



ALMA
ASSET & LIABILITY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

CERTIFICATE

Certificate of Banking Asset
and Liability Management

FACT SHEET

January 2024



The Certificate of Banking Asset and Liability Management (CertBALM®) has been developed by the UK's Asset and Liability Management Association Limited (ALMA) and is accredited by the Association of Corporate Treasurers (ACT).

The CertBALM® has been designed to:

- a) provide a benchmark Level 6 qualification in bank and building society asset and liability management (equivalent to final year honours degree – and equating to 200 hours of learning over a period of nine to ten months) and
- b) be a standalone qualification which is recognised by the banking industry.

Entry Requirements

There are no entry qualification requirements. However the CertBALM® is aimed at people working in bank and building society treasury, balance sheet management, asset and liability management, risk and finance departments and an understanding of basic bank financial accounts, and statistical concepts such as time value of money, probability, correlation, standard deviation, weighted average cost of capital is required. Candidates should be reasonably numerate. For example, you will need to be able to set up, rearrange and solve straightforward equations. All teaching is in English and you must be sufficiently fluent in English to be able to benefit from your education.

Why study for the CertBALM®?

To gain a firm understanding of how to manage a bank's balance sheet, i.e. the management of capital, liquidity and funding as well as interest rate risk in the banking book. To be able to recognise the practical problems arising from these risks and how to solve such problems. To understand the regulatory context of bank and building society balance sheet management and the governance process that results. The CertBALM® will enable the student to obtain a recognised qualification, accredited by the only chartered global body of Treasurers, the ACT.

What will you learn?

- To describe the fundamental concepts and risks of asset and liability management across all the major categories and understand how the modules inter connect.
- To quantify and understand the analytical and quantitative methods for measuring and explaining ALM risk.
- To recommend and advise – to set out options to solve issues that arise in bank and building society treasury management and to explain those options' relative merits from the viewpoint of, e.g. practicality, materiality, effectiveness, culture and risk appetite.
- To communicate and apply – the ability to describe and explain ALM using practical examples.



How is CertBALM® structured?

Unit 1: An Introduction to Banking, Treasury and Asset & Liability Management (ALM)
 Unit 2: Capital Risk Management
 Unit 3: Liquidity and Funding Risk
 Unit 4: Market Risk in the Banking Book
 Unit 5: Integrated Asset and Liability Management

How do you study?

Flexible online learning via the ACT Learning Management System.
 Study on the go - anywhere, anytime.

Study Commitment

- Nine to ten months to complete; 200 study hours
- One online progress test following the completion of Unit 1
- One x four day residential course, to cover exam Units 2/3 and exam Units 4/5 (either face-to-face or online)
- Two short/long answer exams to test Units 2/3 and Units 4/5 (3 hours each)
- Final Case Study/Assignment to test application of learning

Summary of Key Dates for September 2024

16th September 2024	CertBALM® Start Date
7th – 14th October inclusive	Progress Test for Unit 1
Dates TBC	Online Revision School – four days (2 days before the Unit 2/3 exam and 2 days before the Unit 4/5 exam)
6th February 2025	Unit 2 and 3 tested in 3 hour examination
10th April 2025	Unit 4 and 5 tested in 3 hour examination
11th April 2025	Case Study released
22nd May 2025	Case Study (to prove application of learning) to be completed

To find out more details and to book a place on the CertBALM® contact:
project.manager@ukalma.org.uk

Fees: £4,150 + VAT, plus £600 + VAT Assessment Fees, for three exams, paid directly to the ACT (£200 + VAT per exam). Please note the Assessment Fees are subject to change.



Student Membership of ALMA

Anyone enrolling to study the CertBALM® will be offered student membership of ALMA, the fee for which is included in the enrolment fee. Student members can attend meetings, courses and conferences organised by the Association at member fee rates. They will also be added to the ALMA Newsletter subscription list.

Testimonials

"From first taking up the CertBALM® course only nine months into my Treasury role, today I am confident I have been equipped with the most relevant certificate in Banking ALM that will allow me to build a strong career in the field and hopefully one day, with experience, become a well-regarded industry practitioner. Very special thanks to all the extraordinary instructors, mentors and programme organisers who made it happen. I wish future students all the best - hopefully they will enjoy the experience as much as I did".

Lis Nguyen Huong Thao, Barclays

"Not only has the course given me a fantastic insight into a bank's Treasury function, achieving the CertBALM® has put me in touch with a wide range of technical experts and like-minded individuals across the industry – a brilliant opportunity for enhancing knowledge and raising profiles in a specialist area of banking."

Caroline Clark, Standard Chartered

"I found the CertBALM® course incredibly useful and would recommend it to anyone who wants to learn the fundamentals of treasury. In my current role, I am very much focused on liquidity, but the course enabled me to grasp core aspects of capital and interest rate risk management which I can now incorporate into my current day to day role. In addition, I liked how the course provides you with the ability to network with other students from different banks and thereby helping me in my future career development. I would definitely recommend the course to anyone who wants to have key understanding of the core areas of treasury and to build their personal brand by expanding their network."

Kavita Shah, RBS

"Whilst the programme is far more intense than I had imagined, I am taking a lot of pleasure in learning, not only because the content is clearly topical, but also thanks to the rhythm (challenging but appropriate) that the weekly online sessions have set. Also, it seems that ALMA has reached the optimal mid-point between theory and practicality/applicability of its content. There is not a day that I am not using some of the things I have learnt."



About ALMA

Formed in 1992 as a trade association of asset & liability risk management practitioners in leading banks, building societies and other related companies, the Association became a company limited by guarantee on 6 June 2014. The company began trading on 1 November 2014 when it took over the assets of the Association.

The Asset and Liability Management Association Limited

The company currently has participants from over 100 UK, Irish and international institutions. It continues to expand further into Europe with well-developed links with AFGAP, a similar body in France.

The company's primary aim is to provide education and promote awareness of asset and liability risk management issues. It does this through a series of courses, conferences and evening events. At these the company seeks to promote and share best practice in related risk management techniques and approaches. The company provides a deliberately informal forum in which risk management professionals can network and discuss the issues facing the industry and their responses to these challenges. The company (and before it the Association) has fostered a culture of candor and openness to share views on areas as diverse as risk systems strategy, structuring of balance sheets to manage liquidity, credit and capital, experience in e-commerce and strategic business direction.

ALMA

Asset & Liability Management Association

About ACT

The Association of Corporate Treasurers (ACT) sets the global benchmark for treasury excellence. As the chartered professional body for treasury, we lead the profession through our internationally-recognised suite of treasury qualifications, by defining standards and championing continuous professional development.

www.treasurers.org



ASSOCIATION OF CORPORATE TREASURERS
ACCREDITED QUALIFICATION



**TREASURY
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