Alphabet Soup!
My Financial Adviser
is a What???

Presented by Jane Nelson

Director, Rocky Mountain Chapter

BetterInvesting

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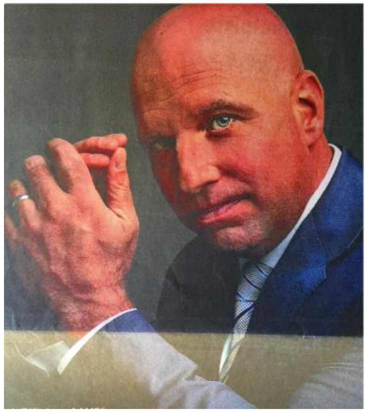

Full page ad for a financial advisor with the designation of "AAMS" in the Wall Street Journal, January 29, 2019

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AAMS

- Accredited Asset Management Specialist (**AAMS**) is a professional designation awarded by the College for Financial Planning (CFP) to financial professionals who successfully complete a self-study program, pass an exam, and agree to comply with a code of ethics.

From Investopedia

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AAMS / finra.org
if you know the designation

finra.org/designations
if you are just looking

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Designation Essentials for AAMS—Accredited Asset Management Specialist	
Status	Currently offered and recognized by the issuing organization.
Issuing Organization	College for Financial Planning
Qualification and Educational Requirements	
Prerequisites	None
Education Requirements	AAMS Course Info
Examination Type	Final designation exam (online, closed-book, proctored)
Continuing Education Requirements	16 hours every 2 years

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Designation Essentials for CAPP—Certified Asset Protection Planner	
Status	Currently offered and recognized by the issuing organization.
Issuing Organization	The Wealth Preservation Institute
Qualification and Educational Requirements	
Prerequisites	None
Education Requirements	CAPP course (16-part), online or in person
Examination Type	Final certification exam (open-book, online)
Continuing Education Requirements	18 hours every two years, open-book recertification exam every three years.

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Professional Designations - A

Use this tool to decode the letters that sometimes follow a financial professional's name. You can also see whether the issuing organization requires continuing education, takes complaints or has a way for you to confirm who holds the credential.

3(1) **A**(22) **B**(6) **C**(118) **D**(3) **E**(3) **F**(11) **G**(1) **L**(1) **M**(4) **N**(1) **P**(4) **Q**(2) **R**(12) **W**(1)

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Designation Essentials for CFC—Certified Financial Consultant	
Status	Currently offered and recognized by the issuing organization.
Issuing Organization	Institute of Financial Consultants
Qualification and Educational Requirements	
Prerequisites	None
Education Requirements	Complete 5 online modules
Examination Type	Certification exam (online)
Continuing Education Requirements	20 hours

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Designation Essentials for CFP—Certified Financial Planner	
Status	Currently offered and recognized by the issuing organization.
Issuing Organization	Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc.
Qualification and Educational Requirements	
Prerequisites	•Candidate must meet the following requirements: A bachelor's degree (or higher) from an accredited college or university, and •Three years of full-time personal financial planning experience or the equivalent part-time experience (2,000 hours equals one year full-time).
Education Requirements	Candidate must complete a CFP-board registered program, or hold one of the following: •CPA •ChFC •Chartered Life Underwriter (CLU) •CFA •Ph.D. in business or economics •Doctor of Business Administration •Attorney's License
Examination Type	Final certification examination
Continuing Education Requirements	30 hours every two years

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Designation Essentials for CIMA—Certified Investment Management Analyst	
Status	Currently offered and recognized by the issuing organization.
Issuing Organization	Investments & Wealth Institute
Qualification and Educational Requirements	
Prerequisites	•Candidate must meet the following requirements: Three years of financial services experience; and A satisfactory record of ethical conduct, as determined by Investments & Wealth Institute Admissions Committee.
Education Requirements	•Educational component offered by one of the approved Registered Education Providers. •In-class program at The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, or online through Yale School of Management.
Examination Type	Qualification Examination and Certification Examination (online, proctored)
Continuing Education Requirements	40 hours every two years

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Designation Essentials for RFP—Registered Financial Planner	
Status	Currently offered and recognized by the issuing organization.
Issuing Organization	Registered Financial Planners Institute (RFPI)
Qualification and Educational Requirements	
Prerequisites	Two years financial planning experience
Education Requirements	Completion of 120 hours of approved education
Examination Type	Evidence of passing exams related to area(s) of expertise
Continuing Education Requirements	Twenty hours every three years

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Designation Essentials for QFP—Qualified Financial Planner	
Status	Currently offered and recognized by the issuing organization.
Issuing Organization	International Association of Qualified Financial Planners
Qualification and Educational Requirements	
Prerequisites	•Candidate must have a minimum of three years experience in the field of Financial Planning and hold one or more of the following designations: •Chartered Financial Consultant (ChFC) •Certified Financial Planner (CFP) •Master of Science with a Financial Planning concentration (MS) •Master of Science in Financial Services with a Financial Planning concentration (MSFS) •Personal Financial Specialist (PFS)
Education Requirements	Varies according to designation above
Examination Type	Varies according to designation above
Continuing Education Requirements	30 hours every 2 years, or 15 hours annually

