PIONEERING PAKISTAN'S FINANCIAL INTEGRITY & FORENSIC EXCELLENCE

The Association of Financial Forensic Experts

Investigating Beyond The Numbers

·THE AFFE·

ANNUAL REPORT & PROSPECTUS

ANALYZING COMPLEX DATA

DETECTING FINANCIAL FRAUD

SUPPORTING LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN • EST. 2026 • OFFICIAL PORTAL: www.theaffe.org.pk

THE ASSOCIATION OF FINANCIAL FORENSIC EXPERTS

INVESTIGATING BEYOND THE NUMBERS | THE AFFE

INSTITUTIONAL OVERVIEW & ORGANIZATIONAL CHARTER

INTRODUCTION & INSTITUTIONAL STANDING

The Association of Financial Forensic Experts (The AFFE) *founded in 2026, is Pakistan's premier non-profit professional organization dedicated to the education, training, and regulation of* ***Financial Forensic Experts (FFEs).*** *It focuses on combating financial crime, supporting litigation, and promoting financial integrity.* ***The Association of Financial Forensic Experts (The AFFE)*** *is a non-profit professional organization registered with SECP under section 42 of the Companies Act, 2017. It supports and grows the forensic accounting profession and its allied disciplines in Pakistan.*

LEADERSHIP & GOVERNING BODIES

The supreme governing body responsible for strategic oversight, financial integrity, and professional advancement of forensic accounting in Pakistan:

Barrister Sohail Nawaz
CHAIRMAN / PRESIDENT / CEO

Dr. Majid Latif Bhatti
VICE PRESIDENT

Dr. Tahir Iqbal
SECRETARY

VISION THE AFFE ADVISORY BOARD

An Advisory Board of The Association of Financial Experts (The AFFE) is a group of external experts who give non-binding strategic advice and fresh perspectives to an organization's leaders. Acts as a trusted sounding board. It helps executives think through problems but cannot enforce actions. Offers independent advice on long-term goals, institutional development, and professional standards without holding executive power. Acts as a trusted platform for the governing council or management to test new ideas, policies, and initiatives. Fills knowledge gaps by bringing in specialized skills in emerging areas like technology, global standards, or market trends. Helps build relations with global professional accountancy organizations, regulators, and the wider public. Facilitates international relations, mutual recognition agreements, and partnerships to boost member mobility. Reviews the effectiveness of education, professional development, and quality improvement programs. Recommendations are advisory only; the governing board or council retains final decision-making authority. Members carry no fiduciary duties, statutory responsibilities, or legal liabilities for the organization's actions.

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STRATEGIC CHARTER & ORGANIZATIONAL MANDATE

OUR PURPOSE — WHY WE ARE HERE

To champion and lead the forensic accounting profession through an ever-changing business landscape. We guide the forensic accounting community with guidance and learning while highlighting its vital impact. As Pakistan's dedicated forensic accounting body, we actively advocate the value of forensic experts to key national stakeholders.

OUR VISION

To be the nation's leading platform and a global benchmark in forensic accounting education and certification. We aim to educate and train professionals in combating financial crimes, upholding ethical standards, and ensuring transparency—establishing forensic accounting professionals as indispensable to effective governance, risk management, and control.

OUR MISSION

Equip financial forensic professionals with the knowledge, analytical skills, and ethical foundation required to detect, prevent, and respond to financial frauds and white-collar crimes. Promote global forensic accounting and auditing standards, foster a collaborative knowledge-sharing platform, and build a robust pool of Financial Forensic Experts (FFEs) to champion good corporate governance.

THE AFFE STRATEGIC GOALS

- **Dynamic Leadership:** Provide authoritative leadership for the practice of forensic accounting in Pakistan.
- **Global Compliance:** Advocate and promote compliance with global forensic accounting values and ethical Code of Conduct.
- **Professional Education:** Offer continuous learning and advanced credentialing opportunities to members and students.
- **Institutional Awareness:** Expand public and corporate awareness of forensic accounting practices across Pakistan.
- **Unified Platform:** Serve as the central national platform for forensic professionals to exchange expertise and research.
- **Expert Capacity Building:** Build a high-caliber pool of Financial Forensic Experts (FFEs) to elevate national standards.

