

PMP Examination to Be Updated in 2011

The Project Management Professional (PMP)[®] credential examination will be revised in 2011, based on updates to the professional role of a PMP[®] credential holder recently found by PMI's Role Delineation Study (RDS).

PMI conducts a Role Delineation Study for the PMP credential every five to seven years to ensure the credential reflects contemporary practice, evolves to meet current needs in the profession, and to comply with the PMP credential's accreditation against the ISO 17024 standard.

Exam Changes

Project managers pursuing the credential or preparing for the exam in the upcoming year should be aware that approximately 30 percent of the PMP exam will change. Education and experience eligibility requirements for the PMP credential will not change, however.

As a result of the RDS, certain areas of the examination will be tested in a different way because an existing domain was seen to be common across all content areas of the examination. Specifically, the Professional and Social Responsibility content area (Domain 6) will now be tested in every domain rather than as a separate domain on the examination.

The RDS helped reveal that professional and social responsibility are integrated into all of the work of project management. PMI's Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct should therefore be viewed as now integrated into the day-to-day role of a project manager, emphasizing its importance in each phase of the project life cycle.

The new examination is scheduled to be released on 31 August 2011. This means that the last day to take the current PMP exam is 30 August 2011. Candidates who would like to take the current version of the examination are advised to schedule early to ensure that they are able to obtain a test date before the update.

Wide Participation Reflects Contemporary Practice

The changes in the PMP exam reflect the maturity of the role as defined in the RDS. More than 3,000 PMP credential holders from 97 countries participated in the process of updating the role.

A steering committee and a task force of volunteer PMP credential holders led the RDS effort. These volunteers included project managers from every global region, and also demonstrated diversity in industry, job roles and other demographics.

PMI started the eight-month RDS

process in late 2009, working with Professional Examination Services, a third-party organization with expertise in this process, to complete the study.

Michella Dantas, PMI-RMP, PMP, of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, served as the PMP representative for the Role Delineation Study Steering Committee. She said, "The process as conducted by PMI brings high value, as it involves a wide diversity of experienced professionals coming from different business areas and countries who can bring to the table their views on how the profession is evolving and what might have to be reviewed as far as knowledge, skills and abilities."

Ms. Dantas also participated in the PMP Role Delineation Study in 2004.

Timely Recalibration Ensures a Meaningful Credential

"Because it provides timely recalibration of the certification requirements with the experiences of global project managers across a wide array of project types, sizes, industries and complexities, the RDS ensures that PMP [credential holders] can measure and chart their own development based on internationally accepted criteria," said task force team member Grace E. Solas, PMP, of Jamaica. "By doing this, a PMP [credential holder] should always have a distinct advantage toward providing value adding services to their employers."

Continued on page 36

Role Delineation Study volunteers quoted in this article



Michella Dantas, PMI-RMP, PMP



Gabriel Perez Huesca, PMP



Grace E. Solas, PMP



Julie Paradise, MSM, PMP



Sergey Rakovskiy, PMP

Call for Nominations

Continued from page 35

■ Members seeking self-nominations via petition (Petitioners) must submit to the Nominating Committee Chair their color photograph and biographical statement (on the required template) for posting on www.PMI.org/nominations no later than **1 February 2011**. It is incumbent on Petitioners to submit their interest and statements in a timely manner during the open nomination period to provide ample time to collect the required signatures. Eligible members may register support for Petitioners by visiting www.PMI.org/nominations. All nominees are obligated to abide by the election rules and other PMI governing documents.

■ Members considering a self-nomination require the support of at least 1% of the eligible voting membership. The number of PMI members as of **31 December 2010** will determine the number of required signatures and that number will be posted to www.PMI.org/nominations. Required signatures for members seeking a self-nomination must be acquired (via this site) and submitted to the Nominating Committee by **1 February 2011**.

■ Biographical statements (on the required template) and a color photograph for all nominees placed on the ballot must be received no later than **6 June 2011**. Failure to comply may invalidate candidacy.

■ Election information will be electronically transmitted on or before **22 August 2011** to all eligible voters who have a valid e-mail address in the PMI database as of **30 June 2011**. Visit <https://my.pmi.org/Pages/ContactInformation.aspx> to update your contact information. Student members are not eligible to vote.

■ All electronic ballots must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. U.S. Eastern Time (UTC-4 Hours) on **27 September 2011**.

■ Election results will be announced at PMI Global Congress 2011— North America.

*Note that the Nominating Committee will be working throughout the open nomination period on developing a potential list of potential nominees and it is suggested that nominations be submitted to the Nominating Committee Chair as early as possible.

Please address all nominations and inquiries to:

2011 Nominating Committee Chair
c/o Project Management Institute
14 Campus Blvd
Newtown Square, PA 19073-3299 USA

Send e-mail to: chair@pmi.org

Aspiring Credential Holders Training in Zimbabwe

A group of five aspiring Project Management Professional (PMP)® credential holders is receiving training on *A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK® Guide)*—Fourth Edition. After purchasing the standards from PMI, the group began receiving PMP® examination preparation training in October, using materials supplied by RMC Project Management.

This is the first time a PMP Exam Prep

course is being held in Zimbabwe. The trainees are James Hove, Tendai Masimirembwa, Brian Ngwendere, Shepherd Mambo and Ruvimbo Zhewe. The courses are being facilitated by Henry Mkhwananzi, PMP.

The group is considering forming a PMI chapter in Zimbabwe. Mr. Mkhwananzi is currently the only PMP credential holder in Zimbabwe and has been the only PMI member based in Zimbabwe since 2003.



The first students to participate in a PMP Exam Prep course in Zimbabwe are (from left) Brian Ngwendere, James Hove, Ruvimbo Zhewe, Shepherd Mambo and Tendai Masimirembwa.

PMP Examination

Continued from page 33

"Project management is still not as easily recognized as some older professions. An RDS makes the role clearer and shows the difference between a skilled technical specialist and a skilled project manager," said Sergey Rakovskiy, PMP, of Moscow, Russia, who served on the RDS task force.

"By performing an in-depth look at the current PMP [exam] and comparing it to what project managers in the 'real world' are doing, a Role Delineation Study results in a more meaningful credential," said task force participant Julie Paradise, MSM, PMP, East Longmeadow, Massachusetts, USA.

"In a world that's so dynamic, it is important [for a project manager] to have

fresh information in order to adapt to many circumstances," said task force member Gabriel Perez Huesca, PMP, of Puebla City, Mexico. "The Role Delineation Study helps project managers be sure that the information that is shared with them is updated based on the experience that other project managers have faced in daily work. Conducting a Role Delineation Study gives a huge amount of certainty that the project management practices are adaptable to the current markets."

To reflect exam modifications, PMI has created and released a new PMP Exam Content Outline that will replace the current *PMP® Examination Specification*. You can find more information about the RDS and related examination changes on PMI.org.