

Upcoming Changes to the SOA Education Requirements

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Today's Topics

- 2017 FM/MFE Changes
- ASA Changes – Why
- ASA Changes – What
- ASA Changes – When
- A few other items of interest

2017 FM/MFE Changes



FM – Starting June 2017

- All derivatives material removed, except interest rate swaps (see new study note)
- New study note on a better approximation when using duration to estimate the effect of a change in interest rates.
- New study note on determinants of interest rates
- No change in approved texts, but some sections may have changed.
- Instant (unofficial) results.

MFE – Starting July 2017

- Derivatives material moved from FM.
- Some advanced topics removed.
- McDonald continues to be the only approved reference.
- Instant results will not be available.

Official posting

- The syllabus and readings for these exams will appear on their respective home pages by the end of January.
- At this time, they become official, though changes are not expected.

ASA Changes - Why



Predictive Analytics

- Currently, only requiring linear regression and time series
 - Some advanced topics on FSA tracks
- Need to introduce all actuaries to
 - New methods (generalized linear models, decision trees, clustering, machine learning, ...)
 - Dealing with big data (avoiding overfitting, dimension reduction, communicating model value, ...)

Short-term/long-term balance

- Long-term coverages (life, annuities, pensions) a staple of actuarial education
- Short-term coverages (health, property, liability) are relative newcomers
- SOA required curriculum needs to provide equal treatment

IAA Minimum Syllabus

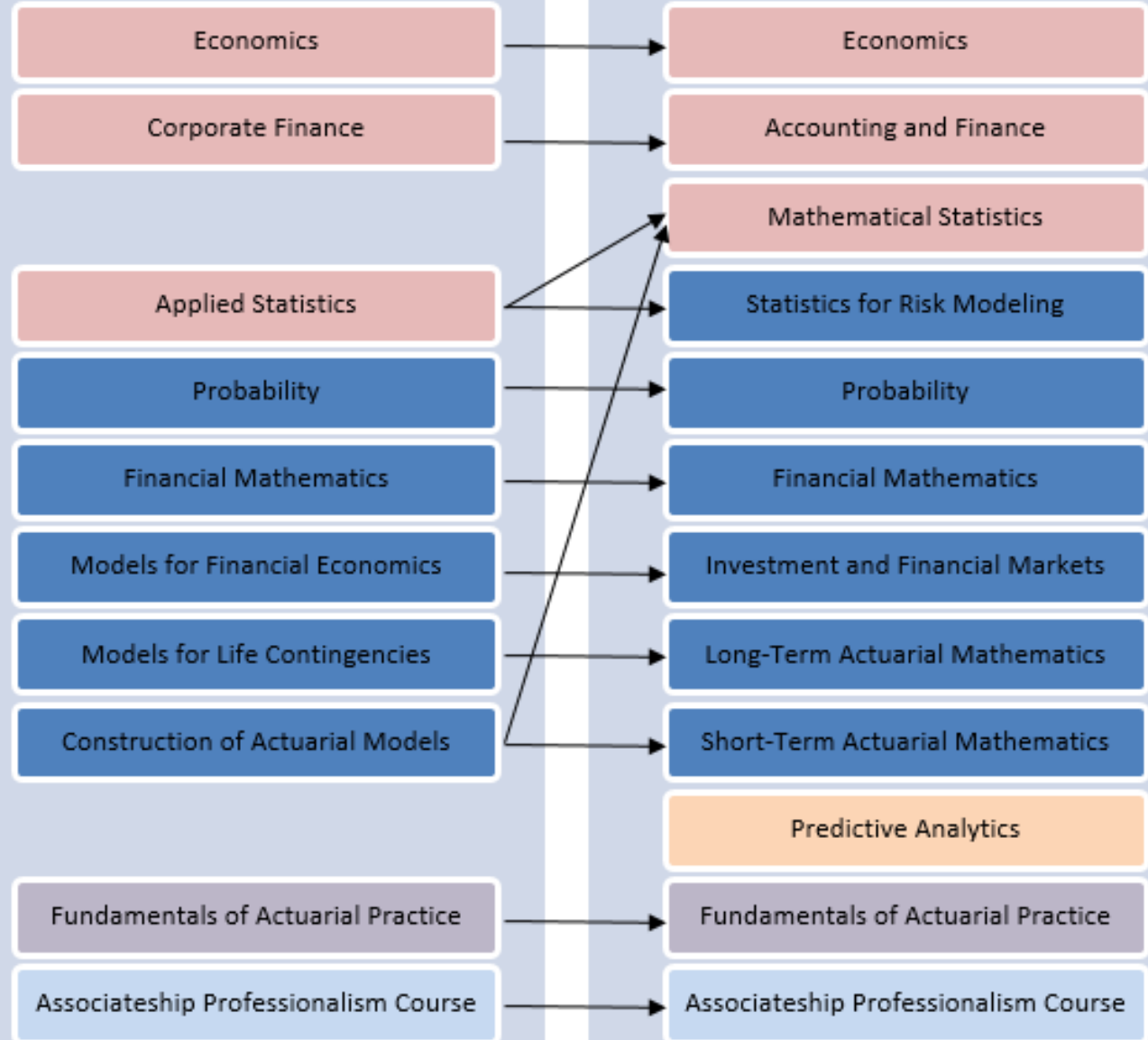
- Required of all member associations
- Revisions under consideration
- Has guided our development, but not yet a requirement