Statutory Body Registered under Section 42 of the Companies Act, 2017 • SECP Islamabad, Pakistan.

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CORE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

THE AFFE'S SERVICES

The Association of Financial Forensic Experts (The AFFE) provides professional membership, career certifications, technical guidance, and corporate training. It acts as the sole professional body dedicated exclusively to forensic accounting in the region.

CORE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Certifications & Qualifications Support

Facilitates registration and exams for credentials. Offers national and internationally recognized pathways including:

- Financial Forensic Expert (FFE)
- Diploma in Investigative and Forensic Accounting (DIFA)
- Certificate in Investigative and Forensic Accounting (CIFA)
- Foundational examination pathways

Standards & Guidance

*Promotes adherence to the **Global Forensic Accounting Standards (GFAS)** and issues governance benchmarks, including the forensic accounting Code of Practice, and promotes the **Forensic Accounting International Professional Practices Framework (FAIPPF).***

Training & Development

Conducts regular professional development sessions, conferences, technical workshops and on demand learning opportunities to earn CPE credits. Delivers public training courses, custom in-house training for teams, and structured apprenticeship schemes.

Conferences & Events

Hosts regional and annual sector conferences, webinars, and thought-leadership awards.

Membership & Networking Forum

Connects over 400 members across sectors, providing peer networks, mentoring, and continuous professional education (CPE) points. Connects forensic accounting practitioners, Financial Forensic Experts and governance leaders across diverse industries like **banking, Insurance, FMCG**, and **NGOs**.

Academic Alliance Initiatives

Collaborations with local and international universities, professional bodies and regulatory agencies via academic alliances to embed forensic accounting education and training into curricula.

Forensic Accounting Profession Promotion

Advocates and promotes the forensic accounting profession for high standards in corporate governance, risk management, and internal controls aligned with international practices.

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EXPERTS POOL & STRATEGIC ROADMAP (2026–2030)

THE AFFE'S EXPERTS POOL

The Association of Financial Forensic Experts (The AFFE) maintains networks, technical panels, and communities of senior practitioners. They utilize specialized technical committees, regional networks, and a content hub where certified forensic accounting specialists contribute to guidance, policy consultations, and industry standards. **The AFFE's Experts Pool** sets governance benchmarks and principles for forensic accounting effectiveness across sectors, outlines proficiency levels spanning foundational knowledge up to strategic expert leadership and. draws upon leading industry practitioners to shape consultation responses and policy. Local geographical networks facilitate peer connection and knowledge sharing.

THE AFFE STRATEGIC PLAN 2026–2030

The Association of Financial Forensic Experts (The AFFE) formally initiated its comprehensive **Five-Year Strategic Plan (2026–2030)** to reshape and advance the local forensic accounting profession. The roadmap focuses heavily on transitioning forensic accounting from a traditional compliance checking tool into a proactive, technology-driven strategic partner.

CORE STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS

Technological Integration

Adopting artificial intelligence, data analytics, and continuous.

Professional Capacity Building

Expanding local access to global designations such as the Financial Forensic Expert (FFE) and upgrading competencies in public and corporate sectors.

Enhanced Governance & Value Addition

Transforming forensic accounting functions across Pakistani industries (banking, telecom, NGOs, FMCG) to act as strategic advisors for sustainable organizational value.

Academic Engagement

Partnering with local and international universities, professional bodies and regulatory enforcement agencies to build structured career pathways for the next generation of forensic accounting professionals.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- Elevating the stature and demand for the forensic accounting profession in Pakistan.
- Bringing **Financial Forensic Experts (FFEs)** together to create a vibrant and viable future.
- Establishing touchstone for current and future initiatives to advance the profession and public interest in Pakistan.
- Updating and enhancing current perceptions of **Financial Forensic Experts (FFEs)** so that their value is understood and so that talented future professionals will choose this field.
- Increasing awareness of and facilitate the implementation of Forensic Accounting Global Standards within the different industries of Pakistan, ensuring alignment with global best practices.

