



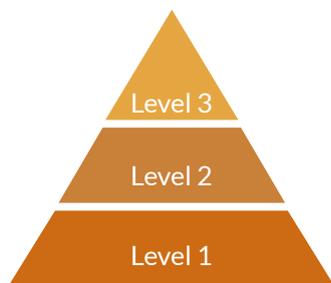
How to obtain IASE certifications: ISF® and ISB® Level 1

IASE awards professional designations in the field of ESG and sustainability. To learn more about IASE's ESG-specific-qualification, please click [here](#).

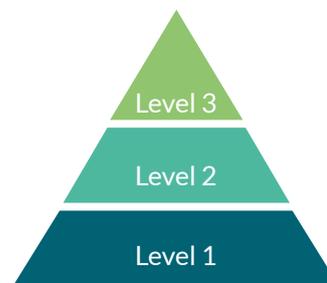
IASE's Professional Designation Types and Levels

IASE's prestigious professional designations - INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABLE FINANCE® (ISF®) and/or INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS® (ISB®) - are universally recognised as evidence of the highest standards of knowledge, technical expertise, and professionalism the world over.

Whilst the ISF® designation is suited for ESG and Sustainability practitioners who work in the field of finance (eg banking, insurance, micro finance, wealth management, accounting, treasury management), the ISB® designation is suited for ESG and Sustainability practitioners who work in all other non-finance related fields of business.



ISF Designation Levels



ISB Designation Levels

Each IASE designation recognizes 3 levels of proficiency. Thus, the levels represent a career progression path for ESG and sustainability practitioners with LEVEL 1 representing Foundational Level, LEVEL 2 representing Intermediate Level and LEVEL 3 representing the Expert Level.

This brochure focuses on the Level 1 certification requirements to obtain IASE's ISF® and ISB® professional designations. To learn more about requirements for the ISF® and ISB® professional designations levels, click [here](#).

IASE's Designations: ISF® and ISB® Level 1

To be awarded either of our coveted professional designations, aspirants must meet a range of Initial and Ongoing certification requirements.

Initial Certification Requirements for ISF® and ISB® Level 1

In addition to being at least 16 years of age, aspirants must achieve the IASE's 4Es of Initial Certification Requirements, a standard which is benchmarked against international best practice for the awarding of professional designations.

An aspirant who meets all the 4E requirements as explained below is deemed to have qualified to be awarded IASE's coveted ISF® and/or ISB® professional designations.

The 4Es stand for Education, Examination, Experience and Ethics.





Education

To be awarded either of IASE's INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABLE FINANCE® (ISF®) and INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS® (ISB®) level 1 designations, the aspirant must have at least a high school diploma qualification.

So, whilst not a requirement to have the IASE qualification, we encourage learners who do not already have an ESG specific qualification to consider taking up our ESG Qualifications course as this would help ensure that you have a solid grounding before attempting the IASE Professional Competency Examination (Board Exam).

Examination

To be awarded either of IASE's coveted ISF® and ISB® professional designations, the aspirant must write and pass IASE's Professional Competency Examination (commonly called "Board Exam").

Our Board Exam, which is a 40 multiple-choice-question (MCQ) exam, with four potential solutions, is exclusively delivered online. Once operational, aspirants will have the flexibility of writing the Board Exam from anywhere! Our Board Exams are scheduled to go live by during the first week of March 2021. Please continue checking our website and social media platforms closer to the time for specific information regarding our exams.

Experience

To be awarded either of IASE's coveted ISF® and ISB® level I designations, the aspirant does not need to have any previous professional work experience in the field of ESG and sustainability.

Ethics

Ethics is a cornerstone of being a professional. IASE's ethics requirements are enshrined in IASE's by-laws, Code of Ethics and Professional Responsibility, Disciplinary Regulations as amended from time to time.

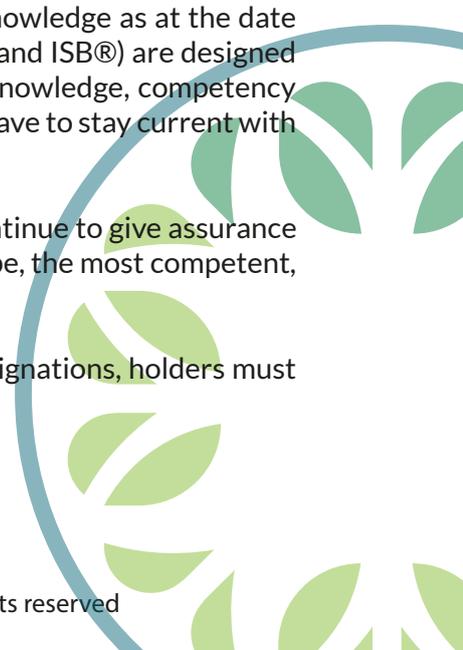
To be awarded either of IASE's coveted ISF® and ISB® designations, the aspirant must agree to always abide by all our ethics requirements and to have no criminal record for intentional crimes, not to have been expelled from a professional association and not to have had a final sanction imposed on it by the regulator for a serious offence.

Ongoing Certification Requirements for ISF® and ISB® Level 1

Contrary to academic qualifications that only attest to the holder's level of knowledge as at the date when they obtained the qualification, professional designations (such as ISF® and ISB®) are designed to confer assurance that the holder of the designation not only met certain knowledge, competency and ethical standards on a certain date, but it also attests to the fact that they have to stay current with the evolution of the ESG and the sustainability profession.

This is quite crucial in ensuring that IASE, as an independent 3rd party, can continue to give assurance to the public and employers that our designation holders are, and continue to be, the most competent, ethics, professional ESG and sustainability specialists in the world.

Therefore, to retain the right to continue using the ISF® and ISB® Level 1 designations, holders must commit to the following additional Ongoing Certification Requirements:





Commitment to Continuous Professional Development (CPD)

ISF® and ISB® Level 1 designation holders are required to undertake a minimum of 10 hours of additional and ongoing learning per annum.

CPD is a lifelong learning process where an ESG and sustainability practitioner systematically engages in activities that maintain abilities, skills and knowledge required for professional practice.

Designation holders are required to record and submit evidence of their CPD activities for the yearly cycles to their local IASE member certification body for inspection.

IASE has developed online courses that can help our designation holders to obtain the required training and thus meet their CPD requirement for retaining the designation. However, it is worth noting that there are many other ways of achieving your CPD requirements.

Please contact your local IASE Member certification body for more information in this regard.

Adherence to Ethical Standards

Our designation holders must declare in writing on an annual basis that they continue to adhere to IASE's by-laws and ethics standards as enshrined in IASE's by-laws, Code of Ethics and Professional Responsibility.

They are also required to report to IASE any ethical transgressions that they may have been implicated in during the year under review.

Pay the prescribed annual re-certification fee.

Need more information?

For more information about how any of the above is relevant to your territory, please visit the website of your [local IASE member certification body](#).

IASE Secretariat
October 2020

