



CMMI® Certification - Certified CMMI Associate Policy

Purpose

This policy guide outlines the process for earning and maintaining the CMMI Associate certification.

Scope and Applicability

This policy applies to all individuals currently certified or interested in becoming a Certified CMMI Associate.

Requirements to receive a CMMI Associate Certification

To receive a CMMI Associate certification a candidate must:

- Complete the Foundations of Capability training course or equivalent upgrade training.
- Take and pass the CMMI Associate Certification Exam.

Registering for the CMMI Associate Certification Exam

- The CMMI Associate Certification Exam is bundled with the Foundations of Capability course and may be accessed as soon as the course has been marked as completed by the instructor and the final roster submitted.
- The CMMI Associate Certification Exam remains valid for 30 days from the first day of attending the Foundations of Capability. If candidates do not take their exam within those 30 days, they must purchase a new exam voucher. Candidates' exam vouchers are valid for 30 days upon purchase. To purchase an exam voucher, please contact CMMI Institute's [Customer Experience Center](#).

The CMMI Associate Certification Exam Details

- The CMMI Associate Certification Exam contains 60 multiple-choice exam questions testing knowledge, skills and abilities outlined in the [Exam Content Outline](#) (ECO).
- The CMMI Associate Certification Exam is an open-note, unproctored exam.
- Candidates will have 2.5 hours to complete the exam.
- The CMMI Associate Certification Exam is currently available only in English

Taking The CMMI Associate Exam

Exam Day Rules

The exam rules provide guidelines for what is acceptable and what is prohibited during the exam. **CMMI Institute reserves the right to invalidate exam scores of those that are found violating the exam day rules.**

- Candidates may use their licensed copy of the CMMI Model PDF well as their own course notes during the exam.
- The examinee's workspace must be completely clear of all other items and materials during the exam.
- Candidates must be alone in the exam room.
- Logging out and logging back into the same exam is strictly prohibited.
- Giving or receiving assistance during the exam is strictly prohibited.
- Internet usage is strictly prohibited.
- Taking screenshots or photos of any portion of the exam is strictly prohibited.
- CMMI Institute reserves the right to assign an exam proctor.
- Multiple monitors are strictly prohibited.
- Use of any of the following communication, surveillance, or recording devices are strictly prohibited:
 - Mobile phones, electronic devices, or recording devices.
 - Tablets
 - Smart watches or glasses
 - Headphones / earbuds
- Baggage of any kind including handbags, purses, or briefcases is strictly prohibited.
- Tobacco products or vaping is strictly prohibited.
- Visitors are strictly prohibited.

Achieving Certified CMMI Associate Certification

- Individuals with a passing exam score may view and print their CMMI Associate certificate by selecting "Achievements" within the CMMI Training Center.
- Certified CMMI Associate status is valid for three years after successfully passing the exam. The certification may be renewed by retaking and passing the exam every three years. CMMI Associates must remain in good standing to be eligible for renewal. Good standing is defined as having no outstanding invoices and having no Code of Professional Conduct or program requirement violations.
- Being a Certified CMMI Associate or Certified CMMI Practitioner is a prerequisite to serving as an Appraisal Team Member (ATM) on a CMMI Appraisal. Certified CMMI Associates must also have Building Development Excellence or Building Service Excellence or upgrade training equivalency to meet the training requirements to be an ATM on an appraisal where Development (DEV) or Services (SVC) only are in scope. Certified CMMI Associates are not eligible to serve as an ATM on any other domain appraisals.

Additional References

- Questions regarding this policy should be submitted via support.isaca.org.
- Published Policies are available at cmminstitute.com on the policy page:

Revision History

Version Number	Date Published	Date Effective	Changes
V3.3	11 July 2025	31 October 2023	Updated with CMMI Institute branding
V3.2	11 January 2024	31 October 2023	Updated to remove references to Simplified Chinese and Spanish exams until these versions are made available.
V3.1	8 December 2023	31 October 2023	Minor updates to exam day rules.
V3.0	10 November 2023	31 October 2023	Updated to include new ECO and changes to exam delivery method.
V2.3	11 February 2022	30 June 2019	Updated renewal eligibility requirements
V2.2	26 October 2021	30 June 2019	Updated to ISACA and current CMMI branding; minor grammar and readability edits
V2.1	30 September 2019	30 June 2019	Updated format & structure
V2.0	30 June 2019	30 June 2019	Updated policy formatting, and included additional detail.
V1.0	4 December 2018	4 December 2018	Initial release of policy.

Appendix A: CMMI Associate Exam Content Outline

CMMI Associate Exam		
Topic	Topic Level 1	Percentage of Questions
Content Area 1	CMMI Core	100%
1	Describe the components and core Practice Areas of CMMI	30%
	1.1.1 Model Architecture (Capability Area, Category, Domain, Appendices, Overview, Glossary, Practice Group Level overview and capability)	
	1.1.2 Practice Areas (Practice Area Intent, Additional Required, Explanatory)	
	1.1.3 Practice Intent and Value, Required and Additional Information	
	1.1.4 Example Activities	
	1.1.5 Work Products	
	1.1.6 Context-Specific Model Component (DevSecOps)	
2	Connect the CMMI Model with business value	60%
	1.2.1 Ensuring Quality (PR, VV, PQA, RDM)	
	1.2.2 Supporting Implementation (CM, DAR, CAR)	
	1.2.3 Sustaining Habit and Persistence (II and GOV)	
	1.2.4 Improving Performance (PCM, PAD, MPM)	
	1.2.5 Managing Business Resilience (RSK)	
	1.2.6 Planning and Managing the Work (PLAN, EST, MC)	
	1.2.7 Managing the Workforce (OT, EVW)	
	1.2.8 Interrelationships between Practice Areas and Practices	
	1.2.9 Lifecycle models: Development, Services, Supply Chain, Process	
3	Understand the high-level value of an appraisal	10%
	1.3.1 Adoption and Transition Guidance	
	1.3.2 Appraisals	
Totals		100%

