

## **CFA L1 Prep Providers Guide- India Edition**

**As on 17th December 2025**

When I made the decision to start my CFA L1 prep a few months ago, I felt extremely overwhelmed due to the sheer volume of learning resources available on the internet. Reviews online for almost everyone were mixed and full of personal biases which made the process of choosing a prep provider even more challenging,

To ensure that no one else has to go through the same, I am creating this document which will ideally provide you with insights about a lot of different prep providers in India. I am pretty sure this list will not cover all of them, but I intend to go over at least the biggest players in the market. (if you would like me to make any additions to this list, you can always DM me on Instagram - @devrajant\_ /drop me an email - devrajdrive1@gmail.com)

### **List of Prep Providers that will be covered-**

1. FinTree
2. SSEI (Sanjay Saraf)
3. Aswini Bajaj
4. Mark Meldrum
5. QuintEdge
6. EdZeb
7. FinLadder
8. LeapUp
9. Parth Verma / The Valuation School

### **Parameters that will be checked during the individual assessment of all the prep providers are as follows:**

1. Faculty & Credentials
2. Study Material
3. Practice Questions & Mock Tests
4. Course Format & Flexibility
5. Pricing

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## 1. FinTree

### - Faculty & Credentials:

Led by **Utkarsh Jain, CA, CFA, FRM, CFP, LLB**, he has 10+ years of investment experience and has established himself as a seasoned professional adept at navigating both Private and Public Equity Markets. He is also a trusted advisor to family offices and institutions, providing strategic guidance on portfolio structuring.

### - Study Material:

339+ hours of video lectures covering the entire curriculum. Offers tiered packages – **Basic, Essential, Home School, and Live School**. All include on-demand video lectures and a structured study planner (**LevelZero™**) Higher packages add FinTree’s proprietary **JuiceNotes™ (VERY GOOD FOR REVISION)** and summary videos for quick revision.

### - Practice Questions & Mock Tests

Packages (except Basic) come with a question bank, topic-wise tests, and **6 full mock exams**. Weekly tests are conducted during courses to keep students on track. Practice incorporates CFA Institute end-of-chapter (EOC) questions and Blue Box examples to reinforce learning.

### - Course Format & Flexibility:

Four tiers – **Essentials** (self-paced), **HomeSchool** (self-paced + revision), **LiveSchool** (live online classes), and **Classroom** (face-to-face in Pune)

### - Pricing: For L1 May 2026

Our Offerings	INSTRUCTOR-LED	INSTRUCTOR-LED	SELF PACED	SELF PACED
	<b>Classroom</b>	<b>Live School</b>	<b>Home School</b>	<b>Essential</b>
	₹69,900 (\$774)	₹59,900 (\$719)	₹49,900 (\$595)	₹39,900 (\$475)
	<a href="#">ENROLL NOW</a>	<a href="#">ENROLL NOW</a>	<a href="#">ENROLL NOW</a>	<a href="#">ENROLL NOW</a>

### - Criticisms:

*While FinTree is praised for structured, exam-focused teaching, students have raised concerns about its high fees and “straightforward but not highly in-depth” approach – source: Reddit r/cfa r/cfaindia*

## 2. SSEI (Sanjay Saraf)

### - Faculty & Credentials:

**Sanjay Saraf ("SS")** is the chief mentor – a **CFA, FRM, CIIA, MS Finance** and more with a strong reputation in finance education. Apart from the curriculum he also provides insights from his vast experience in **investment banking** and **portfolio management**.

### - Study Material:

Enrolled students receive Sanjay Saraf's own authored notes which cover each reading's concepts. Additionally, **class notes PDFs** are provided for each session. The content is very **exhaustive**: the **core video lectures span ~590 hours** for Level I (Gold package), ensuring even the minutest syllabus points are covered. (Platinum packages include an extra 100-hour **review lecture** series for revision). The lectures are long, but very beneficial. Content is also updated annually (as they are an authorized prep provider required to update materials each year)

### - Practice Questions & Mock Tests:

They solve a large number of questions *during classes* – including CFA Institute end-of-chapter questions, candidate resources, and SSEI's own question bank. For full exam prep, depending on the package, students get access to **1, 2, or 4 full-length computer-based mock exams** on a platform that mimics the actual CBT interface.

