



ASISA ACADEMY NEWSFLASH – MAY 2023

Dear Stakeholder

One month to go before we welcome the 13th intake of TSiBA Business School students to the ASISA Academy [IMACS@TSiBA Internship](#), and we are excited to unveil the new structure, which will allow us to scale this internship significantly. TSiBA is a Cape Town-based not-for-profit higher education institution, and this internship is our longest-standing [graduate programme](#).

Previously, participating ASISA member companies would be required to commit to sponsoring one or two undergraduate TSiBA students completing a Bachelor in Business Administration (BBA) Finance degree to participate in the ASISA Academy's investment management administration programme. On successful completion of the programme, the students would then intern at the same company for 16 weeks during their final year of study. As a result of sponsors having to commit to hosting their selected interns from the outset, only a small group of students would get the opportunity to enrol in the investment management administration programme.

We therefore revised our approach, with the aim of making it possible for all TSiBA BBA Finance students interested in investment management administration to enrol in the [IMACS@TSiBA Internship](#). ASISA members can now opt to sponsor students' participation in the academic component only. Alternatively, a sponsor can fund a group of students for the academic portion and then select only one or two for the internship, which runs from August to November in the student's final year of study. Students not selected for internships by ASISA members will be assisted by TSiBA to find internships elsewhere.

With this approach, we hope to secure funding for the delivery of the academic component of the programme to all TSiBA students who elected to add the investment management administration component to their degree, starting in July 2023. The cost of funding the academic component for one student is R17 500 (excl VAT). This programme aligns with categories B & D on the Learning Programme Matrix.

ASISA members interested in sponsoring students are requested to sign up [here](#).

NEWS FROM OUR GRADUATE PROGRAMMES

IFA Internship

The ASISA Academy [Independent Financial Advisor \(IFA\) Internship](#) was launched in 2016 and has proven highly effective in helping Black graduates bridge the gap between tertiary education and the skills required by IFA practices.

To date, 221 graduates have participated in the IFA Internship. On average, around 85% receive offers of permanent employment from their host practices on completion of their internships. We are also pleased that at least 60% of interns every year have been female, with the 2023/24 intake being 70% female.

The eighth IFA Internship is currently underway, with 31 interns participating.

The Academy will circulate a communication shortly about the opening of the application window for IFA host practices who wish to host an intern in 2024. Interested IFA practices are requested to click [here](#) to be added to this mailing list.



IFA interns who are currently participating in the 2023/2024 IFA Internship

Fezeka Graduate Programme

The young women participating in the [Fezeka](#) programme are in the fourth month of their first work rotation. The ASISA Academy team is gearing up to brief the line managers at the companies hosting the second rotation. Over 15 months, the graduates will work at various host companies, while also participating in the ASISA Academy's [Financial Markets Practitioner Learnership](#).

Fezeka is an exciting industry collaboration aimed at helping the South African asset management industry improve the representation of Black women on investment teams. The Fezeka Graduate Programme is delivered by the ASISA Academy and business consultancy Joint Prosperity.

The investment management companies supporting Fezeka are Aeon Investment Management, Anchor Stockbrokers, Catalyst Fund Managers, Coronation Fund Managers, Foord Asset Management, Granite Asset Management, Mazi Asset Management, Meago Trading, Mentenova Consultants and Actuaries, Merchant West Investments, Old Mutual Multi Managers, Perpetua Investment Managers, PIC, PPS Investments, Sanlam Investment Management, SBG Securities, Stanlib, and Terebinth Capital.

We would like to call on more investment management companies to come on board and support this programme. I invite you to [contact me](#) to discuss how your company can get involved and what the benefits are. Alternatively, please [click here](#) if your company would like to host a graduate or [here](#) if you would like to make a financial contribution.

RETIREMENT FUND TRUSTEE EDUCATION

In May, we presented five public online [Retirement Fund Trustee Education](#) (RFTE) workshops. In addition, we also presented bespoke workshops to trustees and principal officers from the KZN Clothing Industry Provident Fund.

The ASISA Academy RFTE workshops are funded by the ASISA Foundation from generous donations made by ASISA members. The workshops are professionally recognised for CPD points by Batseta - Council of Retirement Funds for South Africa.



Delegates who attended the RFTE Infrastructure Investing workshop that was held in Gqeberha which was funded by the ASISA Foundation, pictured with presenter Malizole Mdlekeza.

OTHER COURSES PRESENTED IN MAY

- The 15 delegates enrolled in the online version of the [UCT Life Insurance Claims Assessors Short Course](#) completed their third month. We have received great feedback from this diverse group of claims assessors who joined us not only from South Africa but also from Botswana, Eswatini, Kenya, Lesotho, Namibia, and Zambia. A big thank you to Liberty Africa for providing this learning opportunity to so many delegates from Southern and East Africa.
- The [UCT Collective Investment Schemes \(CIS\) Short Course](#) was delivered online to delegates from different ASISA member companies. The next online course has been scheduled for August, and the next face-to-face course is in October. Please enrol [here](#).
- Digiata, a financial services technology company, requested a bespoke Financial Services Overview Blitzcamp and an Investment Management Business Overview Blitzcamp for 10 employees.
- Some 47 delegates from ASISA member companies attended the following [Investment Sprints](#)
 - Fundamentals of retirement funds and life insurance
 - Compliance – CISCA
 - Responsible Investing
 - Investment performance overview
 - Derivatives

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Compliance Masterclass

The ASISA Academy [Compliance Masterclass](#), launched in March 2023, was developed for experienced compliance professionals interested in sharpening their skills. The programme comprises engaging three-hour online masterclasses delivered over four months. The final session – License to operate requirements – has been scheduled for 22 June 2023. Click [here](#) to enrol.

For a complete overview of learning opportunities, please visit the [ASISA Academy Learning Calendar](#).

LEARN WITH US

The ASISA Academy is recognised as a Level 1 B-BBEE contributor, with more than 75% of the Academy's beneficiaries being black South Africans. This means employers can claim 135% of their skills development spend with the ASISA Academy. Please [get in touch](#) with us to discuss how we can support your skills development requirements.

Please visit our [website](#) for more information on our many learning opportunities. We also invite you to interact with us on [LinkedIn](#).

Best wishes

Alicia Davids
ASISA Academy CEO