PMI OPM3 Frequently Asked Questions

What is the status of the OPM3 standard (Organizational Project Management Maturity Model - Third Edition)?

The third edition of the OPM3® standard (Knowledge Foundation) was published in January 2013 and will undergo scheduled review staring in 2016. This is consistent with ANSI requirements for periodic review of standards. The review will coincide with scheduled updates of three other PMI foundation standards (the PMBOK® Guide, the Standard for Program Management, and the Standard for Portfolio Management) which are aligned with the OPM3® standard. The review will consist of the following:

- Review of prior use of the OPM3 standard (e.g. number of downloads and other usability metrics)
- New market research regarding the value of the OPM3 standard in the project management community
- Participation and recommendations from the PMI Standards Member Advisory Group
- Participation and recommendations from the PMI OPM Advisory Group
- Input from organizations that work with PMI through our Global Executive Council and in other ways

If the assessment results in a recommendation to update the OPM3 standard, we will post committee volunteer positions through PMI’s Volunteer Relationship Management System (VRMS).

What is the status of the OPM3 Certified Professional program?

PMI trained and certified individuals on the use of an assessment tool and OPM3 capabilities until September of 2014. The program is no longer accepting applicants, but still recognizes those who were actively certified as of September 2014. The list of OPM3 Certified Professionals can be found at [here](#). The program will be fully retired on 1 March 2017.
How can my organization be assessed against the OPM3 Standard?
Organizations currently have several options in assessing against the OPM3 standard. They can use the best practices self-assessment found in the OPM3 standard itself or they can work with an OPM3 Certified Professional to conduct an independent assessment. The list of OPM3 Certified Professionals can be found here.

What is the status of the OPM3 Online Assessment?
PMI has retired the OPM3 online assessment tool and has notified all official resellers of the tool of the phase out plan. As an alternative, organizations can still view the list of best practices that are included in the OPM3 standard.

Does PMI offer other options to help my organization assess and improve OPM capabilities?
Yes. PMI offers Standards Benchmark which measures an organization’s project and program processes against our global standards. PMI, through its subsidiary Human Systems International, also offers the 4Q to help evaluate how well an organization supports its strategic goals through OPM and through developing the right competencies and talent.

What is the difference between PMI’s OPM3 Standard and Implementing OPM Practice Guide?
Each document has a specific purpose: the implementation guide focuses on organizational methodologies and principle-based approaches for organizational management of projects, while OPM3® provides the tools organizations need to measure their maturity against a comprehensive set of organizational best practices.

What is the status of the Implementing OPM Practice Guide?
PMI recently initiated a volunteer call for nominations for a new committee that will revise and enhance the current Practice Guide on Implementing Organizational Project Management which was published by PMI in early 2014. The revision is part of a planned review and transition of the document from a “guide” to a “standard” in the PMI library of standards. This revision will update and expand the level of detail found in the practice guide on the topics of implementation of OPM and the development of methodologies, and will expand the content of the current publication to address:
• Deferred comments and Lessons Learned from the previous effort
• Comments from the post-publication survey of the current Practice Guide
• Topics culled from recent presentations, white papers, and academic research on the topic of OPM
• Enhancement of the process for development of organizational methodologies
• Enhanced background on the topic of OPM and deeper discussion of organizational enablers and organizational capabilities.

This new document will be developed and approved using the complete PMI consensus process, including both subject matter expert and public exposure draft reviews, on a 20-24 month schedule starting in 2015. Because the full consensus process will be followed, the publication will have the status of a PMI standard, rather than designation as a practice guide. Publication is planned in Q3 2017.