ASA Changes - What



Current

New



KEY

VEE

Exam

TBD

E-Learning Module

Seminar

Key Observations

- Was 10 requirements, is now 12
 - Needed to add predictive analytics
 - Will increase travel time
- One new form of assessment
 - Predictive Analytics by “proctored project”

VEE Topics

- Economics
 - Unchanged from current syllabus
- Accounting and Finance
 - Accounting is new
 - Lighter finance coverage than current VEE
- Mathematical Statistics
 - New to VEE, replacing Applied Statistics

Topics to be Formally Assessed

- By computer-based test
 - Probability (updates P)
 - Financial Mathematics (updates FM)
 - Investment and Financial Markets (updates MFE)
 - Short-Term Actuarial Mathematics (updates C)
 - Statistics for Risk Modeling (New)
- By multiple choice plus written answer
 - Long-Term Actuarial Mathematics (updates MLC)
- By proctored project
 - Predictive Analytics (New)

FAP and APC

- Fundamentals of Actuarial Practice (FAP)
- Associateship Professionalism Course (APC)
- For both:
 - No change in their basic structure
 - Some topics may be updated or revised

Timing

- Revised components go into effect with first administrations after July 1, 2018
- There may be some minor adjustments due to computer-based testing protocols

ASA Changes - When



Timing

- Revised components go into effect with first administrations after July 1, 2018
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Transition Timing

- Candidates whose names do NOT appear on the June 2018 or earlier list of new ASAs must complete the new requirements to earn their ASA.
- Candidates whose names appear on the June 2018 or earlier list of new ASAs are exempt from completing the new requirements, provided they also earn fellowship by July 1, 2022.

Key Point

- Despite the increase in components, anyone with an ASA will retain the designation
- However, it is possible that some who continue to FSA will have to go back and pick up the missing components
 - This is a longstanding policy; the fact that you received an ASA at some point in time does not mean your current requirements are the current fellowship portion

Recommended Order

- Candidates may take the ASA requirements in any order with two exceptions:
 - APC Eligibility rule: Candidates can be lacking either the FAP Final Assessment or one exam (but not both)
 - New Statistics for Risk Modeling Exam must be passed prior to the new Predictive Analytics requirement.

Key Dates I – Publication Dates

- About January 16 the learning objectives for all the new components will be released.
- All reading lists will be available by July 1. However, as each exam is finished, the list for that exam will be released.

Key Dates II – ASA by July 1, 2018

- The following exams must be taken (and passed) no later than:
 - Exam P: March 2018 session
 - Exam FM: April 2018 session
 - Exam MFE: March 2018 session
 - Exam MLC: Fall 2017 session
 - Exam C: February 2018 session
- VEE submissions:
 - Course approval forms by February 16, 2018
 - Candidate credit requests by April 27, 2018

Key Dates II – ASA by July 1, 2018

- Fundamentals of Actuarial Practice submissions:
 - All end of module exercises and assessments must be submitted by March 30, 2018.
- Associateship Professionalism Course:
 - Must be completed by May 31, 2018
- Filing of Application for ASA
 - Must be completed by June 8, 2018

Key Point About Key Dates

- If a current exam/assessment/VEE is taken after these deadlines, but before July 1, 2018, transition credit is still earned.
- Examples
 - Take and pass June 2018 Exam C -> Earn credit for VEE Math Stat and Short-Term Actuarial Mathematics Exam
 - Take and pass April/May 2018 Exam MLC -> Earn credit for Long-Term Actuarial Mathematics Exam
 - Complete VEE Applied Statistics requirement in spring semester 2018 -> Earn credit for VEE Math Stat and Statistics for Risk Modeling Exam

Curriculum Changes

Understand the curriculum changes and requirements for the associate designation and Chartered Enterprise Risk Analyst credential from the SOA.