### - Course Format & Flexibility: : Recorded lectures are SSEI's mainstay – available on a portable USB drive or through their ULURN platform. The full Level I course is extremely lengthy (reportedly ~500+ hours of content) They also offer live-online batches; ([ssei.co.in](http://ssei.co.in).) Some specialized batches exist (e.g. shorter revision courses for finance professionals or fast-track).

### - Pricing:

SSEI's pricing is tiered by package. For CFA Level I 2026, they had **Gold, Platinum, and Platinum Plus** packages. Prices cluster around ₹30-35k for Gold (online) and ₹40-45k+ for Platinum Plus or face-to-face classes.

### - Criticisms: Sanjay Saraf's classes are **very, very lengthy** (500+ hours)– far above others. Despite this issue, students acknowledge Sanjay's conceptual clarity; his thoroughness pays off for those who need step-by-step foundational teaching. But you must be prepared to invest significant time.

### 3. **Aswini Bajaj** (who I am using personally)

#### - **Faculty & Credentials:**

**CFA, CA, CS, FRM, CAIA, CFP**-qualified trainer with 12+ years of experience; has coached over **30,000+ learners**. Has Delivered lectures at 140+ B-Schools, Stock Exchanges, and Colleges, including over 30 **IITs and IIMs** and is the **CEO at Leveraged Growth**- Leading the company in Advisory, Consulting, Training, Learning & Development (L&D)

#### - **Study Material:**

**350+ hours** of lectures, including formula, revision, and exam mentoring sessions. Provides a **Performance tracker** with monthly goals, stress management strategies integrated and offers ongoing mentoring beyond the exam (“Mentor for Life” philosophy).

#### - **Practice Questions & Mock Tests:**

Encourages use of official CFA Institute EOC questions and mock exams. Covers majority of the same in his lectures itself.

#### - **Course Format & Flexibility:**

you can watch the videos at your own schedule (**beneficial for working candidates**). Many lectures run long because sir occasionally diverges into related discussions or anecdotes for practical insight - **making it relatable for non finance people**.  
**Major drawback: Single device login ONLY.**

#### - **Pricing:**

Extremely affordable at **₹17,001 (including GST)** for full CFA L1 package: lectures, app, notes, practice materials, mentoring

## 4. Mark Meldrum

- **Faculty & Credentials:**

Led by **Dr. Mark Meldrum**, Ph.D., an experienced CFA instructor with decades of teaching across all three levels (GOAT of CFA teaching)

- **Study Material:** Extremely comprehensive. **Lecture Videos** cover every LOS in the curriculum in detail. The videos are well-structured and closely follow CFA Institute's books and Learning Modules. Mark's platform also provides **PDF lecture notes** for all readings (essentially slide printouts so you don't need to transcribe) as well as a **formula sheet** summarizing key formulas. In addition, Mark includes "*seminar*" videos that break down especially tough concepts, and **weekly update videos** with study tips during the course. A personalized **study planner tool** is available to schedule your prep and track progress.

- **Practice Questions & Mock Tests:**

Offers a proprietary question bank and includes **site-hosted mock exams** (AM/PM sessions with benchmarking features). Community feedback indicates question bank is solid, though some mocks may be tougher or confusing than official ones

- **Course Format & Flexibility:**

The standard **Self-Study** package gives you on-demand access to all videos, notes, Q-bank, etc. There is also an **Instructor-Led** package which includes about 30+ hours of live online classes and mentorship by CFA charterholder tutors in addition to all the self-study content. Mark's subscriptions come with a "**one-fee-to-pass**" guarantee – if you don't pass or defer, your access extends to the next exam at no charge.

