

## PMI Agile Certified Practitioner (PMI-ACP)® 2024 Exam Update

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### PMI-ACP Authorized Training Partner Questions

#### 1. Why is the PMI-ACP exam changing?

We continuously conduct extensive research to ensure our professional certifications meet the expectations of today's complex environments. Because we maintain their relevance, earning a PMI professional certification demonstrates a professional's ability to meet the demands of projects, products and organizations worldwide.

The new PMI-ACP exam will better test professionals on the experience and skills that agile practitioners and organizations need to successfully lead agile transformations, agile projects, and efficient product management. Created by agile practitioners for agile practitioners, the PMI-ACP certification offers distinct value by embedding the Agile mindset and proving experience and skills across various agile methodologies, all with a holistic approach. Earning this professional certification validates a professional's ability to excel within agile environments, fostering team collaboration and driving organizational success.

Additionally, elements of the DASSM (Disciplined Agile Senior Scrum Master) certification have been incorporated into the new PMI-ACP exam. The current DASSM certification will be available for 12 months after the new PMI-ACP exam launches, and only certification renewals will be available thereafter.

#### 2. When will the new PMI-ACP exam be available?

The new PMI-ACP exam will be available on 8 November 2024. Interested candidates may begin to register and schedule their exams on this date.

#### 3. Will an instructor-led course be available to support the new PMI-ACP exam?

Yes, our official instructor-led course for the PMI Agile Certified Practitioner (PMI-ACP®) exam is now available to eligible ATPs.

To teach to the new PMI-ACP exam, ATPs **must** use the official PMI instructor-led training materials and may **NOT** develop their own training materials using the Exam Content Outline or other sources. Instructors must have the PMI-ACP certification and complete the PMI® Authorized On-demand PMI-ACP® Exam Prep and Train the Trainer courses.

We have implemented several measures to support ATPs already teaching PMI-ACP courses in this transition, including extending the cutover date for ATPs with existing PMI-ACP courses in the market. Partners with existing scheduled courses will not be required to change over to PMI's official ILT materials until February 28, 2025. More information on these is shared on the ATP Resource Center and in the questions below.

#### 4. Why can't I develop my own course training material for the new PMI-ACP exam?

As part of our commitment to providing gold-standard professional certifications backed by a complete learning journey, ATPs may only use the official PMI materials to teach to the new PMI-ACP exam. This decision ensures a high-quality and consistent instructor-led training experience for learners.

## **5. Why should I teach the new PMI-ACP? What's the opportunity for me as an ATP?**

Organizations that embrace agility outperform their counterparts, and the demand for agile practitioners is soaring. By reflecting the most relevant skills organizations and practitioners need to lead successful agile transformations, agile projects, and efficient product management, the new PMI-ACP offers distinct value and is positioned to appeal to a wide audience of experienced professionals looking to excel in agile environments.

The updates to the PMI-ACP program represent an exciting business opportunity for ATPs to grow PMI-ACP training to a large learner market, helping your training offerings reach a broader set of agilists—including agile practitioners, project managers, scrum masters, and product owners—as well as the organizations that rely on them to drive success.

The instructor-led training will be the first new PMI-ACP learning in the market, providing our partners with a competitive advantage.

## **6. In which way will the PMI-ACP exam be different from the agile content of the PMP exam?**

Designed by and for project leaders, earning the Project Management Professional (PMP)<sup>®</sup> certification validates a candidate's ability to effectively lead projects, including using predictive, agile and hybrid approaches to determine which way of working is best for each project.

In contrast, the new PMI-ACP deeply embeds the Agile mindset, so earning it proves a candidate's experience and skills across various agile methodologies. It is geared towards experienced agile practitioners working as part of an agile team, rather than the project manager leading and directing a project.

## **7. When will ATPs be required to stop teaching PMI-ACP courses on the current exam? Can I continue to teach my PMI-ACP curriculum to learners?**

Yes, you may continue to provide instruction on the current PMI-ACP exam. The exam will officially change over on 8 November 2024.

After the release of the new instructor-led course material for ATPs in September, you may decide when to switch instruction to the new exam. However, you must only use the official PMI course materials to teach to the new PMI-ACP exam. ATPs are not permitted to develop their own content for the new PMI-ACP exam. Please also note that the new training requirement for the new PMI-ACP exam is 28 hours.

