



NATIONAL
FINANCE
OLYMPIAD
2026

Decoding Potential

Beyond the Numbers

An Initiative of Professional Accountants in Business (PAIB) Committee



111-000-422 (Ext. 329)



www.icap.org.pk/NFO



NFO



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ABOUT NATIONAL FINANCE OLYMPIAD

The National Finance Olympiad (NFO) is a flagship initiative of the ICAP's PAIB Committee, held in collaboration with Unilever Pakistan.

NFO is more than just a competition. It is an immersive journey that brings finance professionals together to challenge their intellect, showcase their expertise, and rediscover the joy of learning. Through interactive formats such as simulations, case studies, presentations and real-world challenges, participants have the opportunity to learn new skills to keep them abreast of the evolving landscape. This enriching experience will bring together finance professionals from various industries to compete in this grand event, culminating in a thrilling Grand Finale on **December 17, 2026**.

NFO AT A GLANCE

131+

PARTICIPATING
COMPANIES

160+

REPEAT
PARTICIPANTS

400+

TEAMS

WHAT MAKES NFO UNIQUE?



Sharpen Technical
Skills



Navigate Ivy League
Simulations



Experience Board
Room Scenarios



Practice Strategic
Decision Making



Integrate Cross-
Disciplinary Insights



Demonstrate
Leadership Skills

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?



Chartered Accountants



Members of other
recognized professional
bodies



Finance professionals with
at least 3 years of experience,
(including articleship)



Business graduates from an
HEC recognized university
(working professionals only)

Team Composition:

- ✧ Three members per team, with at least one ICAP member.
- ✧ If a team does not include an ICAP member, a Fellow ICAP member must act as the team's coach or mentor.

Team Limit:

Each organization or professional firm may nominate up to two teams.

WHAT TO EXPECT?

Over the one-week journey, participants will complete technical assessments, engage in Ivy League simulations, and take part in a focused behavioral-competency experience, among other activities.

The **top six teams** advance to the **Grand Finale**, where speed, strategy, and boardroom presence decide the CHAMPION.

ROUND 1: QUALIFYING ROUND

- ✧ This in-person round combines technical accuracy with strategic thinking, setting the foundation for the rounds ahead.
- ✧ It tests each team's breadth and depth of financial knowledge through:

A: Computer Based Assessment

- ✧ **Two-hour** assessment featuring multiple-choice and scenario-based questions across key learning domains.
- ✧ Here's a break-up of disciplines and format of questions you can expect:

NO.	TESTING PATTERN	SCORE PER QUESTION	NO. OF QUESTIONS AS PER SYLLABUS IN 2026				
			Accounting concepts and applications (20 marks)	Business financial management (20 marks)	Governance, Risk & Compliance (15 marks)	ESG and Technology (15 marks)	Economy (5 marks)
1	Selecting the right answer	1	3	3	5	5	3
2	Selecting the most/least relevant answer	2	4	4	2	2	1
3	One descriptive scenario	3	3	3	2	2	-
TOTAL (42)			10	10	9	9	4

* For scope of learning and the distribution of topics, refer curriculum [Click Here](#)

B: QuickSim

The assessment is followed by a one-hour mini-simulation from an Ivy League university. The simulation will be facilitated by Known academic expert.

ROUND 2: SIMULATION & ASSESSMENT ROUND

This round gives teams the opportunity to experience real-world financial decision-making and teamwork in a high-pressure environment.

Teams Can Expect:

A: Business Simulation:

- ⌘ A comprehensive, high-impact simulation sourced from an Ivy League university, reflecting real-world challenges, and requiring strategic thinking and decision-making in a time-bound environment.
- ⌘ The simulation will be facilitated by Known academic expert, followed by a guided debrief to reflect on decisions and key learning outcomes.

B: Behavioral Assessment:

- ⌘ An interactive team challenge that lets participants showcase skills while working toward a common goal.
- ⌘ Purpose built challenges to surface behavioral competencies, offering a well-rounded view of each team's abilities.

*** Teams advancing from Round 1 will be evaluated independently in the Simulation Round. Only shortlisted teams will progress to the Behavioral Assessment, where they will compete for one of 6 coveted places in the Grand Finale.**



GRAND FINALE

The top six teams experience a live, high-pressure setting, where speed, strategy, knowledge and boardroom performance decide the **National Finance Champion**.

A: Boardroom – Unwind the Mind

- ⌘ Teams present a boardroom pitch to the case shared at the end of Round 2.
- ⌘ Maximum of 8 minutes will be allotted for presenting the solution and convincing the jury followed by 2 minutes for Q&A session by the jury.
- ⌘ Presentation will be evaluated by ICAP nominated panel of judges as well as the audience based on pre-defined criteria.

B: 100 - Seconds

- ⌘ A rapid-fire segment that rewards clarity under pressure.
- ⌘ An ICAP-nominated facilitator runs the segment, and each team has 100 seconds to answer as many questions as possible.
- ⌘ Questions for this round will be based on:
 - Key financial and economic trends in Pakistan during the last 3 years.
 - Key technological trends in the corporate sector across the world in the last 3 years.
 - Pakistan international relations.
- ⌘ Negative marking will apply for each wrong answer.