- **Pricing:**

**Self-Study:** \$399 (INR 34,000)

**Self-Study + Applied Analysis:** \$675 (INR 58,000)

**Instructor-Led Online:** \$1,199 (INR 1,02,000)

**Instructor-Led Online + Applied Analysis:** \$1,475 (INR 1,26,000)

- **Criticism:** A common remark is that Mark's materials, while excellent, go into more depth than necessary to just pass Level I. **India Specific:** If you're not very comfortable with English, you might not be able to speed up his videos as much

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## 5. QuintEdge

- **Faculty & Credentials:**

Instructors are **CFA charterholders** with finance industry experience (investment banking, equity research, corporate finance)

- **Study Material:**

200+ hours of video lectures and subject-wise quizzes and a **video solution-enabled question bank** help reinforce learning. Course designed to align closely with CFA syllabus and exam structure. . In addition, they integrate practical examples and case studies (e.g., they emphasize working in Excel for certain topics, bringing real finance skills into the prep).

- **Practice Questions & Mock Tests:**

QuintEdge offers extensive practice. There are **sectional practice tests** after every topic and full-length **mock exams** in CBT format. they provide **video solutions for CFA Institute's official questions** (so you can see step-by-step explanations for end-of-chapter and blue box questions)[quintedge.com](http://quintedge.com). They also claim 100% coverage of all question types you could face. An **AI-based real-time doubt solver** is available – you can input questions and get guided answers, which is a unique tech feature[quintedge.com](http://quintedge.com). Daily live doubt clearing sessions and an active discussion forum ensure that if you're stuck on practice questions, help is on hand[quintedge.com](http://quintedge.com).

- **Course Format & Flexibility:**

Offers both **live classroom in Delhi** (West Patel Nagar) and **self-paced online options**. Around **120 hrs** of live training, with recordings available for review.

- **Pricing:**

: QuintEdge is **mid-range** in pricing. For Level I, Live Online batches are around **₹32,000**, and Hybrid (blended) classes about **₹35,000**. The self-paced Level I course starts at **₹27,000** onwards. (this "onwards" pricing may vary with add-ons or duration of access)

- **Criticisms- As the course is relatively new- most reviews on the internet are positive.**

## 6. EdZeb

- **Faculty & Credentials:** **CA Vikas Vohra** is the co-founder, CFO, and principal CFA instructor at edZeb. He is a Chartered Accountant and has cleared CFA Level II, with over 10+ years of teaching experience in finance. Vikas's industry experience spans Bajaj Finance, ICRA, EY, and he has trained 10,000+ students in finance courses [edzeb.com](https://edzeb.com). (EdZeb's team may include other trainers for supplementary topics, but Vikas is the face of the CFA progra
- **Study Material:**  
: EdZeb provides its own **study material (soft copy)** to all enrolled students. This includes comprehensive notes and presentations aligned with each topic. They also supply "Juice Sheets" – concise revision notes for quick review of formulas and key points (similar in spirit to FinTree's JuiceNotes). All materials are updated for the latest curriculum.
- **Practice Questions & Mock Tests:** Students get access to **unit-wise tests** for each subject and **8 full-length mock exams** (matching the CFA Institute CBT format). The course includes a question bank that covers past exam-style questions and likely testable concepts. EdZeb also emphasizes practice through the CFA Institute's online QBank – they guide students on which questions to do from the official materials and supplement with their own.
- **Course Format & Flexibility:**  
: Offers **Offline classes** (in select centers like Delhi and Mohali) and **Live Online batches** – e.g., their next Level I batch starts January 4, 2026. These live classes are scheduled on weekday evenings or weekends to accommodate college students and working professionals. If you miss a class, **recordings are available** (with unlimited view time) on the LMS.
- **Pricing:**  
EdZeb's fee structure is straightforward. For Level I, **Offline/Live Online classes** are about **₹39,900**, and the **Pre-recorded course** (LMS on-demand) is about **₹34,900**. They also offer combo packages: Level I + II together for **₹74,900** (live), and bundles including Financial Modeling ("Level I Plus") etc. at higher price points
- **Criticisms:** being a newer institute no major criticisms have surfaced

## 7. FinLadder

- **Faculty & Credentials:**

**FinLadder** was founded by **Ishaan Arora (CA, CFA charterholder)** and **Murad Beigh**, both with industry experience (one co-founder is a Goldman Sachs senior associate) They also have a young team of CFA, FRM, CAIA qualified instructors

- **Study Material:**

FinLadder provides a complete study package. Once enrolled, students get **self-made slides and notes** for all topics (these simplify and condense the CFA curriculum). They also provide online access to all material through their portal eFinLadder. The course includes “*Level Zero*” basics for newcomers, and coverage of the entire syllabus in a structured way.

