

New Agile Certification Journey: FAQs

1. What is the Agile Certification Journey and why is PMI releasing this?

The new Agile Certification Journey is a suite of agile-focused certifications and instructor-led and on-demand training workshops from Disciplined Agile, as well as knowledge and community resources designed for practitioners who want to further specialize and differentiate their skills. These offerings enable practicing and aspiring agile practitioners to choose the best combination of learning and validation opportunities to enhance their knowledge, participate more effectively on agile teams, lead teams, tailor processes to optimize team performance, and coach at the enterprise level. We created the Agile Certification Journey to incorporate Disciplined Agile into our portfolio of certifications and to provide practitioners with options and opportunities to dive deeper into agile approaches, regardless of where they are in their career paths.

2. What does the launch of the Agile Certification Journey mean for individuals who already have an existing Disciplined Agile certification or designation like Disciplined Agilist?

The suite of certifications included in the Agile Certification Journey provides an exciting new pathway for deepening agile experience. Here's what to expect:

- A Disciplined Agilist was an individual who completed a Disciplined Agile workshop and did not take the exam, but still has access to Disciplined Agile resources and news from the Disciplined Agilist Consortium website. We are retiring the Disciplined Agilist designation. In July, a limited-time email/coupon to become a PMI member was sent to eligible DA members. Access to DA resources will be granted through your PMI Membership.
- We are retiring the Certified Disciplined Agilist certification and replacing it with the new Disciplined Agile Scrum Master certification. Current Certified Disciplined Agilists (CDAs) will automatically become Disciplined Agile Scrum Masters.
- We are retiring the Certified Disciplined Agile Practitioner (CDAP) certification. Current Certified Disciplined Agile Practitioners will automatically become Disciplined Agile Senior Scrum Masters.
- The Disciplined Agile Senior Scrum Master certification will replace the Disciplined Agile Lean Scrum Master certification. All current Disciplined Agile Lean Scrum Masters (DALSMs) will automatically become Disciplined Agile Senior Scrum Masters.
- We are retiring the Certified Disciplined Agile Coach certification. Current Certified Disciplined Agile Coaches (CDACs) will have the opportunity to migrate to the new Disciplined Agile Coach certification.

- We are retiring the Certified Disciplined Agile Instructor certification. Current Certified Disciplined Agile Instructors (CDAs) will automatically be accepted into the Authorized Training Partner program as certified instructors that are approved to teach Disciplined Agile training workshops. Those who wish to become certified to teach Disciplined Agile training workshops will now need to be certified in the class they want to teach and complete a one-day instructor class, in addition to having at least their Disciplined Agile Senior Scrum Master certification.

3. It says some certification holders can “migrate” to new certifications. How do they do that?

We are still finalizing the migration path for Certified Disciplined Agile Coaches to become Disciplined Agile Coaches. As soon as this solution is finalized, we will share it.

4. It says some certification holders will automatically become new certification holders. What should these professionals expect?

We will give these certification holders new digital badges to correlate with their new certifications, but these are not yet finalized. Once they are, we will distribute them to the appropriate certification holders.

5. The Agile Certification Journey includes several new certifications. When will the accompanying training workshops and exams be available for professionals to start registering?

- We will begin piloting the Disciplined Agile Scrum Master training workshop and exam in September. The training workshop and exam will launch and be available for professionals to register in the beginning of October.
- The Disciplined Agile Senior Scrum Master training workshop and exam will launch in November.
- The Disciplined Agile Coach training workshop and exam will launch in 2021.
- The Disciplined Agile Value Stream Consultant training workshop and exam will launch in 2021.

6. In the suite of Disciplined Agile certifications, is any certification a pre-requisite for another?

Professionals can pursue the Disciplined Agile Scrum Master or Disciplined Agile Senior Scrum Master certifications as long as they meet the work experience eligibility requirements and complete the required training.

