Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP): Suplementary Information to Candidates

This cybersecurity certification is an elite way to demonstrate your knowledge, advance your career and become a member of a community of cybersecurity leaders. It shows you have all it takes to design, engineer, implement and run an information security program.

The CISSP is an objective measure of excellence. It's the most globally recognized standard of achievement in the industry. And this cybersecurity certification was the first information security credential to meet the strict conditions of ISO/IEC Standard 17024.

Here you can find useful information as published by (ISC)².

1. Steps to Certification

Step 1: Meet CISSP Eligibility

To qualify for this cybersecurity certification, you must have:

(a) At least five years of cumulative, paid work experience
(b) Work experience must be in two or more of the eight domains of the (ISC)²-CISSP Common Body of Knowledge (CBK)

Learn more about CISSP Experience Requirements in the next section.

Don't have the required work experience yet? Pass the CISSP exam to earn an Associate of (ISC)2 designation. Then, you'll have up to six years to earn your required work experience for the CISSP.

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Step 2: Create an Account at Pearson VUE and Schedule Your Exam

To schedule an exam, you must create an account at Pearson VUE.

Pearson VUE is the leading provider of global, computer-based testing for certification and licensure exams. You can find details on testing locations, policies, accommodations and more on their website.

Once you've set up your account and are ready to register, you'll need to:

Complete the Examination Agreement. You agree to the truth of your assertions regarding professional experience. You also legally commit to the adherence of the (ISC)² Code of Ethics.

Review the Candidate Background Questions.

Pay the exam fee.

Step 3: Pass the Exam

This is the day to show your greatness! You'll have **3 hours** to complete a maximum of 150 exam items on the CISSP exam.

You must pass the exam with a scaled score of 700 points or greater.

NOTE: The (ISC)² CISSP English exam will be conducted via Computerized Adaptive Testing (CAT) only.

If you are taking the CISSP exam in any language other than English, you will be evaluated using a linear, fixed-form exam based on the same exam content outline. You will have a maximum of 6 hours to complete 250 exam items.

Step 4: Subscribe to the (ISC)² Code of Ethics and Get Endorsed

Let's say you pass the exam. Then what?

Before this cybersecurity certification can be awarded, you have to:

- Subscribe to the (ISC)² Code of Ethics.
- Have your application endorsed.

Your endorsement form must be completed and signed by an (ISC)² certified professional. He or she needs to be an active member who can confirm your professional experience.

(ISC)² can endorse you if you can't find a certified individual.

You have nine months from the date of the exam to complete these steps. If you don't, you have to retake the exam to get certified.

2. **CISSP Experience Requirements**

Candidates must have a **minimum of five years** cumulative paid work experience in **two or more of the eight domains** of the CISSP CBK. Earning a four-year college degree or regional equivalent or an additional credential from the (ISC)² approved list will satisfy one year of the required experience. Education credit will only satisfy one year of experience.

A candidate who doesn't have the required experience to become a CISSP may become an Associate of (ISC)² by successfully passing the CISSP examination. The Associate of (ISC)² will then have six years to earn the five years required experience.

Work Experience

Your work experience must fall within two or more of the eight domains of the (ISC)² CISSP CBK:

- Domain 1. Security and Risk Management
- Domain 2. Asset Security
- Domain 3. Security Architecture and Engineering
- Domain 4. Communication and Network Security
- Domain 5. Identity and Access Management (IAM)
- Domain 6. Security Assessment and Testing
- Domain 7. Security Operations
- Domain 8. Software Development Security

Full-Time Experience: Your work experience is accrued monthly. Thus, you must have worked a minimum of 35 hours/week for four weeks in order to accrue one month of work experience.

Part-Time Experience: Your part-time experience cannot be less than 20 hours a week and no more than 34 hours a week.

- 1040 hours of part-time = 6 months of full time experience
- 2080 hours of part-time = 12 months of full time experience

Internship: Paid or unpaid internship is acceptable. You will need documentation on company/organization letterhead confirming your position as an intern. If you are interning at a school, the document can be on the registrar's stationery.

Relevant Education or Certifications Held

You may satisfy one year of required experience through holding one of the following below (you will then need four years of relevant work experience):

Four-Year College Degree or Regional Equivalent.

You can substitute a maximum of one-year work experience if you hold a four-year college degree or regional equivalent or an advanced degree in information security from the U.S. National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education (CAE/IAE).

OR:

Approved Credential on the (ISC)² Approved List (more details on the website). You can satisfy one-year work experience if you hold one of the approved credentials on the below (ISC)² approved list.

3. CISSP Computerized Adaptive Testing

(ISC)² has introduced Computerized Adaptive Testing (CAT) for all English CISSP exams worldwide. Based on the same exam content outline as the linear, fixed-form exam, CISSP CAT is a more precise and efficient evaluation of your competency. CISSP CAT enables you to prove your knowledge by answering fewer items and completing the exam in half the time.

How Does it Work?

Each candidate taking the CISSP CAT exam will start with an item that is well below the passing standard. Following a candidate's response to an item, the scoring algorithm re-estimates the candidate's ability based on the difficulty of all items presented and answers provided. With each additional item answered, the computer's estimate of the candidate's ability becomes more precise – gathering as much information as possible about a candidate's true ability level more efficiently than traditional, linear exams.

This more precise evaluation enables us to reduce the maximum exam administration time from 6 hours to 3 hours, and it reduces the items necessary to accurately assess a candidate's ability from 250 items on a linear, fixed-form exam to as little as 100 items on the CISSP CAT exam.

The exam content outline and passing standard for both versions of the examination are exactly the same. Each candidate will be assessed on the same content and must demonstrate the same level of competency regardless of the exam format.

CISSP exams in all other languages, as well as all CISSP concentration exams are delivered as linear, fixed-form exams.

4. CISSP Training Course Overview

Our training helps you fully prepare for this cybersecurity certification. You will:

(a) Review, refresh and expand your information security knowledge (including information security concepts and industry best practices).
(b) Identify areas you need to study for the CISSP exam.

You can expect an in-depth review of the eight domains of the CISSP CBK — including discussion of industry best practices and timely security concepts.

(ISC)² authorized instructors lead all our training. You're learning from CISSP-certified industry experts who understand you. They are CISSPs themselves. They know how to make the content highly relatable. And they go through a rigorous process to teach to (ISC)² CBK.

5. Study Materials

The following materials are included in the official student's kits.

(a) Official (ISC)² Guide to the CISSP CBK

The Official (ISC)² Guide to the CISSP CBK, Fifth Edition provides a comprehensive study of the refreshed eight domains. This book covers the most current topics in the information security industry today and includes numerous illustrated examples and practical exercises are included in this book to demonstrate concepts and real-life scenarios.

(b) Official CISSP Flash Cards

Study for the CISSP exam anytime, anywhere with Official CISSP Flash Cards! This unique, interactive way tests your knowledge of industry terms while providing you with immediate feedback about whether or not your answer is correct.

(c) 125 Assessment Questions

These questions are intended to assess your knowledge and progress, as part of your preparation for test-day.

Please refer to the official (ISC)² website to find out more: www.isc2.org