

Certified Documentary Credit Specialist (CDCS)

Certified Documentary Credit Specialist (CDCS) is the international benchmark qualification for documentary credit specialists.

It is a professional certification that is recognised worldwide as a mark of competence in documentary credits. It enables documentary credit practitioners to demonstrate and enhance the specialist knowledge and skills needed to perform effectively in a fast-paced commercial environment.

CDCS was developed in partnership by the *ifs* School of Finance and the Bankers' Association for Finance and Trade and the International Financial Services Association (BAFT-IFSA). It is endorsed by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and was designed in consultation with industry experts to ensure that the qualification reflects current best practice.

The syllabus and learning materials have been recently updated to fully incorporate rule changes including UCP600 and Incoterms 2010.

Why study CDCS?

- Gaining CDCS enables you to demonstrate a level of expertise in documentary credits that is recognised worldwide
- It improves your knowledge and understanding of the complex issues associated with documentary credit best practice
- It helps you develop the skills to apply your knowledge in the workplace and to perform at a high level
- It gives you the right to add the professional designation 'CDCS' to your personal credentials
- It improves your career and promotion prospects



What does the qualification cover?

- Documentary credits – an overview
- The sales agreement
- Documentary credits – types and uses
- Parties to documentary credit transactions – roles and responsibilities
- Issuance and amendment
- Transport and other documents
- Presentation, examinations and settlement
- Bank-to-bank reimbursements under documentary credits
- Related products
- Risk issues
- Rules and regulations including UCP600 and Incoterms 2010

Visit www.cdcs.org for further information and to view the full syllabus.

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How do I study?

On registration, you will receive a detailed study text, developed by the **ifs** School of Finance in conjunction with the BAFT-IFSA and with approval by the ICC. This provides the main body of knowledge required for the examination. You will also receive a study guide containing sample examination questions and study tips to help you prepare for your examination.

How is CDCS assessed?

Assessment for CDCS consists of a three-hour multiple-choice examination, designed to test your knowledge and its application to practical situations.

The next examination for CDCS will be held on 15 April 2011.

Where are the exams held?

CDCS is examined in over 70 countries each year and the **ifs** organises venues subject to demand. Please see www.cdc.org for a list of possible venues.

What are the entry requirements?

There are no entry requirements for CDCS, but it is strongly recommended that you have a minimum of three years' documentary credit or related experience.

How much does CDCS cost?

Registration costs £425 GBP (plus £50 GBP international booking fee, if applicable*). This fee includes all learning materials and the examination.

*Candidates outside the UK, US, Canada and South America are required to pay the international booking fee.



How do I register or get further information?

Further information about CDCS and a registration form is available at www.cdc.org.

Alternatively please contact the **ifs** School of Finance by email at getqualified@ifslearning.ac.uk or by calling +44 (0) 1227 818609.

Please note, in some countries special arrangements for registration of students have been made with the relevant National ICC committee. These special arrangements are explained on the CDCS website www.cdc.org.

About the **ifs** School of Finance

The **ifs** School of Finance is a registered charity incorporated by Royal Charter and has a remit to provide the financial services industry with a skilled and competent workforce while also promoting a better understanding of finance amongst consumers. **ifs** qualifications bridge the academic and vocational divide to provide students with essential practical skills and the conceptual and analytical abilities of academic study.

The **ifs** has developed materials for CDCS in conjunction with BAFT-IFSA and CDCS has approval by the ICC to deliver international qualifications for individuals seeking to improve knowledge, skills and career prospects in the area of finance and financial services worldwide.

It is this unique and innovative approach that makes the **ifs** the provider of choice for the international financial services community.

Every effort was taken to ensure this information sheet was accurate at the time of going to press and the **ifs** School of Finance is not liable for any errors or omissions in this publication. The **ifs** reserves the right at any time and without notice to vary the content of its courses and syllabuses previously announced and to modify as appropriate the facilities and arrangements for students.

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