Professionals can pursue the Disciplined Agile Coach certification exam as long as they meet the work experience eligibility requirements, complete the required training, and hold their Disciplined Agile Senior Scrum Master certification.

Professionals can take the Disciplined Agile Value Stream Consultant certification exam as long as they meet the work experience eligibility requirements, complete the required training and hold their Disciplined Agile Coach certification.

7. What is the difference between the PMI-ACP certification and suite of agile certifications included in the Agile Certification Journey?

The PMI-ACP certification is one of the agile certifications included in the Agile Certification Journey. Until now, the PMI-ACP certification was our only agile certification, but now it fits into a wider range of agile certifications to provide practitioners with options and opportunities to dive deeper into agile approaches, regardless of where they are in their career paths.

8. Does the new agile certification suite impact the eligibility requirements or certification process for PMI-ACP?

No, requirements for the PMI-ACP are not changing. Candidates must have eight months of agile team experience, 12 months of general experience in any approach or framework, and 21 contact hours of training in agile topics in order to be eligible for the PMI-ACP certification. As is the case now, PMI-ACP candidates can take their certification exams at Pearson VUE test centers or via the online proctored testing solution. [Click here](#) to find tips for preparing for the PMI-ACP exam, including the Exam Content outline, handbook, and recommended reference list.

9. If a professional already has the PMI-ACP certification, should they pursue an additional agile certification?

In the Agile Certification Journey, there's still opportunity for those with the PMI-ACP certification to further specialize in agile. For example, the Disciplined Agile Senior Scrum Master is an ideal certification for those with the PMI-ACP certification.

10. Can professionals take a Disciplined Agile exam without completing the training workshop?

No, individuals must complete the instructor-led or on-demand training workshop in order to take the exam. Once they complete the workshop, they will receive the eligibility code needed to schedule their exam.

11. What languages will the Disciplined Agile training workshops and exams be available?

In the coming months, the Disciplined Agile training workshops and exams will be translated into Simplified Chinese, Arabic, Brazilian Portuguese, Spanish, and Japanese.

12. What happens if an individual fails a Disciplined Agile certification exam?

When individuals pay to take a training workshop, the price includes the exam fee, but only covers one exam attempt. If a professional fails their first attempt, they may retake the exam for US\$150.

13. Will individuals need to earn Professional Development Units (PDUs) to maintain agile certification?

Yes. Currently, the Disciplined Agile certifications require professionals to earn 7 PDUs per year. The PDU requirement for the PMI-ACP will remain the same as it stands today: 30 PDUs every three years.

14. Can individuals also count Disciplined Agile training hours toward PDUs for other PMI certifications?

Yes. While taking a Disciplined Agile training workshop, professionals may count those training hours as PDUs toward their PMP, PgMP, or PMI-ACP PDU requirements. This means they can earn PDUs while also working toward earning a Disciplined Agile certification.

15. If the new PMP exam includes agile content, why isn't the PMP certification included in Agile Certification Journey offerings?

The new PMP exam will include agile content, making the certification suited for the project manager who demonstrates broad knowledge across project approaches. However, the suite of certifications included in the Agile Certification Journey specifically depicts certification offerings for individuals interested in taking an agile specialty path. A PMP who wishes to specialize in agile techniques can further develop professionally by pursuing one of the agile certifications. As the Agile Certification Journey has offerings for every experience level, it's possible for a professional to begin agile specialization track at any point in their career.

16. Will the new PMP exam include Disciplined Agile-related questions since it covers hybrid and agile approaches?

The PMP exam will cover a variety of hybrid and agile approaches, assuring candidates have a sufficient understanding of these approaches, but it will not cover Disciplined Agile-related questions. However, content related to Disciplined Agile and FLEX will be taught in the Disciplined Agile instructor-led and on-demand trainings and included in the corresponding certification exams.

17. Who is the contact with additional questions?

Please send questions to DACertifications@pmi.org.