

Student Guidance Notes

Guide 13

Suggestions for study routes at the Managerial level, and rules for sitting the Strategic level

This guide suggests the various combinations of papers that you might choose to study at the Managerial Level. It also explains the rules relating to sitting Strategic Level exams and the TOPCIMA.

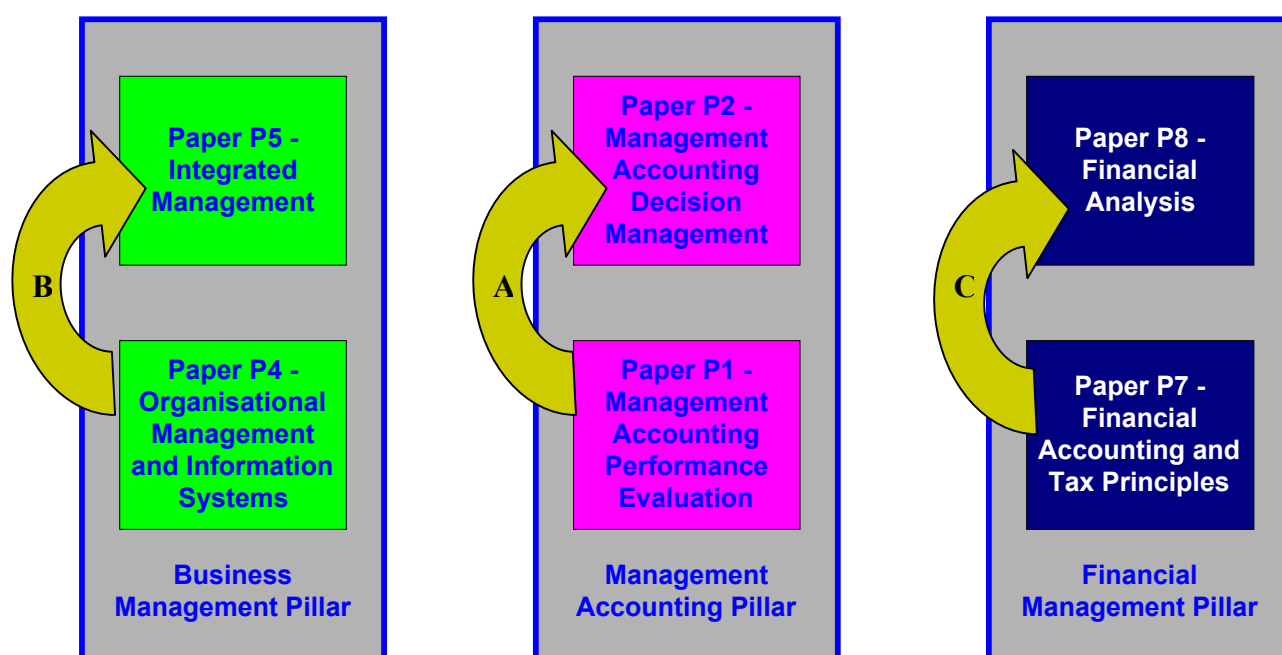
These notes on study routes are intended only as a guide. The following diagrams indicate just some of the alternative two paper and three paper study combinations that are possible.

If you have any further queries relating to this guide, please contact CIMA Student Services department on + 44 (0)208 849 2404, or email your query to cima.contact@cimaglobal.com

The Managerial level

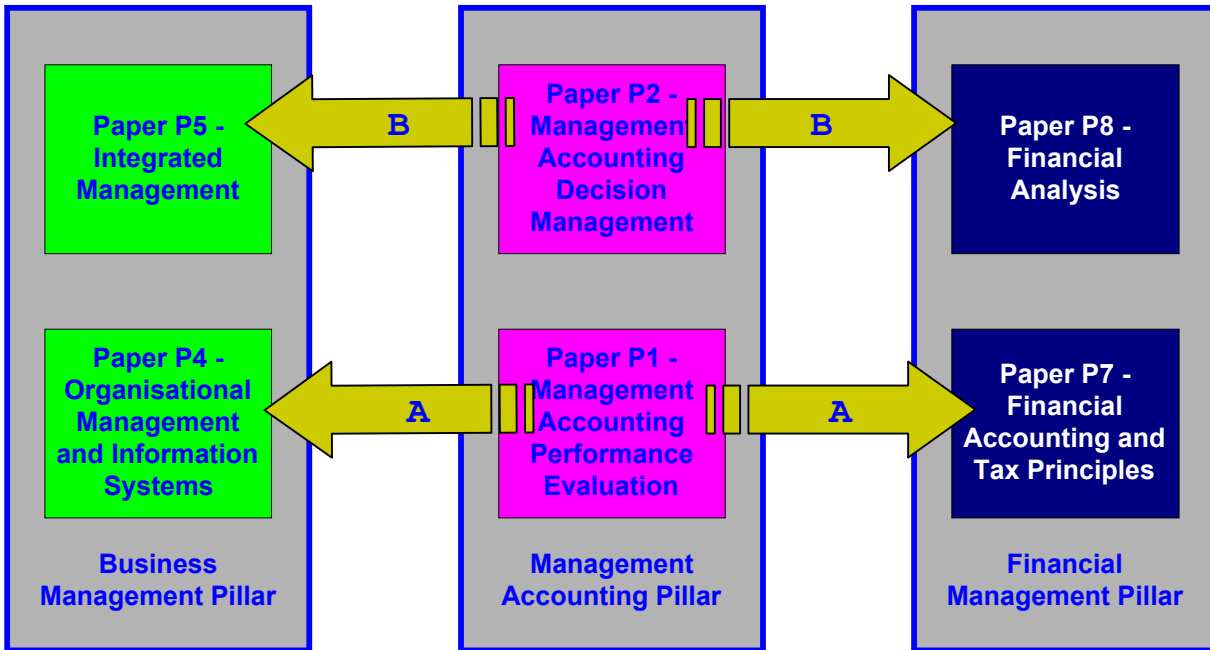
The number, sequence and grouping of papers studied at Managerial level is completely flexible. Individuals may choose any combinations of papers to suit their own study requirements. However, CIMA recommends that students should sit between two and four papers at any single examination sitting.

