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The
Chartered
Institute
for IT

IT Training and
Professional Development

Solution development and architecture

iseb

Solution development certifications from BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT, provide IT professionals with the skills needed to make a real difference to the development of IT systems within their organisation.

The modular approach allows practitioners to enhance the skills most relevant in their role, offering breadth as well as depth to knowledge and capabilities, with modules on associated disciplines such as business analysis and software testing.

Our certifications structure supports career progression from foundation through to diploma, providing the solution development community with an international benchmark of skills and experience.

www.bcs.org/solutiondev

Solution development and architecture career path

This career path illustrates the potential career progression you can make in solution development and architecture. It recognises the importance of certification and experience, and provides a high level alignment with SFIA*plus* and the Institute's membership grades. This diagram summarises the characteristics and development needs that support your career in solution development and architecture. For a more detailed career path visit **www.bcs.org/solutiondev**

	SFIA*plus* level	Typical experience	Characteristics of level	BCS professional certification	Development needs
Fellow	7	15+ years	**Likely to:** run a department of developers **Typical job titles:** systems development/engineering manager		**Business management experience** **Strategic planning**
Chartered Professional	6	10+ years	**Likely to:** lead the development of a product line and be a technology expert **Typical job titles:** chief programmer, lead developer **Typical experience:** evidence of leading a solution development operation	**Chartered Professional is awarded on the basis of knowledge, experience and professionalism**	**Preparation for significant IT management role** **Continued technology lead**
Chartered Professional	5	4-10 years	**Likely to:** be recognised as a development expert that others seek advice from **Typical job titles:** principal developer **Typical experience:** : evidence of significant system design and leading development teams	**Diploma in Solution Development:** • **Practitioner Certificate in Systems Development Essentials** • **Practitioner Certificate in Systems Modelling** **Plus 2 additional practitioner certifications**	**Seek to demonstrate:** • increased responsibility and authority • increased project management • improved soft and consulting skills **When appropriate, Chartered status should be progressed**
Professional	4	3-6 years	**Likely to:** be a fully effective developer and lead a small team of developers **Typical job titles:** senior developer/programmer, designer **Typical experience:** evidence of significant design tasks and in-depth technology knowledge	**Solution Development Practitioner Certificates (x5)** **Optional:** **Business Analysis Essentials**	**Further practitioner certifications Diploma in systems development** **Seek to undertake:** • more challenging work • responsibility for full development cycle • increased breadth of responsibility
Professional	3	3-4 years	**Likely to:** perform development tasks with minimal supervision **Typical job titles:** developer, programmer **Typical experience:** evidence of development cycle application and requirements managment	**Foundation Certificate in Systems Development**	**Practitioner and Intermediate certificates** **Seek to demonstrate:** • increased challenge • increased design focus • automomous work
Associate	2	1-2 years	**Likely to:** perform routine tasks in accordance with organisational practices **Typical experience:** evidence of development tasks, documentation authoring	**Institute membership provides services and benefits to support your career development**	**Foundation in systems development** **Seek to demonstrate:** • competence with organsational practices • competence with organisational technology
Associate	1		**Likely to:** perform straightforward tasks under close supervision	**Review SFIA*plus* for guidance on developing your career ahead of taking specific certifications**	**Seek to become fully effective at following organisational practices**

Career starting point

Your career progression

Career transitions

As you progress along a particular career path, you are likely to develop interests and experience in other areas of IT and, having gained the necessary competencies, you may wish to change the direction of your career.

The typical and possible transitions into and out of this career path are indicated below.

Typically:
• Project management
• Business analysis
• Software testing
• IT service management

Possibly:
• IS consultancy

The following certifications will help you develop your knowledge for more senior roles in solution development and architecture, or in preparation for a transition to another career path:

Foundation
• Green IT
• Information Security Management Principles
• Project Management
• Business Analysis
• Software Testing

Other industry professional certifications are available and will be relevant to you as your career progresses.

Solution development and architecture

Developing effective and efficient IT systems is key to successful business performance. Solution development is a field in IT characterised by a wealth of terminology, a variety of approaches and many standards and recommendations concerning the processes to follow.

Solution development and architecture certifications

Our solution development certifications reflect the diversity of the subject area and strong links to associated disciplines such as software testing, service management and business analysis.

Foundation   Systems Development

Intermediate   Enterprise and Solutions Architecture

Practitioner   Enterprise and Solutions Architecture
Integrating Off-The-Shelf Software Solutions
Systems Design Techniques
Systems Development Essentials
Systems Modelling Techniques

Higher   Solution Development Diploma
Composed of 2 core certificates:
- Systems Development Essentials
- Systems Modelling Techniques

1 of 4 Knowledge certificates:
- Systems Development
- Enterprise and Solutions Architecture (Intermediate)
- ISTQB-BCS Certified Tester Foundation Level
- IT Service Management

1 of 4 Practitioner certificates:
- Business Analysis Essentials
- System Design Techniques
- Enterprise and Solution Architecture (Practitioner)
- Integrating Off-The-Shelf Software Solutions

THE BENEFITS

For IT professionals
- Gain the expertise to deliver high quality solutions
- Modular approach allows you to enhance the skills most relevant to your role
- Structure enables you to demonstrate your knowledge as your career progresses
- Internationally recognised benchmark for developers
- BCS membership available, supporting self-initiated professional development

For employers
- Employees gain skills and knowledge that increase their value to the business
- Significant improvement in systems development leading to measurable results
- Supports your organisation to retain, motivate and recruit the best solution developers and architects
- Aligned with SFIA**plus** providing a clear development path

For training providers
- Develop a complete, structured portfolio of solution development certifications
- Modular certificates can be stand-alone or used as stepping stone to achieving diploma
- Links to other disciplines you may be delivering such as software testing, service management
- Certifications recognised by employers and relevant to career progression
- Institute endorsement for your business and access to an international market

Find out more at
www.bcs.org/solutiondev

About BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT
Our mission as BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT, is to enable the information society. We're championing the global IT profession by giving practitioners the professional development and career support they deserve.

Through our extensive certifications and professional development portfolio, we continue to set professional standards and raise levels of competence and professionalism in the industry. As the professional body for IT, we've an unrivalled insight into the industry and are ideally placed to guide IT professionals through their career and provide employers with expertly trained employees that add real value to their business.

Become a BCS Accredited Training/Examination Partner
The Institute's solution development certifications are aimed at all those involved in or affected by the development of IT systems including business and systems analysts, designers, developers, testers and business users who want an understanding of the concepts behind system development.

When you join our international network of training/examination providers, you can become a part of this internationally-recognised certification programme and start to enjoy the benefits the Institute's endorsement will bring to your business.

www.bcs.org/trainingpartner

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