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MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS & ADVANCED LEARNING

THE AFFE MEMBERSHIP

The AFFE membership means becoming a member of The Association of Financial Forensic Experts (The AFFE)-the national professional body for **Financial Forensic Experts (FFEs).** In Pakistan, **The AFFE** supports and facilitates applicants in obtaining membership. **The Association of Financial Forensic Experts (The AFFE)** membership connects over **400** professionals worldwide in risk, compliance, and forensic accounting. Members receive exclusive access to global forensic accounting standards, discounted exam pricing for the **Financial Forensic Expert (FFE),** continuing professional education (CPE) tracking, and local or international networking. You can join or learn more directly through **The AFFE** membership portal.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Training Program

World-class capacity building across forensic accounting, fraud examination, risk management, and governance for all professional tiers. Delivered via In-Person, Online, On-Site, and FFE Learning Systems with CPE credit issuance.

Gender Diversity

Dedicated mission to support, develop, and promote women forensic accounting professionals in Pakistan, providing platforms for networking, training, and leadership advancement.

Quality Review & Maturity Assessment

Validates forensic accounting activities using global review methodologies, organizes expert investigation teams, and delivers specialized Quality Review training.

Consultation with Industry Leaders

Connect with 400+ members worldwide, participating in thought leadership, conference speaking, and professional publications.

Recruitment, Internships & Periodicals

Connects organizations with aspirants and experts through portal postings and the monthly "Forensic Accounting Today" magazine.

Conferences & Webinars Value

Short, live AFFE Learning Webinars on trending topics along with dynamic conferences for peer networking and career growth.

ADVANCED TRAININGS & EVENTS

A. Advanced Training & Workshops

Data Analytics Certificate: Data automation, analytical frameworks, and audit modernization.
Global Standards Implementation: Conformance guidance for forensic auditing standards.
ESG & Sustainability Reporting: Non-financial metrics, data ownership, and controls.
Custom Group Training: Tailored for public and corporate teams (8+ participants).

B. Webinars & E-Seminars

Topical Requirement Briefings: CPE virtual sessions on cybersecurity and 3rd-party compliance.
Public Sector Insights: Governance and value creation for public sector auditors.
On-Demand Learning: Digital courses on fraud, ethics, and leadership strategies.

C. Global Conferences & Virtual Events

Financial Services Exchange: Focused on AI, cyber resilience, and financial risks.
ERM Virtual Conference: Digital symposiums exploring strategic risk value.
Analytics, Automation & AI Conference: Multi-session digital event offering up to 10 CPE credits.

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MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY & CERTIFICATION

WHO SHOULD BECOME A MEMBER?

Membership in **The Association of Financial Forensic Experts (The AFFE)** is ideal for forensic accounting practitioners, risk management professionals, governance experts, educators, students, and public sector employees seeking industry standards, exam discounts, and global networking.

HOW TO JOIN THE AFFE?

You can join **The Association of Financial Forensic Experts (The AFFE)** by meeting the eligibility criteria and completing their Financial Forensic Expert (FFE) Program or through qualifying professional exemptions.

THE AFFE CERTIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

The AFFE certifications validate your knowledge, skills, and commitment to the forensic accounting profession. The AFFE offers globally recognized professional credentials for forensic accounting and its allied disciplines.

Financial Forensic Expert (FFE)

The Financial Forensic Expert (FFE) is a recognized professional certification awarded by The Association of Financial Forensic Experts (The AFFE). It is the accepted credential for individuals seeking to demonstrate expertise in forensic accounting practices, governance, risk management, and internal control.
Core Competence: Equips professionals to evaluate organizational processes, enhance operational efficiency, and support strategic decision-making.
Requirements: Demands passing a rigorous multi-part exam alongside meeting formal education and experience criteria.
Career Impact: Highly valued across public and private sectors, opening leadership pathways in forensic accounting, auditing, compliance, and risk management.