Alternative A – Studying up the learning pillars



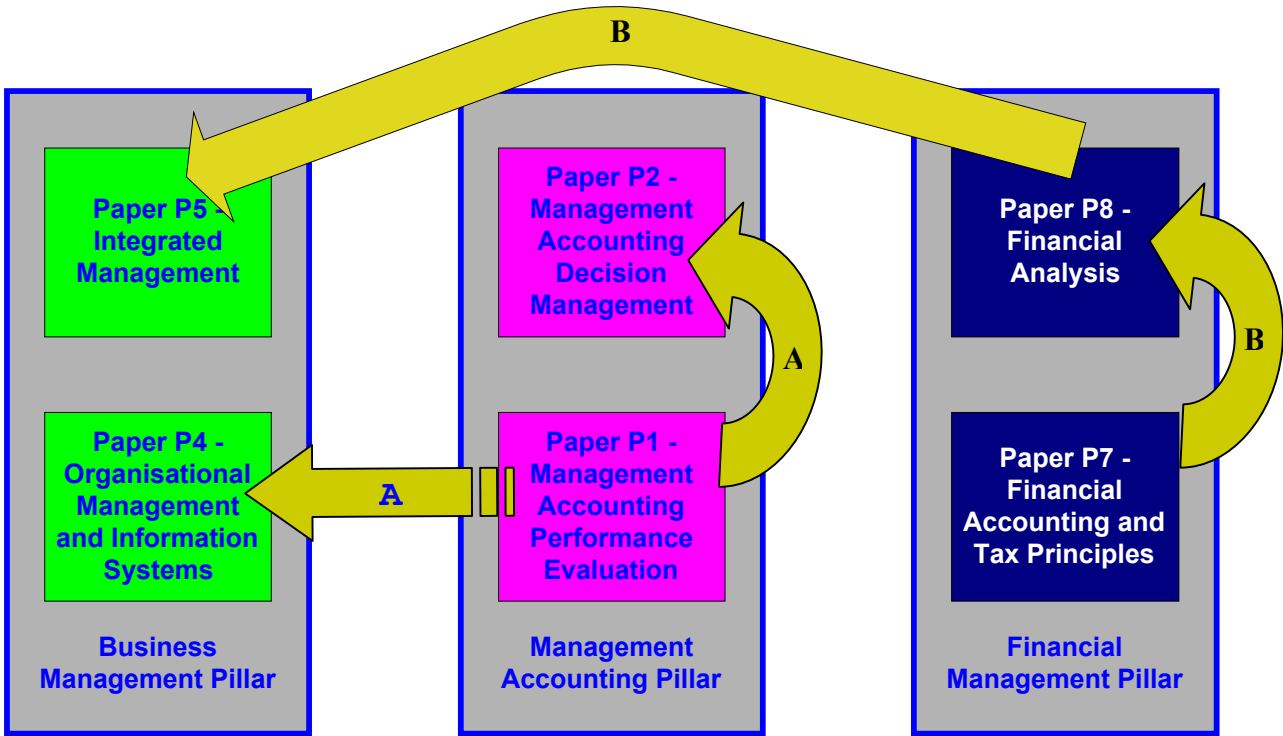
Suggested two subject study combinations	
A	Paper P1 - Management Accounting Performance Evaluation and Paper P2 - Management Accounting Decision Management
B	Paper P4 - Organisational Management and Information Systems and Paper P5 - Integrated Management
C	Paper P7 - Financial Accounting and Tax Principles and Paper P8 - Financial Analysis

Alternative B – Studying across the learning pillars



Suggested three subject study combinations	
A	Paper P1 - Management Accounting Performance Evaluation and Paper P4 - Organisational Management and Information Systems and Paper P7 - Financial Accounting and Tax Principles
B	Paper P2 - Management Accounting Decision Management and Paper P5 - Integrated Management and Paper P8 - Financial Analysis

Alternative C – Studying up and across the learning pillars



Suggested three subject study combinations	
A	Paper P1 - Management Accounting Performance Evaluation and Paper P2 - Management Accounting Decision Management and Paper P4 - Organisational Management and Information Systems
B	Paper P7 - Financial Accounting and Tax Principles and Paper P8 - Financial Analysis and Paper P5 - Integrated Management

Transition Issues

All three subjects at Strategic level must be studied concurrently, since students must sit all three examination papers (P3, P6 and P9) together at the first sitting.

On successful completion of all 'Strategic' level subject examinations, students must study and prepare to sit the Test of Professional Competence in Management Accounting. The TOPCIMA is based upon a case study, set within a simulated business context – a three hour assessment of competence, completed within a supervised environment. The case study will be published on the CIMA website, at least six weeks in advance of the examination, together with the 'TOPCIMA Assessment Matrix'.