



# Business & Computing Examinations (BCE) LONDON (UK)

## A Word from the Chief Executive



The world we are living in today is more complex than it has ever been in history, but there are also many more opportunities available now that past generations could only dream of. Learners are thrown into the world with no idea what the real business is like. We need to integrate real world job skills into the education system; else learners will be left out in the cold. As an educational entity, the primary focus of higher education is geared toward the learner as a "whole" and not solely on the mastery of "certain skills."

### BCE aims to:

- Promote activities and curriculum that enhance the learners capacity for understanding critical thinking, and self-expression.
- Develop competencies in decision-making.
- Enable learners to cope with the rapid advances in Computer Technology, Accounting, Finance, Business, Management, Marketing, Administrative, Human Resources and Hospitality.
- Help instil the qualities necessary for active and intelligent participation, teamwork, and leadership.
- Offer program curriculum that emphasises real-world scenarios so that learners can relate to it and the learning experience becomes more meaningful to each individual learner.
- Offer credible, comprehensive and competitive Computing, Accounting, Finance, Business, Management, Marketing, Administrative, Human Resources and Hospitality qualifications.
- Measure analytical and technological skills.
- Integrate real world job skills into the curriculum

With the increase in globalisation, workforce diversity and new technology, the demands to improve the quality of our society's workforce is paramount. To meet these demands, our main focus is defining what constitutes "employability skills." As society and individuals are inundated with the challenge of making decisions everyday; from what product to purchase; whom to vote for; whether they should drink or smoke; to what kind of career they want; we aim to produce candidates who can think for themselves and develop their skills and learn. By offering examinations, learners have to show the expertise and knowledge they gained and defend their own work in coursework. During the learning period, both hands-on/practical and theory tutorial are encouraged. Hands-on sessions produce more knowledgeable learners in the long run. Theory education on the other hand, implies learning the principles. BCE discourages *learning by rote* (memorising by repetition, often without an understanding of the reasoning or relationships involved in the material that is learned), but to make sure learners understand the mechanics as well. However, experimentation and research is encouraged. All qualifications entail "*we believe in knowing the background*" and "*whys and wherefores*".

### Message to Learners - Why Education is Important

There is only one way to keep this world strong. There is one chance to be someone you want to be - through Education. Hindsight is a wonderful thing, while education isn't everything, it certainly helps. Your future is a place where you have to spend the rest of your life. Education plays a very important role in making your life in the future as complete and fulfilling as possible.

Education is the basis for your future, and your stepping stone to the world. As human beings education is not a right or a given, it is a privilege that must be obtained through hard work and study. You cannot just sit back and wait for the education to latch on and you cannot simply pass examinations with minimum requirements and believe that you have come out of college a wiser and more capable person.

A good system of education is fundamental to building any nation in the world, as it is the means by which young people are prepared to accept responsibility for governing their country's citizens in the future. Education is a priority in any society, giving young people the necessary skills that will make them valuable members of the community. Nations who lack an educational system or have one that is poor quality will inevitably suffer as their citizens experience hardship from a lack of stability. When citizens are educated well, it has a very positive effect on their family, their community and their nation. Learning promotes progress and trains young people to pursue responsible careers that will have a genuine impact on the country.

*Remember "you are learning how to learn" and this goes on for ever!.*

## About BCE



BCE is an internationally recognised Awarding organisation founded in 1996 by a group of Business and Computing professionals. There have been many changes over the last few years, not all technological. The *gap* between industry expectations from learners and what [learners] can do, has always led to much argument. Quite often, on completion of a qualification, learners find it hard to get jobs in the Computer and Business industry because the qualification they might have and what the industry expects them to deliver is far less than the level of expectation, mainly because most have *academic knowledge* and not *practical knowledge*. In other cases, the academic syllabus does not focus on learner skills. The qualifications sought mainly in the computer industry today are: **Web Design Technology; Programming; Networking; Database Design; Computer Science; Routing; PC Engineering; Cabling; Graphic Design and Information Technology**. On the other hand, qualifications sought mainly in the services industry are: **Finance; Accounting; Computerised Accounting; Management; Business Economics; Project Management, Human Resource Management; Business Administration; Marketing; Administrative and Hospitality**. One of the main reasons why the Business & Computing Examinations Board was established is to produce a modified syllabus to bridge this gap. On realising the importance of the industry's requirements, (since the main aim for undertaking a qualification is to get employment) the BCE's designed programmes focus on practical and skill elements. Also, our research found that it is practically impossible for someone with no experience to take, for example, a one week course in C Programming or Accounting and expect to get a job, which is why our qualifications are designed to incorporate Guided Learning Hours (GLH)/Contact Learning, Independent Learning, Research Activities/Groupwork/Assessment (self/class) to give learners enough time to gain literacy, problem solving, communication skills, critical and creative thinking.

### Objectives of the Examination Board

1. To present a substantial, useful and practical knowledge in Business and Computing fields.
2. To bridge the gap between academic learning and industrial requirements.
3. To reflect on technology changes
4. To address specific business, organisational and technological needs
5. To enhance career opportunities
6. To achieve highly recognised and professional qualifications.

### Membership

The examination board offers membership to both BCE registered learners and other professional body qualification holders. Those interested can download and complete a BCE Membership Application Form from the BCE website.

### Associate (ABCE)

On successful completion of the Level 5 Diploma, learners can apply to become Associates. The Associate registration fee is a one off payment of £40, then yearly subscription fee of £20.

### Member (MBCE)

On successful completion of the Level 6 Diploma, learners can apply to become Member. 1 year experience in a senior position or holders of other professional qualifications can also apply to be Member. Member registration fee is a one off payment of £50, then yearly subscription fee of £30.

### Fellow (FBCE)

A minimum of three years experience in Business or Computing field or a relevant degree is required for Fellowship application. The Fellowship registration fee is a one off payment of £60, then yearly subscription fee of £40.

[Upon successful registration, the appropriate membership certificate is posted]