Why Become a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE)?

Heightened fraud awareness combined with new laws and regulations has increased the already growing demand in the workforce for professionals who are highly skilled at deterring, detecting, and investigating fraud. In fact, according to the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners’ *2006 Compensation Guide for Anti-Fraud Professionals*, CFEs earn approximately 18% more than non-CFEs in similar positions.

Certified fraud examiners have a unique set of skills that are not found in any other discipline; they combine knowledge of complex financial transactions with an understanding of law, criminology, investigation, and how to resolve allegations of fraud.

CFEs work in a variety of disciplines, including accounting, auditing, fraud investigation, and security, as well as in different industry segments including government, healthcare, financial services, manufacturing, and retail distribution.

CFEs are objective experts who have the knowledge and skills companies need to:

- Investigate allegations against employees
- Recommend strong anti-fraud internal controls
- Conduct interviews related to sensitive issues
- Provide assistance with financial dispute resolution
- Resolve irregularities discovered during a company’s audit
- Provide expert testimony on financial and investigative matters

The standards for CFE certification are set by the ACFE’s Board of Regents, who are elected by CFE members and drawn from the most experienced members of the profession. CFE candidates must hold a Bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution and possess two or more years of professional experience in a field related to fraud deterrence and detection.

The CFE exam is a rigorous process, testing the knowledge of candidates in all areas of fraud examination. CFEs are required to acquire at least 20 credit hours of continuing professional education each year to ensure that they remain informed, empowered, and educated.

As leaders who inspire public confidence in the integrity and objectivity of the profession, CFEs adhere to the Certified Fraud Examiners Code of Professional Ethics. This code includes commitment to professionalism; diligence in performance; avoidance of conflict of interest; testifying truthfully and without bias or prejudice; complete confidentiality; revelation of all material matters discovered during an examination; and a continued effort to increase the competence and effectiveness of professional services performed under his or her direction.

The CFE credential is the globally preferred certification for anti-fraud professionals. Over 20,000 CFEs are actively fighting fraud worldwide today.
For more information regarding the CFE certification, please visit www.acfe.com or contact Jennifer Birtz, CPA, CFE, CIA, at (404) 898-7513.

The Georgia Chapter of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (Georgia Chapter) is the local chapter of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE). The Georgia Chapter is located in Atlanta, Georgia, but strives to serve fraud prevention specialists throughout the state of Georgia. We conduct monthly luncheon meetings usually on the first Friday of each month. Each meeting features a presentation on a fraud-related topic and provides an opportunity to network with fraud prevention professionals. The Georgia Chapter also holds a one day fraud seminar every September, which features highly acclaimed speakers on a variety of fraud-related topics.