

Learning Sessions

20 One-Liners | Letter of Credit Calculations for CAIIB ABM: Formula, Solved Examples

IIBF - Revision - Letter of Credit Calculations for CAIIB ABM: Formula, Solved Examples

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20 One-Liners to Remember

Quick-fire facts for last-minute revision.

- 1 The LC limit formula is $LC\ Limit = \frac{Consumption\ of\ Material\ (CM) \times Total\ Time\ (TT)}{12}$, divided by 12.**

This gives the monthly raw-material purchase multiplied by the total time the LC needs to cover.

- 2 Total Time (TT) equals Lead or Procurement Time plus the Usance (Credit) Period.**

Both components must be added together before applying the LC limit formula.

- 3 A Letter of Credit is a written undertaking issued by the importer's bank assuring payment to the exporter for a genuine trade transaction.**

This substitutes the bank's credit for the buyer's credit, reassuring the exporter of payment.

- 4 Under an LC, the applicant is the importer or buyer and the beneficiary is the exporter or seller.**

The issuing bank promises payment to the beneficiary on behalf of the applicant.

- 5 Banks deal in documents, not goods, when honouring a Letter of Credit.**

Payment is based strictly on whether presented documents match the LC terms, not on the physical shipment.

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- 6 An issuing bank can decline payment under an LC if there is a discrepancy in the documents presented.**

Document mismatch is the valid ground for refusal, unlike issues with the actual goods.

- 7 For LC assessment, purchase value is taken on a CIF basis, meaning Cost, Insurance and Freight.**

This reflects the full landed value of goods rather than just their bare cost.

- 8 Under a DP (Documents against Payment) LC, Total Time uses lead time only since there is no usance period.**

DP LCs are sight LCs where payment is made immediately on document presentation.

- 9 Under a DA (Documents against Acceptance) LC, Total Time equals Lead Time plus Usance Period.**

DA LCs allow the buyer a credit period before payment, which extends the total time used in the formula.

- 10 EOQ, or Economic Order Quantity, is the ideal order size that meets demand without overspending.**

It helps inventory managers cut holding costs while avoiding excess stock.

- 11 If EOQ exceeds the calculated LC limit, the larger EOQ-based request is considered under DA-term LCs.**

This adjustment ensures the LC limit reflects genuine minimum procurement needs.

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- 12 The number of LCs to be opened under the EOQ method equals annual purchase divided by the EOQ value.**

This determines how many separate LCs the customer needs to open across the year.

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- 13 The frequency of LCs equals 12 divided by the number of LCs to be opened in a year.**

This gives the interval in months between successive LC openings.

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- 14 Applying EOQ to LC assessment keeps the outstanding LC amount below twice the EOQ value.**

A new LC is opened before the previous one is retired, capping the maximum outstanding exposure.

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- 15 A DPG, or Deferred Payment Guarantee, is assessed in the same manner as a term loan.**

It substitutes for a term loan, so the same assessment approach applies.

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- 16 An APG, or Advance Payment Guarantee, is assessed like a fund-based limit, with the advance amount deducted from the working capital gap.**

This is because the borrower receives advance payment for goods to be supplied later.

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- 17 LC limits sanctioned for importing raw materials generally reduce a borrower's working capital limit.**

The LC funds part of the purchase cycle, lowering the cash credit required.

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18 A working-capital LC cannot be used to import capital goods.

Capital imports require the bank to separately check how the borrower will arrange funds to retire the LC.

19 Forgetting to add usance for DA LCs is described as the single biggest error candidates make in LC numericals.

DP uses lead time only, while DA requires adding the credit period to the lead time.

20 LC limit calculations use monthly purchase figures, obtained by dividing annual consumption by 12, before multiplying by total time.

Using annual figures directly instead of monthly figures is a common calculation mistake.

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