**Important Update:** We have listened to feedback from some of our valued partners whose existing ACP courses may be disrupted by this change. We are implementing the following measures to support your transition:

- If you have existing ACP courses in the market, you will not be required to change over to the official PMI ILT materials until 28 February, 2025, giving you several months to execute your existing scheduled courses.
- In parallel, your students will have until 31 March 2025 to apply for the exam with the 21 contact hours they acquired from existing training. We will accept 21 contact hours to qualify for the new PMI-ACP up to this date. After 31 March, applicants will need 28 contact hours to qualify.
  - Please note that students applying for the exam after 8 November must still meet the increased work experience requirements for the new PMI-ACP.

- To better prepare students taking existing 21-hour PMI-ACP courses for the new PMI ACP exam, we highly recommend using PMI Study Hall to supplement their training. ATP Resellers can purchase Study Hall in bulk. Please reach out to your account manager or [channelsales@pmi.org](mailto:channelsales@pmi.org) if you are interested.

## **8. What should I tell learners that are taking my current ACP courses?**

You should inform learners in your existing ACP courses that the last day to take the current PMI-ACP exam will be 7 November 2024. We encourage current learners to schedule their exam now to sit for the test on or before 7 November.

After 8 November, students will have until 31 March to apply for the exam with 21 contact hours. We will accept 21 contact hours to qualify for the new PMI-ACP up to this date. After 31 March, applicants will need 28 contact hours to qualify.

Please note that students applying for the exam after 8 November must still meet the increased work experience requirements for the new PMI-ACP.

## **9. What are the requirements for an instructor to teach the new PMI-ACP course?**

To teach the new PMI-ACP instructor-led training course, instructors must:

- Hold the PMI-ACP certification.
- Complete a PMI Train-the-Trainer course.
- Complete the new PMI® Authorized On-demand PMI-ACP® Exam Prep course.

Successful completion of the courses and assessment will trigger the process of obtaining your PMI Authorized Training Partner Instructor Badge and allow Authorized Training Partners to assign PMI-ACP classes for you to deliver.

Course material will be available for ATPs to order via the standard PMI Partner Platform order process as soon as an instructor completes the full qualification process, and ATP classes may be launched immediately after.

So that ATP instructors could qualify to teach the instructor-led course as soon as it became available in September, PMI provided an exclusive pre-registration opportunity for ATPs to take the new PMI-ACP eLearning before its release. This pre-registration opportunity ended on 20 September. Any pre-registered instructor can now access the PMI eLearning and Train the Trainer in their [my.PMI course library](#).

**Didn't pre-register?** Instructors looking to qualify to teach the new PMI-ACP may purchase the PMI-ACP eLearning and Train the Trainer when it becomes available. Please email [ATPtrainer@PMI.org](mailto:ATPtrainer@PMI.org) for more information.

## **10. How long is the new PMI-ACP course? Will the PMI-ACP course now be a 4-day course with the additional training hours required?**

The new instructor-led course is 28 formal training hours to meet the new requirement. We recommend it will take 4 - 4.5 days to teach the course, depending on pacing.

## **11. When can I expect marketing materials to promote my new ACP courses?**

We will be providing marketing material for ATPs to promote their new PMI-ACP courses before the exam change on 8 November.

## **12. When will instructor and student materials be available for ATPs?**

ATPs can order PMI-ACP student and instructor kits as soon as they have a qualified instructor. We recommend that ATPs pre-register eligible instructors for our early qualification process so they can prepare to teach courses as soon as materials are available.

## **13. How can ATPs order PMI-ACP student and instructor kits? How much are the materials?**

ATPs with a qualified instructor can order and access instructor and student kits via the PMI Partner Platform. These are priced at \$95 USD each.

## **14. How does this impact Disciplined Agile courses?**

ATPs qualified to teach DASSM courses can continue to do so until November 2025. We will share more about the evolution of DA in the coming months.

## **15. Can I resell the PMI® Authorized On-demand PMI-ACP® Exam Prep to my learners?**

ATP Reseller Program participants will have the opportunity to resell the PMI® Authorized On-demand PMI-ACP® Exam Prep course to their learners when the course is released on 8 November 2024. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

## **PMI-ACP General and Learner Questions**

### **1. Will the new PMI-ACP exam be translated?**

Yes, in addition to English, the PMI-ACP exam will be translated into eight languages: Arabic, French, German, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Simplified Chinese, and Spanish.

### **2. Will there be a price change with the new exam?**

No, the price for the PMI-ACP exam will remain the same.

### **3. Will there be a change in the Professional Development Units (PDUs) required to maintain the PMI-ACP certification?**

No, the PDUs required to maintain the certification will remain at 30.