Diploma in Investigative & Forensic Accounting (DIFA)

A specialized credential designed for individuals holding intermediate or equivalent qualifications, offering a formal introduction to anti-fraud and investigative methodologies.
Practical Skillset: Focuses on investigating financial fraud, analyzing complex accounting records, and preparing expert witness reports for court proceedings.
Target Audience: Ideal for intermediate graduates, early-career accounting staff, and professionals seeking formal grounding in fraud investigation.
Subject Exemptions: Granted on a case-by-case basis based on prior academic and professional experience in accounting, law, finance, or auditing.

Certificate in Investigative & Forensic Accounting (CIFA)
A specialized training program offered by The AFFE to build core competence in detecting and preventing financial fraud across organizational operations.
Key Focus Areas: Covers fraudulent financial reporting, asset misappropriation, corruption, and basic litigation support / expert testimony.
Core Objective: Empowers professionals with actionable skills to recognize fraud schemes, analyze records, and develop defensible evidence.
Target Audience: Designed for accountants, auditors, risk analysts, and compliance officers seeking foundational credentials.

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS) ON FORENSIC ACCOUNTING

The Association of Financial Forensic Experts (The AFFE) operates as an independent professional body, providing advocacy, continuing professional education, and guidance for forensic accounting professionals across the country. Below are key insights on the fundamentals, standards, and core principles managed through The AFFE networks.

WHAT IS FORENSIC ACCOUNTING?

Forensic accounting is a specialized field that combines accounting, auditing, and investigative skills to uncover financial misconduct and analyze data for use in legal proceedings. Unlike traditional accountants who prepare financial statements or file taxes, Financial Forensic Experts (FFEs) act as financial detectives. They trace funds, examine hidden assets, and interpret complex financial records to find irregularities.

WHAT DO FINANCIAL FORENSIC EXPERTS (FFEs)?

Financial Forensic Experts (FFES) (also known as Forensic Accountants-FAs) investigate financial irregularities, trace hidden funds, and analyze complex accounting records for use in legal proceedings. Core Responsibilities: Fraud Investigation, Asset Tracing, Financial Reconstruction, Litigation Support & Expert Testimony and Business Valuation.

WHAT VALUE DOES FORENSIC ACCOUNTING ADD?

Forensic accounting adds value by uncovering financial irregularities, providing court-defensible evidence, and resolving high-stakes financial disputes. Find hidden assets trails, embezzlement and money laundering schemes. Discourage internal wrongdoing through strict operational tracking. Save long-term cost by catching financial deception early.

WHAT IS FORENSIC ACCOUNTING NOT?

Forensic accounting is not just regular auditing, nor is it a routine preparation of financial statements or tax returns. Traditional audits use random sampling and materiality thresholds to check general compliance, whereas forensic accounting looks deep into specific transactions and ignores standard materiality limits. Despite the word **"forensic"** often being linked to crime scenes or autopsies, it has nothing to do with deceased individuals. **Financial Forensic Experts (FFEs)** do not record daily business transactions or assemble standard corporate financial reports. They do not accept financial data at face value; instead, they treat numbers as potential evidence that might hide manipulation or fraud.

WHAT DEFINES A SUCCESSFUL FORENSIC ACCOUNTING FUNCTION?

A successful forensic accounting function is defined by its ability to integrate rigorous investigative techniques, deep financial expertise, and clear communication to uncover the truth and withstand courtroom scrutiny.

Core Pillars of Success:

Technical and Investigative Proficiency: Combines accounting and auditing principles with advanced data analytics, asset tracing, and transaction-level examination.
Legal and Courtroom Readiness: Produces meticulous evidence and expert reports that successfully withstand rigorous examination under oath during legal proceedings.
Effective Communication: Translates complex financial data and irregularities into simple, actionable terms for judges, juries, and non-financial clients.
Independence and Skepticism: Approaches every record with an inquisitive, doubting mindset free from bias, ensuring objective findings.
Advanced Technology Integration: Utilizes modern digital tools, automation, and data analytics to process electronic trails and detect hidden anomalies.

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