C: Spin the Wheel

- ⌘ A risk-reward challenge, led by ICAP-nominated facilitator, that evaluates judgment and speed across core syllabus areas.
- ⌘ Teams will have categories (representing disciplines listed in Round 1) to choose questions.
- ⌘ Each team will have 3 turns to choose a category.
- ⌘ Once the spin stops, they will have 10 seconds to choose risk (High or Low).
- ⌘ They will have 45 seconds to respond and lock the answer to the question.
- ⌘ Risk in score will be associated with each category.

*** The team scoring the highest aggregate marks in all parts of Grand Finale will be declared National Finance Champion 2026!**

EVENT SCHEDULE AND DETAILS:

Rounds	Dates	Mode & Venue
Qualifying Round	Dec 10, 2026	In-person: ICAP Karachi, Lahore & Islamabad Offices. Overseas Teams: TBC to Registered Teams
Simulation & Assessment Round	Dec 12, 2026	Karachi: TBC to Registered Teams Lahore: ICAP Office Islamabad: ICAP Office Overseas: TBC to Registered Teams
Grand Finale	Dec 17, 2026	Marquee, PC Hotel Karachi

Note: Attendance of all participants within team is mandatory in all rounds.

INDEPENDENCE AND QUALITY

Technical partners comprising leading professional firms have been entrusted with the responsibility of developing quality testing material to ensure independence, integrity, and quality.

THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF PAKISTAN (ICAP)

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP) is the esteemed apex accountancy regulating body in Pakistan that takes great pride in nurturing talented, ethical, and dedicated professionals. With a robust membership base of over 10,000 Chartered Accountants, ICAP's influence spans far and wide. Established in 1961 with a clear mission, ICAP remains steadfast in its commitment to serving the public interest by fostering strong collaborations with governments, regulators, and business leaders on a global scale. Our collective endeavors know no boundaries, as we contribute significantly to the success of individuals, organizations, communities, and economies. Embracing the belief that chartered accountancy can be a powerful force for positive change, ICAP is firmly devoted to sharing its insights, expertise, and understanding to foster sustainable economies and create a better future for all.

ABOUT THE PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS IN BUSINESS (PAIB) COMMITTEE OF ICAP

At ICAP, PAIBs make up 76% of our distinguished membership. As visionaries, they lead the way as business and strategy partners, financial experts, and trusted advisors, driving sustainable value creation for their organizations.

ICAP's PAIB Committee is dedicated to empowering this influential membership segment. The committee was established in 2009 to cater specifically to the needs of PAIBs. Under the dynamic leadership of Mr. Muhammad Zaid Kaliya, FCA, we are committed to engaging, supporting, and fostering the professional development of PAIBs while recognizing their invaluable contributions to the economy.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON PAIB COMMITTEE & COUNCIL MEMBER, ICAP

Every profession is defined by the people who refuse to stand still. The National Finance Olympiad exists for exactly those people.

Now in its 12th edition, the NFO has brought together finance professionals who choose to be tested, not because they must, but because they believe they can be better. That instinct to step forward, compete openly, and learn from the best around you is what separates good professionals from great ones.

Our profession is changing faster than at any point in its history. Technology will keep taking over the routine work. It will never replace sound judgment, ethical courage, or the ability to make the right call when the numbers alone don't tell the whole story. These qualities are not inherited; they are built through challenge, pressure, and practice. That is what the NFO offers.

To every participant: you are not only representing your organization. You are representing what Pakistan's finance profession can be: sharp, principled, and ready to lead. Compete with ambition. Collaborate with generosity. Win with grace, and if you fall short, return stronger.

On behalf of the PAIB Committee, I extend my warm welcome to all participating teams, and my sincere gratitude to the organisers, sponsors, and volunteers whose commitment makes this event possible.

The future of our profession will be shaped by those who keep learning. I look forward to seeing that future in this room.



MUHAMMAD ZAID KALIYA, FCA

MESSAGE FROM THE NFO SUB-COMMITTEE LEAD

NFO is more than a competition; it is a platform where teams connect, collaborate, challenge conventional thinking, and turn ideas into action. It brings together aspiring finance leaders to showcase their case-solving talent, financial acumen, and out-of-the-box thinking through a series of unique and engaging challenges that go well beyond the numbers.

Each round is a new link in the chain connecting knowledge with insight, ideas with action, and finance with business value.

Join us to compete, connect, and collaborate and prove that great finance is as much about vision as it is about value.



MUHAMMAD FAHIM, FCA

REGISTRATION DETAILS

Are you ready to Showcase your Expertise?

REGISTER YOUR TEAM TODAY

Registration Fees

PKR 100,000

per team
(exclusive of all taxes)

Early Bird Fee

PKR 80,000

per team
(exclusive of all taxes)

Valid Till

Nov 10, 2026

*The fee is refundable if the participating team withdraws 7 days prior to the commencement of the competition.

Deadline to Register:

Nov 30, 2026

 <https://www.icap.org.pk/nfo/online-registration.php>

Register Now!



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