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Project Management Institute

Disciplined Agile® Value Stream Consultant (DAVSC) Examination Content Outline

April 2021 Exam Update

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INTRODUCTION

PMI certifications are developed by practitioners for practitioners. Our certifications are based on rigorous standard and ongoing research to meet the real-world needs of organizations. PMI agile certifications span beyond any single approach and tailor your way of working to your unique situation. PMI offers a range of agile training and certifications, from a comprehensive introduction to leading agile and lean approaches like Scum, Kanban, SAFe®, and more, to mastery of accelerating value delivery.

The Disciplined Agile Value Stream Consultant (DAVSC) certification focuses on accelerating value delivery at scale by moving beyond individual teams and applying Disciplined Agile across the organization.

The DAVSC certification incorporates practices from Flow, Lean, the Theory of Constraints, and Organizational Development into Disciplined Agile to provide the tools to optimize enterprise-wide value streams.

Requirements for the DAVSC certification include three years of agile experience and the Disciplined Agile Senior Scrum Master (DASSM) certification, to ensure in-depth knowledge of the DA toolkit. Candidates must first complete the virtual three-day instructor led DAVSC course through a PMI Authorized Training Provider (ATP). Upon completion of the DAVSC course, all candidates receive access to the exclusive DAVSC Community of Practice (CoP) for continued learning, knowledge share, and preparation for the exam. Candidates become eligible to schedule and take the exam immediately upon completing 90 days of participation in the DAVSC CoP, with the first exam attempt being included in the course fee. Up to three exam attempts in total are provided within an exam eligibility period of 12 months from the date of course completion. A digital badge will be awarded to all candidates who successfully complete the DAC exam, along with a 12-month renewal period.

PMI conducted a global practice analysis (GPA), which included both extensive market research and a job task analysis (JTA). The GPA identified a number of trends that were used as inputs into the JTA and ensure the validity and relevance of the DAC examination. Validation assures that each examination measures the most critical and frequently performed elements of the project management profession in terms of real settings. PMI strives to ensure its certifications meet market needs and expectations as well as deliver value to both individuals and organizations.

The DAVSC examination is the final step in earning this professional certification, thus it is imperative that the exam accurately reflects the practices of individuals who act as agile transformation consultants to organizations seeking to achieve organizational agility using Disciplined Agile. All the questions on the examination have been written and extensively reviewed by subject matter experts and can be found in a minimum of two references. These questions are mapped to the DAVSC ECO to ensure that an appropriate number of questions are in place for valid examination.

PMI retained Alpine Testing Solutions to develop the global DAVSC ECO. Alpine Testing Solutions provides psychometric, test development, and credential management solutions to credentialing and educational programs.

Finally, it is important to note that the volunteer taskforce involved in the GPA study described previously were not bound by any one particular practice guide or textbook. The taskforce members were charged with outlining critical job tasks of individuals at the agile coach level based on their experience and pertinent resources.

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Disciplined Agile® Value Stream Consultant (DAVSC) Exam Content Outline

DAVSC Course Outline

- -Value Stream Consultant: Role and Work
- -The Idealized Value Stream
- -Removing Delays in the Workflow
- -The Minimum Business Increment
- -The Discovery Workflow and the Development Intake Process
- -Business Increment Planning and Coordination
- -Cadence
- -Reducing (Not Accommodating) Dependencies
- -Factors for Effective Value Streams
- -Value Creation Structure
- -Agile Budgeting and Lean Funding
- -Creating Visibility Across the Organization
- -Key Roles
- -End of Increment Activities

Examination Blueprint

The following table identifies the proportion of questions from each domain that will appear on the examination.

