

International accounting standards

For all students of the F pillar and all Case Studies
Effective for examinations from November 2019 to January 2022

The CIMA syllabus for the F pillar (and BA3) makes numerous references to the International Accounting Standards. Although students are not expected to learn the title of each one, the content and application of a number of them are an essential part of the learning outcomes and examinable in both objective tests and case study exams.

This table describes the content, briefly, of the standards that are currently in publication and the relevance to each CIMA subject. At the end of this article, we provide a summary of how the examinable date for IFRS is determined for the OT exams and offer illustrative examples.

International financial reporting standards (IFRS)

Number	Name	Application/relevant articles	Useful to be studied in conjunction with:	Examinable papers
IFRS 1	First-time adoption of international financial standards	Not examinable		
IFRS 2	Share-based payment	Not examinable		
IFRS 3	Business combinations	For the acquirer of a target entity, it explains how to recognise and measure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> assets and liabilities of the acquiree; any non-controlling interest in the acquire; and goodwill or a gain on a bargain purchase. Also explains the disclosure requirements to enable users to determine the nature and financial impact of the business combination.	IAS 27, IAS 28, IFRS 10, IFRS 11	From F2
IFRS 5	Non-current assets held for sale and discontinued operations	Defines a non-current asset held for sale and explains how such an asset is measured and presented in the financial statements. The standards also defines what is meant by a discontinued activity and explains the presentation and disclosure of such activities in the financial statements. However, this element of the standard is not examinable.	IAS 16, IAS 36	From F1
IFRS 6	Exploration for and Evaluation of mineral assets	Not examinable		
IFRS 7	Financial instruments: disclosures	Not examinable		

Number	Name	Application/relevant articles	Useful to be studied in conjunction with:	Examinable papers
IFRS 8	Operating segments	Not examinable		
IFRS 9	Financial instruments	Provides the recognition and measurement rules for financial instruments.		From F2
IFRS 10	Consolidated financial statements	For an entity that controls one or more other entities, sets out the principles for the presentation and preparation of the consolidated financial statements.	IAS 27, IAS 28, IFRS 3, IFRS 11	From F2
IFRS 11	Joint arrangements	Sets out the financial reporting principles for entities that have an interest in jointly controlled arrangements.	IAS 27, IAS 28, IFRS 3, IFRS 10	From F2
IFRS 12	Disclosure of interests in other entities	Describes the disclosure requirements for an entity that has interests in other entities to enable the users to evaluate the nature and risks of the relationships, in addition to the effects on the group financial statements.		From F2
IFRS 13	Fair value measurement	Defines fair value and describes how it is measured as well as the disclosure requirements about such measurements.		From F2
IFRS 14	Regulatory deferral accounts	Not examinable		
IFRS 15	Revenue from contracts with customers	Prescribes the accounting treatment for revenue.		BA3 and F2
IFRS 16	Leases	Describes the accounting treatment of leases in both the lessee's financial statements (F1) and the lessor's financial statements (F2). Note: accounting for sale and leaseback transactions is not examinable.		From F1
IFRS 17	Insurance contracts	Not examinable		

International accounting standards (IAS)

IAS 1	Presentation of financial statements	Provides guidance on the presentation of statement of financial position (SoFP), statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income and statement of changes in equity (SOCIE).		From BA3
IAS 2	Inventories	Provides guidance on the determination of cost of inventory (raw materials, work in progress and finished goods), its valuation and any subsequent write-offs as an expense.		From BA3
IAS 7	Statement of cash flows	Provides guidance on definitions of cash and cash equivalents and how to present cash flows in a statement of cash flows.		From BA3
IAS 8	Accounting policies, changes in accounting estimates and errors	Not examinable		
IAS 10	Events after the reporting date	Describes the definition of events after the reporting period and explains how they are accounted for and any disclosures required.		From F1
IAS 12	Income taxes	Prescribes the accounting treatment of income taxes and deferred tax.		From F2
IAS 16	Property, plant and equipment	Explains the recognition and measurement of property, plant and equipment. This includes initial cost, subsequent expenditure, depreciation and revaluation of such assets.	IAS 36, IAS 38, IFRS 5	From BA3
IAS 19	Employee benefits	Not examinable		
IAS 20	Accounting for government grants and the disclosure of government assistance	Not examinable.		

Number	Name	Application/relevant articles	Useful to be studied in conjunction with:	Examinable papers
IAS 21	The effects of changes in foreign exchange rates	Considers the accounting treatment of transactions in a currency other than the entity's home currency. This includes transactions for an individual entity and how to translate a subsidiary entity in preparation for consolidation.		F2
IAS 23	Borrowing costs	Not examinable		
IAS 24	Related party disclosures	Explains the disclosure requirements that draw attention to the possibility that the statements of financial position and profit or loss may be affected by transactions and outstanding balances with parties related to the entity.		From F2
IAS 26	Accounting and reporting by Retirement Benefit Plans	Not examinable		
IAS 27	Separate financial statements	Outlines the accounting and disclosure requirements for investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates when an entity prepares separate financial statements.	IFRS 3, IFRS 10, IFRS 11, IAS 28	From F2
IAS 28	Investments in associates and joint ventures	Explains how to account for investments in associates. This includes the application of the equity method used when accounting for associates and joint ventures.	IAS 27, IFRS 3, IFRS 10, IFRS 11	From F2
IAS 29	Financial reporting in hyperinflationary economies	Not examinable		
IAS 32	Financial instruments: presentation	Prescribes the presentation of financial instruments.	IFRS 7, IFRS 9	From F2
IAS 33	Earnings per share	Prescribes the principles for the calculation and presentation of basic and diluted earnings per share.		From F2

Number	Name	Application/relevant articles	Useful to be studied in conjunction	Examinable papers
IAS 34	Interim financial reporting	Not examinable		
IAS 36	Impairment of assets	Explains that an asset or cash generating unit cannot be reported at a value higher than its recoverable amount and how to account for any resulting impairment.	IAS 16, IAS 38	From F1
IAS 37	Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent	Prescribes the accounting and disclosure requirements for provisions, contingent liabilities and contingent assets.	IAS 10	From F2
IAS 38	Intangible assets	Prescribes the recognition and measurement of intangible assets.	IAS 36	BA3 and F2
IAS 40	Investment property	Not examinable		
IAS 41	Agriculture	Not examinable		

Policy regarding examinable dates for IAS/IFRS for CIMA 2019 professional qualification

The assessments will be set in accordance with relevant International Accounting Standards and International Financial Reporting Standards. This also applies to the material relating to Financial Reporting Exposure Drafts.

As a general rule, CIMA will examine such standards from the effective date (or as close as is practical). This will normally be the date that a new examination blueprint becomes effective. Details of specific standards that are examinable for the period covered by the examination blueprint will be stated in the objective test section of the blueprint.

For Case Study Examinations, where individual standards will not normally be directly assessed and where marking can accommodate a variety of approaches, candidates may refer to new standards before the effective date where early adoption is permitted.