



Hello HFTP Dubai Chapter members,

The Dubai HFTP Research and Innovation Center at the Emirates Academy of Hospitality Management has decided to briefly discuss two relevant topics: the CHAE certification and the CHTP certification. The HFTP Research and Innovation Center hopes this sparks conversation amongst HFTP Dubai Chapter members.

## Certified Hospitality Accountant Executive (CHAE)

*By Dyno Duque, Research Scholar*

CHAE stands for Certified Hospitality Accountant Executive, and it is a certification that allows hospitality professionals to credit their knowledge and competence in hospitality accountancy. The CHAE certification is the only accounting certification offered by HFTP which is specific to the hospitality industry (Hospitality Financial Technological Professionals, 2017). The CHAE certification is similar to other well-known accountancy certifications such as the CPA (Certified Public Accountant), CMA (Certified Management Accountant), and the CIA (Certified Internal Auditor). However, the CHAE certification is the only hospitality-focused accountancy certification. Similar to the CPA, CMA, and CIA, the CHAE certification requires that the participating individuals pass a rigorous examination while also demonstrating a sufficient record of related professional experience (Schmidgall and Damitio, 2013). Hard work does pay off, as acquiring the certification has its merits. Active CHAE certificants have reported higher salaries and various career advancement opportunities.

Damitio and Schmidgall (2013) surveyed active HFTP members to determine the value of CHAE, and the results that they found are that

HFTP members holding the CHAE credential had an average salary of \$74,760 annually. This is in comparison to members without CHAE certification, whose average salary is equivalent to \$67,247 annually, which results in an annual salary difference of \$7,513.

In the competitive hospitality environment, having the CHAE can be the advantage an industry professional needs to further his or her career. The CHAE also allows for the individual to be consistently updated on changes that happen in hospitality accountancy.

For more information on the CHAE and to apply for the exam click on the link below:

- [Learn more](#) about CHAE
- [Apply](#) for the Exam



## Why become a Certified Hospitality Technology Professional?

*By Giuliana Giardina, Research Scholar*

The CHTP (Certified Hospitality Technology Professional) is one of the most recognized achievements in the global hospitality sector, enhancing and assessing competence and knowledge in hospitality information technology (Hotel News Resource, 2018). The program was created and administered for the first time in 1994, through the joint efforts of the HFTP (Hospitality Financial and Technology Professional) and the AH&LA (American Hotel and Lodging Association) (Hotel News Resource, 2018).

Since the first CHTP exam, the program has been revised and adapted to reflect the changes in the industry, becoming a benchmark of technology knowledge within the hospitality sector, as stated by Frank Wolfe (Hotel Online, 2016). The value of such a certification is highly recognized within the industry. For example, in 2016, a compensation and benefits survey conducted by the HFTP revealed that individuals who had attained the CHTP reported, on average, higher salaries as well as better career opportunities (Venegas, 2016). According to the survey, hospitality professionals holding the CHTP recorded a salary 10% higher than the industry average, and over 40% of them stated that they took the exam to advance in their careers (Venegas, 2016).

The CHTP exam covers a wide range of topics related to hospitality technology (HFTP, 2015), from guest-facing and back-of-house hospitality applications to Hospitality IT Management, including a section on strategic planning. In addition, it covers core technologies, such as elements related to security and infrastructure

(HFTP, 2015). Undoubtedly, the certification covers all of the most relevant aspects of the use of technology within the hospitality industry; and its value is not only recognized by HFTP members but within the entire sector. Every year, the HFTP awards the highest performer amongst the individuals taking the CHTP (Hotel News Resource, 2018), and according to the Global Hospitality Portal, such recognition is listed amongst the best hospitality awards worldwide (Global Hospitality Portal, n.d.).

In a competitive environment such as that of the hospitality industry, if the global recognition of the certification and the knowledge acquisition through the program do not represent sufficient incentives, certainly the potential salary increase and career development opportunities that such a certification can avail make it worthwhile to undertake. After all, in an ever-evolving sector such as hospitality, we will never stop learning, and we must keep updating our knowledge and skills if we want to be ahead of the game .

For more information on the CHTP and to apply for the exam click on the link below:

- [Learn more](#) about CHTP
- [Apply](#) for the Exam



## List of References

Global Hospitality Portal (n.d.) These are the Best Hospitality Awards in the world. Available from: <https://www.soegjobs.com/2017/05/05/best-hospitality-awards-world/> [Accessed: 30 April 2018]

HFTP (2015) What does the new CHTP exam cover? Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals. Available from: [https://www.hftp.org/hospitality\\_professional\\_development/certifications/cht/format/](https://www.hftp.org/hospitality_professional_development/certifications/cht/format/) [Accessed: 30 April 2018]

Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals (2017) Certified Hospitality Accountant Executive (CHAE). Available from: [https://www.hftp.org/hospitality\\_professional\\_development/certifications/cha/](https://www.hftp.org/hospitality_professional_development/certifications/cha/) [Accessed: 30 April 2018]

Hotel News Resource (2018) HFTP Announces 2018 CHTP of the Year Recipient. Available from: <https://www.hotelnewsresource.com/article99490.html> [Accessed: 30 April 2018]

Hotel Online (2016) HFTP Certifications Recognized as Gold Standard for Hospitality Technology Professionals. Available from: [http://www.hotel-online.com/press\\_releases/release/hftp-certifications-recognized-as-gold-standard-for-hospitality-technology](http://www.hotel-online.com/press_releases/release/hftp-certifications-recognized-as-gold-standard-for-hospitality-technology) [Accessed: 30 April 2018]

Schmidgal, R. and Damitio, J. (2013) To CHAE or not to CHAE. HIU Hospitality Review, 31(1). Available from: <http://digitalcommons.fiu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1510&context=hospitalityreview> [Accessed: 30 April 2018]

Venegas, T. (2016) How HFTP Certification Can Advance Your Career, Hospitality Financial and Technology Professional. Available from: <http://blog.hftp.org/how-hftp-certification-can-advance-your-career/> [Accessed: 30 April 2018]