Domain	Percentage or Items on Test
1. Assess Goals and Strategies	7.5%
2. Identify and Analyze the Value Stream	27.5%
3. Optimize and Improve the Value Stream	25%
4. Creating the Improvement Backlog	20%
5. Managing the Transition and Ongoing Improvement	20%
Total	100%

1	Assess Goals and Strategies	7.5%
1.1	Describe the Clients and (internal and external) motivation and expectations	
1.2	Determine extent or scope of engagement and possible transformation	
1.3	Facilitate client discussion, share, and align approaches with stakeholders based upon findings	
2	Identify and Analyze the Value Stream	27.5%
2.1	Identify the value stream	
2.2	Identify organizational structure and culture	
2.3	Identify motivation	
2.4	Describe the value creation structure	
2.5	Explain where agile budgeting and funding strategy activities take place in the value stream	
2.6	Map 'as is' end-to-end process	
2.7	Walk the floor to determine correctness of map and identify constraints and restraints	
2.8	Analyze and illustrate value stream metrics (cycle time, lead time, etc.)	
2.9	Advise stakeholders on backlog of improvements and prioritize	
2.10	Describe how an MBI is used in a Disciplined Agile workflow – including who uses it and why it is used	
3	Optimize and Improve the Value Stream	25%
3.1	Demonstrate quick feedback cycles across the value stream	
3.2	Demonstrate explicit workflow so people can understand what the agreements are between the groups	
3.3	Apply a holistic view	
3.4	Use a combination of eliminate delays, quick feedback, visibility and focus on value to align people across the organization	
3.5	Explain how visual controls can be used to keep people coordinated with fewer meetings	
3.6	Identify strategies for risk issues and opportunities (internal and external)	
3.7	Describe each role and its range of influence and participation across the value stream	
3.8	Describe value stream-aligned teams and how they are aligned within an organization using the DA FLEX approach	

Identify and describe strategies, systems, processes, and tools that reduce and remove dependencies	
Explain how the use of MBIs can coordinate people and teams around the flow of work in order to improve the flow of value	
Creating the improvement of backlog	20%
Identify areas needed for improvement	
Create areas of improvement for backlog	
Advise stakeholders and teams (organizational enablers) who will support value stream enhancements or improvements	
Understand the relationship between culture, management, and visual controls	
Align value stream to portfolio – project to product	
Establish a continuous pipeline (customer service after implementation, continuous implementation)	
Managing the transitions and ongoing improvement	20%
Understand the neutral zone	
Model a cadence of improvement and acknowledge success and pivot on failures	
Understand different types of starting and agree on pace of adoption	
Apply methods to create backlog to do guided continuous improvement	
Organize teams to coordinate and facilitate the transition	
Explain to stakeholders how improvements are focused around increased value	
Attend to operations, enabling and supporting value streams	
Prepare organization to sustain new changes (validate progress and added value)	
	and remove dependencies Explain how the use of MBIs can coordinate people and teams around the flow of work in order to improve the flow of value Creating the improvement of backlog Identify areas needed for improvement Create areas of improvement for backlog Advise stakeholders and teams (organizational enablers) who will support value stream enhancements or improvements Understand the relationship between culture, management, and visual controls Align value stream to portfolio – project to product Establish a continuous pipeline (customer service after implementation, continuous implementation) Managing the transitions and ongoing improvement Understand the neutral zone Model a cadence of improvement and acknowledge success and pivot on failures Understand different types of starting and agree on pace of adoption Apply methods to create backlog to do guided continuous improvement Organize teams to coordinate and facilitate the transition Explain to stakeholders how improvements are focused around increased value Attend to operations, enabling and supporting value streams Prepare organization to sustain new changes (validate progress and added

DAVSC Application and Payment

DAVSC Eligibility Requirements

The first step towards obtaining the DAVSC certification is to successfully complete the instructor-led three-day DAVSC course offered virtually by a PMI Authorized Training Provider (ATP). Upon completion of the course, candidates may submit an application for the certification exam.

To be eligible for the DAVSC certification, you need three years of agile experience and the Disciplined Agile Senior Scrum Master (DASSM) certification to ensure in-depth knowledge of the DA tool kit, along with the practices and strategies it contains. Candidates will be required to attend a three-day training course offered by an Authorized Training Provider. Upon completion of the three-day course, candidates are admitted into the exclusive DAVSC Community of Practice, which provides additional learning, exam preparation opportunities, and the DAVSC Case Study. Exam questions matched to the DAVSC Case Study are represented in each domain of the DAVSC examination blueprint. After three months of membership in the DAVSC Community of Practice, candidates will become eligible to register for the DAVSC exam. All DAVSC exams are delivered online through our testing partner, Pearson Vue.