ASA & CERA Curriculum Changes

Learn about the implementation of the curriculum changes and the transition rules

The SOA has revised the ASA and CERA curriculum as part of its ongoing efforts to support and enhance the actuarial profession. The curriculum reflects employer-valued components and the quality, rigor and depth of expertise expected of SOA members. These curriculum changes address evolving industry challenges and needs, use new educational technologies, and incorporate subject matter on new topics such as predictive analytics. These changes may affect some ASAs who are pursuing the FSA designation. Contact [Customer Service](#) with any questions.

Fact Sheet

Access the [fact sheet](#) on the new curriculum and the key drivers of the curriculum changes.

Letter On Changes

Read [President Craig Reynolds' letter to candidates about the changes](#). Also access the [Plain Talk](#) on the drivers of the changes (predictive analytics, balance of long-term/short-term insurance).

Transition Rules

Learn about the [timing and transition rules](#).

Learning Objectives

Read the [SOA letter to candidates PDF](#) on the draft learning objectives for each ASA curriculum component.

VEE Requirements

Understand the [VEE changes](#).

FAQs On Curriculum Changes

Read the frequently asked questions about the curriculum changes.



Learn more about the upcoming changes being made to the ASA and CERA curriculum by visiting www.soa.org/curriculumchanges

A Few Other Items of Interest



SOA Candidate Connect

- Stand-alone **events** and events at larger SOA meetings
- Candidate Connect **e-newsletter**
 - To subscribe, please visit: <http://soa.org/candidateconnect/>
- Society of Actuaries page on **Facebook**
- Candidate Connect sponsors **other student events**
 - Midwest Actuarial Student Conference
 - Actuarial Student National Association (ASNA) convention and case competition
 - Gamma Iota Sigma

Candidate Connect

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The Candidate Connect community allows SOA exam candidates, actuarial science students and all aspiring actuaries to interact with SOA staff and services, with SOA members, actuarial employers and with each other.

Latest Discussion Posts [Add](#)



ASNA Toronto Canada Gathering

By: [Michael Nowak](#) , 15 days ago

This January marks the Actuarial Students National Association (ASNA) student gathering in Toronto, Canada. Society of Actuaries (SOA) president-elect Mike Lombardi is one of the presenters. Candidates, if you are attending share your thoughts here....



WEVE MOVED

By: [Ken Mitchell](#) , 19 days ago

Announcements

Welcome!

By: [Xiaoyan Anderson](#) , 6 months ago

Welcome to Candidate Connect! The new SOA Engage - Candidate Connect community is for you to interact with fellow candidates, practicing actuaries, employers and SOA staff.

[Introduction to Candidate Connect](#)

SOA University Programs

- University Outreach
 - 126 schools visited to date
- UCAP List
 - Each UCAP has two exam covered and some VEE
- Hickman Scholar Awards
 - 5 Stipends awarded annually to PhD students
- ATC
 - Actuarial Teaching Conference (June 26-27, Pittsburgh)
- Faculty Community
 - Online discussion forum



SOA Explorer Map

The image displays a Google Map of Southern California with red circular markers indicating employer locations. The markers are numbered: 4 (Agoura Hills), 7 (Hidden Hills), 2 (TARZANA), 2 (STUDIO CITY), 2 (Burbank), 2 (Pasadena), 2 (Santa Monica), 2 (Van Nuys), and 19 (Los Angeles). A details panel for the California Dept of Insurance is open on the right.

Find employers

Employer details

Share Favorite

California Dept of Insurance
300 South Spring Street South Tower Los Angeles, CA 90013

Show all employer locations

Open with Google Maps

<http://www.insurance.ca.gov/>

6-25 Members

Members Show more

- Ahmad Kamil FSA,MAAA,FIA
- Ali A Zaker-Shahrak FSA,MAAA
- Daniel J Greer ASA,MAAA
- E Perry Kupferman FSA,MAAA
- Elaine Huang Lam FSA,MAAA,CERA
- Eric Robert Scheppmann ASA,MAAA
- Grace Lam ASA,MAAA