BCS Agile Professional Certification Practitioner Certificate FAQ

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Practitioner Certificate in Agile

What is it?
The BCS Practitioner Certificate in Agile enables anyone working in a project environment to bridge the gap between agile theory and practice. There are three elements:

- An optional 2-day Agile Practitioner training course to get the candidate kick-started on their learning journey.

- A combination of self-study and work-based activities and learning supported by the BCS endorsed Value Flow Quality® courseware by Emergn.

- And, finally the understanding and application of the learning objectives described within the syllabus and elaborated in the work-based learning courseware is then tested in a final written examination.

What are the learning outcomes?
The practitioner certificate looks at the essential elements of agile - delivering early and often, optimising flow and using fast feedback. Candidates gain the skills to effectively adopt and adapt agile methods in their organisation.
Successful candidates will:
- Gain the breadth and depth of understanding required to implement or improve agile within an organisation.
- Understand and be able to apply popular agile methods in general use, including Scrum and Kanban.
- Know how to build and motivate an agile team; handle trade-offs and manage adaptations to process.
- Be able to tackle specific concerns that often lead to failure or disappointing results.

Who is it aimed at?
The BCS Practitioner Certificate in Agile is designed to help those wanting to apply agile and lean practices in their organisations. Because it covers agile thinking and principles, it works across all levels, from introductory to advanced. It addresses the challenges faced by developers, testers, analysts and executives, providing knowledge to help in day-to-day work and long-term career success.

It is therefore relevant to all professionals, across all industries, who work on product and software development projects, or have active roles in developing and launching new products or services – including (but not limited to):
- Program managers
- Project managers
- Product managers
- Product developers
- Software developers
- Software architects
- Solution designers
- System designers
- Software testers
- Business analysts
- High-level management positions
- Marketing managers
- HR managers
- Operations managers

Why learn with Value Flow Quality® (VFQ) work-based learning?
The best way to retain learning is through action: VFQ provides the best, most comprehensive knowledge available and also helps you learn through applying solutions in your workplace by taking learners through activities, case-studies and exercises that can be run individually or directly with groups within the workplace. The processes of learning are designed to allow participants to ensure they understand the concepts in practice within their own context.

What is different about the BCS Practitioner Certificate in Agile?
The Agile Practitioner Certification is a standard in which employers can have real confidence, because the learning approach builds skills and competence in your everyday job helping to achieve lasting change, and a deeper understanding of what works and why. Unlike other certificates in the market, it is not just a knowledge-based certification. You must be able to discern context, and apply the learning within that context in order to pass the examination.

How will the BCS Practitioner Certificate in Agile benefit you and your organisation?
Many organisations have tried to introduce new processes and seen disappointing results. We believe that only through understanding why a tool or practice works can it be successfully implemented. From personal career investment to delivering value, improving flow and advancing quality within your organisation, our certificate and the VFQ work-based learning is focused on helping you create tangible and immediate benefits.

There are a lot of advantages:
- The programme adds value to your day job, changing your perspective in many areas.
- Work-based learning really focuses your attention on the question 'Will this work for us?' as opposed to learning theory.
- Value, Flow, Quality provides support with resources and guidance, models and concepts for inspiring change applying Agile and Lean thinking.

What will you receive in the work-based learning courseware?
- 10 sessions of concise, well researched high quality content
- Activities, suggested next steps and extensive bibliography
- Access to a digital technique library of practices

How can candidates take the certificate?
- **Training and exam**
  We recommend candidates attend practitioner level training with an accredited training provider. In order to prepare for the exam, candidates complete a 2 day accredited training course followed by 75 hours of self-study/work based learning over 2-3 months with BCS endorsed Value Flow Quality® courseware. A scheduled exam can then be taken through the accredited training provider.
- **Self-study and exam**
  The comprehensive BCS endorsed Value Flow Quality® courseware provides 10 modules in digital format enabling you to study at your own pace within your organisation. We advise c100 hours of self-study within your workplace following which you will be able to book your exam via Emergn.
- **Exam only route**
  We strongly recommend that candidates attend an accredited training course and/or make full use of the work-based learning courseware prior to taking the examination. However, we are willing to consider applications for exemption from the work-based learning element of the process from candidates who feel they have strong experience of applying a wide variety of agile methodologies in different contexts.
  Applications for exemption from the work-based learning courseware must include documented evidence of their relevant experience and courses / certificates achieved. BCS will then review this evidence and make a final decision of whether you can be exempt from the courseware and only take the exam.