

10 March 2009

To all FPAS members

Dear Members,

Re: 1. Last run of Accelerated Program in 2009
2. Submission Dates for CFP® Certification Applications

1. Accelerated Program

In the year 2006, FPAS introduced the Accelerated Program (“AP”) – a quick-paced mode of studies specially designed for busy yet competent financial professionals who were seeking to achieve the CFP® qualification in a short period of time. It was also intended to facilitate some students on the Normal Education Cycles (“NEC”) to quicken the pace of studies by switching to the AP.

At that time, the AP was intended as a special project and not meant to be something to be offered on an indefinite basis. We have since then completed several intakes of the AP and enabled many students to achieve their CFP® qualification faster than would otherwise be the case.

Over the past 3 years, we have also observed that some students find the fast pace of the studies to be very challenging in view of their busy work schedule. Some of these students had to switch back to the NEC.

The Association has decided that we would no longer be offering the AP after the completion of the final intake of students enrolled for exams commencing from 4 April 2009 with the module 6 exams to be held on 7 November 2009. All the students of the AP who have not completed their studies by November 2009 may continue their studies via the NEC. FPAS currently offers 3 NEC per year, which we believe is frequent enough to cater to the academic pursuits and aspirations of our members.

2. CFP® Certification Applications

At the present moment, applications for CFP® certification are being sent to FPAS office for processing as and when the members feel they are ready to make the application. FPAS holds the CFP® mark with the highest regard and treats all applications with utmost seriousness requiring approval by Council members.

To ensure a more efficient and regular schedule for processing, please be advised that with immediate effect, the three (3) submission deadlines every year for CFP® certification will be as follows:

- a. 1 January
- b. 1 May and
- c. 1 October.

Successful applicants who have duly fulfilled the requirements for the certification, as listed below, may expect to receive the results of their applications within one month from the above deadlines.

Certification Requirements:

- a. Passed all the required exams,
- b. Have a minimum 3 years work experience relevant to financial planning,
- c. Compliance with the ethics requirements of FPAS and
- d. The attestation of a fellow professional

We wish you continued success in the pursuit of the CFP® qualification and your career.

Yours truly,



Jackie Tay
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER