GENERAL

schweser cfa level 2 2019

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Introduction

For many finance professionals, the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation is a career milestone that signals expertise, credibility, and a commitment to ethical practice. Among the three levels of the CFA curriculum, Level 2 is often considered the most challenging, demanding a deep understanding of financial analysis, portfolio management, and quantitative methods. In 2019, the CFA Institute released a new syllabus and updated exam format that required candidates to adapt their study strategies and materials. One of the most sought-after resources for preparing for the 2019 CFA Level 2 exam was the Schweser study package, known for its comprehensive coverage, practice questions, and exam ready insights.

This article explores the Schweser CFA Level 2 2019 experience in depth. We will examine why Schweser remains a top choice for candidates, break down the exam structure and key dates, review the study materials, outline effective study strategies, share real world success stories, and answer frequently asked questions. By the end, you'll have a clear roadmap for leveraging Schweser's offerings to maximize your chances of passing the 2019 Level /2 exam.

Why Schweser is a Top Choice for CFA Level /2 2019 Aspirants

Overview of Schweser's Legacy

Schweser, founded in the early 1990s, has grown into the world's leading provider of CFA exam preparation courses and materials. Over the decades, Schweser has consistently updated its curriculum to align with the CFA Institute's evolving syllabus, ensuring that candidates receive the most current and relevant content. By 2019, Schweser had already helped thousands of candidates pass all three levels, earning a reputation for clarity, depth, and exam ready focus.

Key Features of the 2019 CFA Level /2 Package

- Curriculum Aligned Study Guides: Detailed, concise explanations of each topic area, with emphasis on the 2019 syllabus updates.
- Extensive Practice Question Bank: Over 4,000 questions that mirror the difficulty and style of the actual exam.
- Mock Exams: Full length, timed mock tests that replicate the exam environment.
- Video Lectures: In depth video explanations by CFA charterholders.
- Exam Strategy Guides: Tips on time management, question prioritization, and stress reduction.
- Online Community: Access to discussion forums, study groups, and live Q&A sessions.

Exam Overview: CFA Level 2 2019

Exam Format and Schedule

The 2019 CFA Level 2 exam maintained the multiple choice format but introduced a new "item set" structure. Each item set consisted of a vignette followed by four or five related multiple choice questions. The exam comprised 120 questions, divided into 10 item sets, with a total duration of 4 hours. Candidates had to answer 12 questions per item set, requiring a blend of analytical depth and quick decision making.

Curriculum Breakdown

The Level 2 syllabus covers eight core topic areas, each with a weighted importance that reflects the exam's difficulty. In 2019, the emphasis on Ethics, Quantitative Methods, and Fixed Income increased slightly, while the weight for Alternative Investments remained stable. Below is a concise overview of each topic and its relative weight:

1. Ethics and Professional Standards – 15%
2. Quantitative Methods – 12%
3. Economics – 10%
4. Financial Reporting and Analysis – 13%
5. Corporate Finance – 10%
6. Equity Investments – 13%
7. Fixed Income – 13%
8. Derivatives – 6%
9. Alternative Investments – 6%
10. Portfolio Management and Wealth Planning – 8%

Important Dates and Registration

For the 2019 Level 2 exam, candidates had two registration windows: the first in the fall for the spring exam, and the second in the spring for the fall exam. Key dates included:

- Early Registration Deadline – September /15, /2018 (for the February /2019 exam)
- Regular Registration Deadline – November /15, /2018
- Exam Dates – February /14, /2019, and October /12, /2019
- Results Release – March /15, /2019, and November /15, /2019

Staying on top of these dates was essential to secure a spot on the desired exam date and to allow sufficient time for Schweser study preparation.

Schweser Study Materials for CFA Level 2 2019

Core Study Guides

Schweser's core guides for the 2019 Level 2 exam are organized by topic area, mirroring the CFA Institute's curriculum. Each guide includes:

- Concise summaries of key concepts
- Illustrative examples and case studies
- End of chapter review questions
- Highlighted "Exam Tips" that point to the most frequently tested concepts

Practice Questions and Mock Exams

Practice is the cornerstone of CFA success. Schweser offers a robust question bank that includes:

- 4,200+ practice questions, with detailed explanations for each answer
- Two full length mock exams for each of the two 2019 exam dates
- Adaptive practice sessions that adjust difficulty based on performance
- Progress tracking dashboards to monitor strengths and weaknesses

Supplementary Resources

Beyond the core guides, Schweser provides a suite of supplemental materials to reinforce learning:

- Video Lectures: 200+ hours of video content covering all 2019 topics.
- Flashcards: Digital flashcards for quick review and spaced repetition.
- Ethics Handbook: A focused guide on the CFA Institute Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct.
- Exam Strategy Workbook: A workbook that walks candidates through time management techniques, question prioritization strategies, and stress reduction tips.

Effective Study Strategies for CFA Level /2 2019

Creating a Study Plan

A well structured study plan is the backbone of exam success. Schweser recommends the following framework:

1. Set a Target Date: Choose your exam date early and work backward.
2. Allocate Time per Topic: Use the curriculum weights to decide how many study hours each area requires.
3. Integrate Practice Early: Start incorporating practice questions after covering each topic.
4. Schedule Weekly Reviews: Dedicate a day each week to revisit challenging concepts.
5. Simulate Exam Conditions: Take a mock exam every 4–6 weeks.

Time Management Techniques

Time management is critical during the 4 hour exam. Schweser suggests:

- Read the item set vignette carefully, marking key facts.
- Allocate 4–5 minutes per question, with a 1 minute buffer at the end.
- Use the “skip and return” strategy for difficult questions.
- Keep a mental note of the time spent on each item set.

Active Learning and Review Methods

Active learning reinforces retention. Effective methods include:

- Teach-back: Explain concepts to a peer or even to yourself.
- Mind maps: Visualize relationships between topics.
- Flashcards: Use spaced repetition for quick recall.
- Practice questions: Aim for 50–70% accuracy before moving on.

Exam Day Tips for CFA Level /2 2019

Checklist Before the Exam

Prepare a pre exam checklist to reduce anxiety:

- Valid government ID (passport or driver’s license)
- Exam confirmation email and seat assignment
- Calculator (if permitted), pens, and a watch
- Comfortable clothing and snacks (if allowed)
- Arrival time: 30 minutes early

During the Exam

During the test, keep these strategies in mind:

- Read each question carefully; avoid “quick read” mistakes.
- Mark questions you’re unsure of for later review.
- Stay hydrated and take short mental breaks between item sets.

- Maintain a steady pace; do not let early questions consume too much time.

Post Exam Process

After the exam, you'll receive a provisional score. While waiting for the official results, you can:

- Reflect on the questions you struggled with.
- Plan additional study if you are not passing.

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