



Master Analyst in Financial Forensics® (MAFF®)

The MAFF designation indicates to the business, professional, and legal communities that credential holders have met rigorous standards of professionalism, expertise, objectivity, and integrity in the field of financial litigation support, which includes commercial damages, lost profits, matrimonial litigation, bankruptcy, restructuring, intellectual property damages, personal injury and wrongful death, forensic accounting, fraud investigations, and fraud risk management.

The MAFF designation established by the National Association of Certified Valuators and Analysts® (NACVA®), is the foremost credential in the profession focused on developing, mastering, and supporting skills in the financial forensics discipline such as forensic accounting, digital forensics, and litigation consulting.

How can a Master Analyst in Financial Forensics Help You?

The MAFF program is the foundation for a credentialed professional to provide support in all stages of litigation and alternative dispute resolution, such as mediation, arbitration, and collaborative law. The required continuing education component ensures that credential holders are current with technological trends and professional industry standards.

Focused Approach

A MAFF is specifically trained to identify an appropriate scope of work for each engagement. The credentialed professional is also trained to recognize indications of fraud, misappropriation, theft, corruption, conflicts of interest, and other types of financial crime through financial anomalies, atypical financial ratios, unusual adjustments, falsified reports or supporting documents, and more. These indicators may also support a determination of intent, collusion, and mitigation as part of an organization's risk management program.

Detailed Analysis and Reporting

The MAFF credentialed professional produces a written or oral report according to professional standards and ethics that contain the specific factual basis and analysis for each opinion. The report informs the client of conclusions and, where appropriate, associated economic calculations. According to the circumstances of the engagement, this report may communicate those findings and losses internally to the client or externally to a trier of fact.

Legal Consulting and Testimony

The MAFF credentialed professional may provide testimony in a civil or criminal litigation matter. Alternatively, the MAFF professional may assist as a consulting expert, providing consultation and trial preparation, but not testimony. The credentialed professional may also aid an attorney with information regarding the conclusions of another consulting or testifying expert.

Synthesize Complexity

A MAFF also receives specific training regarding how to synthesize complex financial records and transactions into understandable summaries, indications, and conclusions using efficient, industry standard methods that incorporate data analytics, fraud indicators, anomaly detection, and other principles while maintaining independence, objectivity, and integrity.



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(MAFF®)

Determine, Defend, and
Maximize Company Value™



National Association
of Certified Valuators
and Analysts®

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Selecting a Financial Forensics Professional

A financial forensics professional should attain through education, training, and experience the knowledge and competency to address complex financial issues within litigation. An affiliation with a recognized association such as NACVA is essential to demonstrating the necessary level of competence and expertise. NACVA credential holders are required to adhere to professional standards in performing financial forensics work and communicating their findings. Professional standards assure clients that a financial expert meets a level of due care, including the thoroughness of analysis, the presentation of findings, and the communication of those findings to a trier of fact. Professional standards also require adherence to ethical guidelines in the performance of financial forensics engagements—providing additional assurance that the MAFF performs his or her services conscientiously, competently, and objectively.

The **National Association of Certified Valuators and Analysts®** (NACVA®) trains and certifies holders of the Master Analyst in Financial Forensics® (MAFF®) designation to perform financial forensics engagements in complex commercial disputes, matrimonial litigation, and alternative dispute resolution formats. Through training and rigorous testing, MAFFs demonstrate they are qualified to provide capable, objective, and professionally executed financial litigation support. NACVA recommends specific training as a prerequisite to certification to assure a level of consistency and continuity in the work product. Users of a credentialed practitioner's services benefit by having greater confidence that the service they receive is professional in quality, adheres to industry standards of practice, and meets a level of expertise the Association deems credible and worthy of one of its credential holders.

MAFF holders also have access through NACVA to continuing education in financial litigation specialties where financial forensics skills are applied to complex

issues such as bankruptcy, business valuation, intellectual property damages, commercial damages and lost profits, fraud investigations, cybersecurity, forecasting and modeling, matrimonial litigation, cryptocurrency, personal injury, and wrongful death.

Compliance with Recertification

To further its service to the litigation industry, NACVA seeks assurances from its credential holders that they are staying current on matters and issues that lead to, and promote, quality in their work. To effect these assurances, NACVA has in place periodic recertification requirements: training on current developments in the financial forensics field; and skills development by taking continuing professional education in specialty areas of financial litigation support, and areas related to these disciplines.

Through recertification, credential holders demonstrate their commitment to the financial forensics discipline and to keeping themselves current on the changing dynamics within the industry, which impacts the performance and quality of their services.