services (DipFS)

**Course Type:** CeFS/DipFS

**Exam Board:** The London Institute of Banking and Finance (previously the IFS)

**Course Entry Requirements:** Standard (Five GCSE subjects at a minimum grade 4 or the equivalent including Maths and English).

## Why study The London Institute of Banking and Finance Financial Services qualifications?

The London Institute of Banking and Finance, Financial Services courses have been delivered very successfully here at NPA for a number of years: last year at Diploma level students achieved a 100% pass rate with 80% at grade C or above. As well as being an academic qualification it is also recognised in the Financial Services world as it is delivered by the London Institute of Banking and Finance, which is the main professional body for the financial services sector. To complete the Diploma you must first study the Certificate which can be a standalone qualification (attracting UCAS points) or form 47.5% of the Diploma. A key aspect of the course is that it introduces students to the world of financial services which will be invaluable to them in later life when making decisions from choosing car insurance to applying for a mortgage. So it is not only a good academic qualification but a personal development tool as well.

## What Will I study? Course Content

### Certificate Level

Key content areas:

- The importance of financial capability for immediate, short-term, medium-term and long-term financial needs
- Financial services and products, including sources of help and advice
- Borrowing, budgeting, financial planning and cash flow
- The impact of external influences at different stages in the personal life cycle
- Risk and reward in managing personal finance.

### Diploma Level

The CeFS key content, and in addition:

- Personal and external factors that lead to change
- Maintaining financial sustainability and avoiding long term debt
- The financial services system and financial sustainability (individual and general); and Marketing techniques.

A major theme throughout the 2 years of the course is applying the knowledge gained to real life situations and both courses are designed not just to check for knowledge of the subject but also for the ability to apply that knowledge and to make decisions about financial services.

These London Institute of Banking and Finance, qualification brings together both halves of the teaching world; academic knowledge and real world application. It is a dual purpose course helping students to understand the world around them as well as successfully take them further on their chosen academic pathway.

### **How will I be assessed?**

Assessment of both the Certificate and Diploma is through an online multiple choice paper and a 2 hour written paper for each unit of the qualification: Units 1 and 2 for the Certificate in year 12 with the addition of units 3 and 4 in year 13 for the Diploma.'