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Designation Essentials for PFS—Personal Financial Specialist	
Status	Currently offered and recognized by the issuing organization.
Issuing Organization	The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)
Qualification and Educational Requirements	
Prerequisites	•Candidate must meet all of the following requirements: •Be a member of the AICPA •Hold an unrevoked CPA certificate issued by a state authority •Have at least two years of full-time teaching or business experience (or 3000 hours equivalent) in personal financial planning within the five-year period preceding the data of the CPA/PFS application
Education Requirements	Minimum of 75 hours of personal financial planning education within the five-year period preceding the date of the PFS application
Examination Type	Final Certification Exam
Continuing Education Requirements	60 hours (or its equivalent) of continuing professional education every three years

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Designation Essentials for CPWA—Certified Private Wealth Adviser	
Status	Currently offered and recognized by the issuing organization.
Issuing Organization	Investments & Wealth Institute
Qualification and Educational Requirements	
Prerequisites	Candidate must meet all of the following: Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university or one of the following designations or licenses: CIMA, CIMC, CFA, CFP, ChFC or CPA license •A satisfactory record of ethical conduct, as determined by IMCA's Admissions Committee •Five years of professional client-centered experience in financial services or a related industry
Education Requirements	Candidate must complete the following: •Six-month pre-study educational component •In-class program at The University of Chicago Booth School of Business, or online program through Yale School of Management. View more information.
Examination Type	Final exam for in-class portion (online, proctored)
Continuing Education Requirements	40 hours every two years

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Designation Essentials for MFP—Master Financial Planner	
Status	Currently offered and recognized by the issuing organization.
Issuing Organization	Global Academy of Finance and Management (GAFM), formerly American Academy of Financial Management (AAFM)
Qualification and Educational Requirements	
Prerequisites	Three years of experience in financial management or related industry
Education Requirements	AAFM-approved degree (graduate or undergraduate) in finance, tax, accounting, financial services, law or a CPA, MBA, MS, PhD, or JD from an accredited school or organization
Examination Type	None
Continuing Education Requirements	15 hours per year

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And then there are tax people out there to help you -------

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Designation Essentials for ATP—Accredited Tax Preparer	
Status	Currently offered and recognized by the issuing organization.
Issuing Organization	Accreditation Council for Accountancy and Taxation
Qualification and Educational Requirements	
Prerequisites	Three years of work experience in tax preparation, two of which may be satisfied through college credit.
Education Requirements	None
Examination Type	ATP exam (online, closed-book, proctored)
Continuing Education Requirements	24 hours per year or 72 hours within a three-year period

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Designation Essentials for ATA—Accredited Tax Adviser	
Status	Currently offered and recognized by the issuing organization.
Issuing Organization	Accreditation Council for Accountancy and Taxation
Qualification and Educational Requirements	
Prerequisites	Five years experience in tax preparation, compliance, tax planning and consulting, of which 40 percent must be in tax planning and consulting.
Education Requirements	None. Optional exam preparatory course
Examination Type	ATA exam (online, closed-book, proctored)
Continuing Education Requirements	30 hours per year or 90 hours within a three-year period

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Designation Essentials for EA—Enrolled Agent	
Status	Currently offered and recognized by the issuing organization.
Issuing Organization	Internal Revenue Service
Qualification and Educational Requirements	
Prerequisites	Pass a background check to ensure that applicant has not engaged in any conduct that would justify the suspension of an enrolled agent from practice before the IRS
Education Requirements	•Candidates become an EA by either of the following paths: •Pass a written exam •Have accepted IRS experience IRS Circular 230 contains more detailed information about these two paths
Examination Type	Written exam for path one
Continuing Education Requirements	•72 hours of continuing education credits over a three-year enrollment period, with a minimum of 16 hours each year •Six hours of ethics training over a three-year enrollment period

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Designation Essentials for CPA—Certified Public Accountant	
Status	Currently offered and recognized by all 50 states, the District of Columbia and four US Territories. Each state and jurisdiction has its own Board of Accountancy that grants CPA certification and licensure. For more information, go to AccountingEdu.org.
Issuing Organization	Boards of Accountancy
Qualification and Educational Requirements	
Prerequisites	See How to Become a CPA by State
Education Requirements	See How to Become a CPA by State
Examination Type	See How to Become a CPA by State
Continuing Education Requirements	See How to Become a CPA by State

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Accredited Designations

ANSI
American National Standards Institute

Many state securities and insurance regulators do not allow financial professionals to use a designation—in particular a "senior" designation—unless it has been accredited by either the American National Standards Institute or the National Commission for Certifying Agencies.

ICE Institute for Credentialing Excellence

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Designations accredited by the American National Standards Institute:

- Certified Investment Management Analyst - CIMA
- Certified Senior Advisor - CSA

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Designations accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies:

- Accredited Financial Counselor - AFC
- Certified Financial Planner - CFP
- Certified Medicaid Planner - CMP
- Certified Retirement Counselor - CRC
- Certified Retirement Financial Advisor - CRFA
- Certified Senior Advisor - CSA
- Master Registered Financial Consultant - MRFC

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And ---

Numerous state regulators

-also allow financial professionals to use a

-designation if the organization that offers it is on
-U.S. Department of Education's list

Accredited Agencies

-the designation does not primarily apply to sales and/or marketing.

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Financial Industry Regulatory Authority

(brokercheck.finra.org)

Securities and Exchange Commission

(adviserinfo.sec.gov)

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Thank you for your attention and good luck!

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Tonight's stock presentation

Jazz Pharmaceuticals, plc

presented by
John Rogers

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