Agile Experience		Certification
Three Years (36 Months) of Agile Experience	AND	Disciplined Agile Senior Scrum Master (DASSM)

How to Record Your Agile Experience on the Application

Use the agile experience section of the online application to record the required three years of experience.

Enter your experience beginning with the most recent. The application will automatically calculate the total months from the start date to finish. Overlapping experience entries will not be calculated as separate entries.

You will be prompted to complete the following fields:

- Project/Product Name
- Organization
- Job Title
- Functional Reporting Area
- Organization Primary Focus
- Team Size
- Agile Methodology
- Experience Description (high-level description summarizing the experience, including outcome, role, responsibilities, and deliverables typical response: 200-500 words)

Application Processing

PMI strives to process applications in a timely manner. Applications will be processed within five business days. This processing timeframe does not apply if your application has been selected for PMI's audit process (refer to the PMI Audit Process section in the handbook for more details).

DAVSC Certification Fees

The fees for obtaining the DAVSC Certification are subject to membership and regional pricing. Membership is NOT required to obtain the DAVSC. Initial examination fees must be paid after applications have been approved before you can schedule your examination. The course fee includes your first exam attempt and is paid directly to the Authorized Training Provider.

You are granted a 1-year eligibility period in which to pass the examination. During the eligibility period, you may take the examination up to three times, as candidates do not always pass the examination on their first attempt.

If you need to retake the exam, and your eligibility period is still current, you may do so by submitting the reexam fee by accessing your candidate MyPMI profile on PMI.org.

The DAVSC certification is valid for one year and can be renewed by earning & reporting 7 PDUs related to agile content and submitting the annual renewal fee. Renewing your DAVSC Certification will require a payment based on membership and regional pricing

We currently support U.S. dollar, euro, Brazilian real (BRL), and Indian rupee (INR) currencies.

PMI accepts the following payment methods of credit cards and wire transfers.

Please note that reexamination fees are waived for candidates who have had their exam scores invalidated solely due to data forensics evidence.

DAVSC Examination Information

The DAVSC examination is comprised of 40 multiple-choice questions. There are no pretest questions included in the DAVSC exam. All questions are placed throughout the examination randomly. A unique case-study was developed to compliment the DAVSC course content and made available to all candidates by the course instructor and in the DAVSC Community of Practice. Questions matched to the DAVSC case-study are represented within each domain of the DAVSC examination blueprint.

No. of Scored Questions	No. of Pretest (Unscored) Questions	Total Examination Questions
40	0	40

The total time to complete the DAVSC examination including disclosures and tutorials is 120 minutes.

Allotted Examination Time	
90 minutes	15

It may take some certification candidates less than the allotted 120 minutes to complete the examination.

The DAVSC exam includes a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) prior to beginning the exam with a duration of five minutes, a tutorial with a duration of 10 minutes, and a post-exam 15-minute survey. Total exam time is 150 minutes. The DAVSC exam does not include scheduled breaks.

Exam results are made available immediately upon completion of the exam and are accessible in your Pearson Vue Dashboard by clicking on "View Score Reports". The extent of the information provided in the exam score report is a "pass/fail" indication. A passing score is not made available for DA certifications.

Retaking the Exam

All candidates are provided up to three exam attempts within a 12-month exam eligibility period. In the event of three unsuccessful exam attempts within a single 12-month period, there will be a 45-day waiting period before you can be eligible again. Following the 45-day waiting period, candidates are provided with a new set of three exam attempts within a 12-month exam eligibility period.

During the 45-day waiting period, PMI encourages candidates to leverage the course content provided and Community of Practice resources in preparation for the exam.

Payment for the exam can be submitted from the MyPMI certification dashboard on pmi.org.







Contact: 1worldtraining.org | Website: https://1worldtraining.org/

