**Notes to PASS CFE Study Plan – Canadian Students**

**The PASS CFE study plan is 1 excel document, Study Plan Detail – Canadian Students. There are simply too many situations to attempt to have a meaningful document that covers every situation. For example, there are Canadian students who attend and write the Module exams and Capstone 1 and 2, while some Canadian students go to an accredited program and are exempt from these exams. Also, some students start studying 1 year in a advance and some start 8 months in advance. Some students have jobs, so there is less time to study, while others are not working full time.**

**Therefore, the study plan is flexible and provides students with guidance depending on when they start studying. It works as follows:**

**1. Which CFE are you Writing?**

The study plan contains information for both the May 2025 and Sept. 2025 CFEs.

**2. What Month are you Starting to Study?**

The excel study plan has different worksheets, one worksheet for every 2 months, depending on when you are studying to study. There are 2 tables in each worksheet – one for the May 2025 CFE and one for the Sept. 2025 CFE.

For example, if I start studying in December, 2024 for the September 2025 CFE, I simply click on the worksheet “Start Nov-Dec’24” and then scroll down to the 2nd table, for the Sept. 2025 CFE.

The table then clearly shows, month by month, what to study, i.e. technical, case writing etc. The PASS sessions are built into the study plan.

**3. Where do I get the Videos**

The tables often refer to watching videos. These videos are accessed by going to the PASS home page, top right, student log in and entering your e-mail and password.

**4. Should I Study Technical, Case Writing or Both?**

The plan assumes a combined study approach, spending time on technical as well as case writing.

From a technical perspective, it is assumed that students will spend the most time on financial accounting and management accounting, followed by tax and then audit.

**5. What Technical Study Material Should I Use?**

Students should use whatever technical sources they are most comfortable with, as long as they are up to date. For financial accounting and audit, an updated copy of the Handbook is very relevant in conjunction with any accounting / audit textbook that one may have. Students who took the PASS Module/Challenge Exam Course or purchased PASS resources for students taking modules can rely on the technical and case writing binders provided by PASS, as their base for their technical studying. (Students who did not take the Module/Challenge Exam Course or purchase module resources, may want to consider purchasing a technical binder which covers all of the competencies or the publication IFRS/ASPE Technical Review and Management Accounting Review. Please see [www.passyourcpa.ca](http://www.passyourcpa.ca) for more details).

**6. What CFE and Non-CFE Cases Should I be Writing?**

In the PASS course, we will be giving you PASS (non CFE) cases to write and practice. You should ensure that you cover the most recent CFEs, specifically Sept. 2022 up to the current Sept 2024 CFE, 6 in total (there were 2 in 2022, 2023 and 2024). (FYI – there are 15 in total, from Sept. 2015 to Sept. 2024, 2 in 2016, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 and 1 in the remaining years).

**7. How Should I Study the Technical Topics?**

**Financial Accounting**

Students should work their way through the IFRS and ASPE technical Handbook Sections, making sure they are familiar with the accounting for all of the sections.

**Management Accounting**

Students should review the major topics in management accounting, and review the PASS Management Accounting Technical Review Book.

**Assurance**

Much of the assurance technical is picked up through case writing. However, candidates may still want to spend some time reviewing some basic technical in assurance, as follows:

– Audit planning, engagement issues, procedures, internal controls

– Reporting and professional rules of ethics

**Taxation**

Taxation is a combination of personal and corporate tax issues. Students should be comfortable with the technical rules underlying both personal and corporate issues, as well as being able to handle some basic computations (i.e. computing taxable income etc.). Students should refer to the CPA Competency Map Knowledge Supplement to determine which topics to focus on for the CFE, keeping in mind that for the CFE unless students have chosen tax as their depth area, tax knowledge is only required at the Core level.

**Other (Finance, Performance Management, (IT and Data Analytics))**

It is expected that most of the other competencies will be picked up through case writing, though one may want to give some of these other topics some dedicated technical studying, depending on one’s strengths and weaknesses. Therefore, some amount of time is built into the study plan for these other areas.