### **4. Will the PMI-ACP scoring method be changed?**

No, the scoring method for the PMI-ACP exam will not be changed.

### **5. What is the difference between the current and new exams?**

The current PMI-ACP Exam Content Outline (ECO) tests concepts based on seven domains. The new PMI-ACP exam will continue to test on the agile mindset and product delivery, but will be covered in four domains: Mindset, Leadership, Product, Delivery. Additionally, we are incorporating new item types in the new exam, aiming to modernize the testing process while effectively assessing skills and competencies. The ECO for the new PMI-ACP exam will be posted on PMI.org on 16 October 2024. ATPs will be privately provided with the ECO before this date.

### **6. Are the eligibility requirements changing with the new exam?**

- The education requirements for the PMI-ACP exam will not change but we have updated the professional training contact hours and experience eligibility. Eligible candidates must meet the following qualifications:

- **Education:** Secondary degree, such as a high school diploma or a global equivalent (Note: this requirement has not changed)
- **Training:** 28 contact hours of formal training in agile practices, frameworks, and methodologies (Note: this was previously 21 contact hours)
- **Experience:** 2 years of agile project experience within the last 5 years
  - or –
- **Experience:** 1 year of agile project experience within the last 5 years IF the candidate has an active third-party agile certification they earned more than 1 year ago
  - or –
- **Experience:** Individuals with an active PMP® certification are recognized as having the equivalent of 2 years of agile project experience and can use this to meet the requirement for the PMI-ACP. Note: Individuals with a current PMI certification excluding the PMP (e.g. PgMP®) who have documented agile and hybrid experience in the last 5 years can automatically count it towards the PMI-ACP experience requirements.
- **Experience:** Individuals with 1 year of agile project experience IF they completed a [PMI Global Accreditation Center for Project Management Education \(GAC\)](#) program. (Notes: Completing a GAC accredited program also meets the 28 contact hours requirements.)

## 7. Can I still take the current PMI-ACP exam?

You may take the current exam until the new exam is available. The last day to take the current exam is 7 November 2024.

## 8. I took a third-party party PMI-ACP exam prep course that does not meet the new 28 contact hours requirement for the new exam. What should I do?

If you are prepping for the current PMI-ACP exam, the requirement is 21 hours. If the third-party course you took meets this requirement, then you can proceed to the exam.

After 8 November, you will still have until 31 March to apply for the new exam with 21 contact hours. We will accept 21 contact hours to qualify for the new PMI-ACP up to this date. After 31 March, applicants will need 28 contact hours to qualify.

After 8 November, if a candidate takes a third-party course that does NOT meet the 28 hours requirement, we encourage them to review the ECO document and supplement their training with PMI Study Hall™ PMI-ACP®, which will be available on PMI.org starting on 8 November.

## 9. I already submitted the current application which doesn't allow for the additional agile experience, will I still be able to take the new exam?

Yes. To make this transition as easy as possible, we will honor your existing application experience and training.

## 10. Will PMI offer a PMI-ACP exam prep course to go with the new exam?

Yes, there will be several ways to learn and prepare for the new exam so candidates can select the option that works best for them, including:

- Enroll in an instructor-led PMI® Authorized PMI-ACP® Exam Prep course through an Authorized Training Partner (ATP) starting in September 2024.
- Take the PMI® Authorized On-demand PMI-ACP® Exam Prep course available on PMI.org on 8 November 2024.
- Take the PMI® Authorized PMI-ACP® Practice Exam available on PMI.org on 8 November 2024.

- Use PMI Study Hall™ PMI-ACP® available on PMI.org 8 November 2024.

**11. Will there be any changes to the day of exam experience?**

Candidates will continue to have the option to sit for the exam at a Pearson VUE testing center or to take the exam via our online proctored solution. The exam will still be 3 hours long with 120 questions.

**12. What will happen to my DASSM certification once the new PMI-ACP exam launches?**

The current DASSM certification will be available for 12 months after the new PMI-ACP exam launches, and only certification renewals will be available thereafter .

**13. Will PMI Authorized Training Partners (ATPs) teach courses based on the current exam or the new exam version?**

ATPs may continue to teach to the current PMI-ACP exam until 8 November 2024.

ATPs will be able to teach to the new exam with the instructor-led PMI® Authorized PMI-ACP® Exam Prep course starting in September 2024. ATP Resellers will also have the option to resell the PMI® Authorized On-demand PMI-ACP® Exam Prep course, which launches on 8 November 2024.