- **Practice Questions & Mock Tests:**

Offers a substantial **question bank (~10,000 questions)** and **10 full-length mock exams** along with Weekly topic tests, practice quizzes, and revision mocks are all included.

- **Course Format & Flexibility:**

**Two formats:**

**1. Recorded-only**

**2. Live weekend classes (9 am–1 pm SAT/SUN):** (includes recordings) -Ideal for working professionals or students who need schedule flexibility.

- **Pricing:**

**Recorded classes: ₹14,000**

**Live weekend + recordings: ₹22,000**

Both include full access to study materials, mocks, mentoring, and doubt support.

## 8. LeapUp EduTech

### - Faculty & Credentials:

Team of seasoned instructors, including Sahil Harwani (**CFA Level III, AVP, Spark Financial**), Harshit Shah (B.Com, CA, LLB), Ronak Gala (**MBA, portfolio manager**), Parth Morabia (CFA II, FRM I), Shreyash Kasliwal (**CFA III**), Kalpesh Abhani (**CA, CFA III**), and Vidhi Raichura (B.Com, CA)

### - Study Material:

Comprehensive curriculum covering all CFA Level 1 topics through:

- **200+ hours of live training**
- **Recorded sessions** for all live classes
- Well-structured slide decks, cheat-sheets, and real-world case illustration

### - Practice Questions & Mock Tests:

- **3000+** CFA-format MCQs
- **8 full-length mock** exams
- **30+** subject-wise tests
- CBT-style interface simulating the **real CFA exam**

### - Course Format & Flexibility:

Two formats:

- Live-online + recordings
- Recorded-only

### - Pricing:

Recorded-only option: **₹14,000**

Live-online + full recordings: **₹22,000**

Both options include mentorship support, mocks, and job-prep modules

## 10. Parth Verma / The Valuation School

- **Faculty & Credentials:** CA Parth Verma is the founder of *The Valuation School* and the lead instructor for its CFA courses. He is a Chartered Accountant who has built a strong profile in equity research and valuation.
- **Study Material:** Parth's program provides **300+ hours of video lectures** for CFA Level I, which is very comprehensive. His materials are distinctive because they blend CFA syllabus with *practical insights*. For example, when covering Corporate Finance, Parth might include a segment on how to actually compute WACC for a company using its financials (he's demonstrated things like Ola's WACC on YouTube)
- **Practice Questions & Mock Tests:**-Chapter-wise MCQs and fresh notes.
- **Course Format & Flexibility:** The Valuation School's CFA Level 1 course is currently a **recorded master course** (their first recorded batch "live" as of late 2025). That means once you enroll, you get access to all the video lectures which you can watch at your own pace. The feedback from students indicates he is very **interactive and responsive** despite the course being recorded – e.g., he personally responds to questions in the group, and repeats explanations until concepts click
- **Criticisms:** As of now, **Parth Verma's CFA prep offering is very new**, so there isn't much negative feedback.

**Plans for everyone**

RECORDED BATCH **BEST**

**₹15,999** onwards

Learn CFA® the way it should be learnt. Clear, Practical, and Complete.

- ✓ Learn at your own pace with 300+ hours of recorded classes.
- ✓ Structured revision sessions to keep you exam-ready.
- ✓ Chapter-wise MCQs and fresh notes for smarter practice

May 2026

**ENROLL NOW**

**Hope this helps and Happy Learning :)**

***Information sourced from official provider websites as of 17th December 2025 and this brochure does not imply endorsement from CFA Institute or any listed training provider.***