

CDMP FAQ

Certificated Data Management Professional

Frequently Asked Questions

Drafted Summer 2009, with input from DAMA IRMAC Chapter Toronto Canada.

Updated December 2009 and April 2010 by P. Cupoli, DAMA ICCP Director

What is the CDMP?

CDMP stands for "Certified Data Management Professional". It is the only non-proprietary, widely recognized data management certification. The certification program was jointly constructed by DAMA International (DAMA) and the Institute for Certification of Computer Professionals (ICCP). DAMA owns the CDMP certification, and ICCP administers and delivers exams, provides all record keeping. ICCP exam and course sessions are NOT offered by DAMA or its chapters directly; the ICCP has an agreement with DAMA International to offer exams and courses in conjunction with DAMA chapters and conference locations.

Depending on your area of focus, you can choose which exams you wish to take.

Source: www.iccp.org

What are the benefits of attaining the CDMP certification?

The financial benefits of the CDMP and of a professional certification over a vendor specific certification are discussed in greater detail at:

<http://www.iccp.org/iccpnew/faq.html>

- A practical means of assessing your skills and experience.*
- Help in your career advancement and compensation.*
- The satisfaction of measuring yourself against the highest industry standards.*
- Membership in a distinctive peer group made up of your fellow professionals.*
- Recognition for your specialized knowledge in a choice of seventeen specialty areas.*
- The opportunity to test your knowledge in a specific area of the profession by earning a proficiency certificate.*
- For people new to the industry, an entry-level exam designed to measure their standing -- and provide a starting point for building their professional careers through recognition as an Associate Computing Professional (ACP). For beginning Data Management Professionals, a CDMP Practitioner level is available.*
- Successfully passed exams can count as college credit through ACE accreditation.*

What is the ICCP?

The Institute for the Certification of Computing Professionals is an institution for professional certification in the computer engineering and information technology industry. It was founded in 1973. Under the direction of 7 constituent societies (including DAMA International) and 19 affiliate societies, ICCP actively promotes these standards by offering the only broadly applicable and internationally recognized certification program in the profession.

Source: www.Wikipedia.org

How do I attain the CDMP certification?

In 2010, the CDMP exam requirements are changing. You must pass three (3) exams:

- *An IS CORE skills exam (mandatory)*
- *Data Management Core exam (mandatory) (in beta 2010)*
- *One (1) additional specialty exam of your choice*

The specialty exams are chosen from a small pool of exams, allowing you to focus on your area of interest as depicted in the DAMA-DMBOK. These areas of interest are:

- *Data Development (in beta 2010)*
- *Data Operations and Security (in beta 2010)*
- *Data Warehousing*
- *Data & Information Quality*
- *Zachman Enterprise Architecture Framework²*
- *Business Intelligence & Analytics*

Note: If you started your CDMP exam taking earlier than 2010, you can still take Data Management and DBA exams for your CDMP. These exams will be retired at a future point of time after the beta period for above exams has concluded.

Each exam costs \$285 USD (US dollars) - pass or fail.

Exams must be proctored by a certified CDMP in good standing

The study materials (depending on the format you choose) will cost upwards of \$300 USD. So you should budget about \$1,200 USD to attain the CDMP certification.

From time to time, beta exams are offered when they are being developed or updated. Generally these can be taken for FREE, and with a small conversion fee (\$195 USD), successful completion can be applied towards a CDMP certification.

I already hold another certification, can I use it towards my CDMP? How much does this cost?

If you hold of one or more of the following certifications listed at:

<http://www.iccp.org/iccpnew/ccp.html#substitutions>, your certification can be substituted for one of the two elective exams, but not more. You will still be required to write the CORE IS Skills exam, in addition to the Data Management Core exam, thereby reducing the number of exams you need to write from 3 to 2.

If you are substituting an acceptable certification for one CDMP specialty exam, you need to submit a current copy of the certificate as proof of your certification to the ICCP with a fee of \$125 USD. Certifications must be current and in good standing.

After I obtain my CDMP, can I use it to obtain another certification? How much does this cost?

If you want to use your CDMP towards another certification, you must fulfill the requirements of all involved certifications, including acceptable exams, work experience and education.

The following fees apply. The conversion from CBIP to CDMP is \$125 USD. The conversion from CDMP to CBIP is \$300 USD. The conversion from CDMP to CCP is \$125 USD.

Also the substitution of specialty exams applies to the CDMP and CCP, not the CBIP.

What are the time limits and timeframes?

For the exams themselves, the time limit for each exam is 90 minutes.

Upon signing up for an exam, the student must take the exam within 90 days.

All exams must be completed within 3 years from the time the first exam was taken.

If a beta exam is applied towards the CDMP, this must be done within 1 year of taking that beta exam.

Where can I get certified ?

Contact the ICCP at office@iccp.org, (847)299-4227 or (800-843-8227) to arrange for exam taking. They guarantee that exams can be arranged for around the world.

The CDMP application is located at <http://www.dama.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3399>.

If you are arranging for an exam proctor yourself, guidelines can be found at <http://www.iccp.org/iccpnew/testing.html>.

DAMA chapters from time to time arrange for exam sessions; and there is a sharing of arrangements with ICCP in that case. Cram courses are also offered by ICCP usually just before the exam sessions at

chapters and at conferences. Additionally in Canada, both IRMAC (Information Resource Management Association of Canada), a DAMA Affiliate HQ in Toronto, and CIPS (Canadian Information Processing Society), provide CDMP proctoring services and facilities.

The exams are offered each year at the Enterprise Data World conference.

Can I take the test from home over the Internet?

Yes and no. The exam can be taken over the Internet, but still requires an authorized human proctor to be present. Immediate test results are given upon exam completion. Appointments must be made with the ICCP office. You need a webcam, microphone and ID.

The following ICCP web page provides information on how to do this.

<http://www.iccp.org/iccpnew/internettest.html>

Exams can also be taken using a USB key arranged for in advance with the ICCP. The USB key also provides immediate test results upon exam completion. Students will be expected to bring a laptop. If the student cannot obtain a lap, a local sponsoring DAMA chapter may provide a loaner laptop for the duration of the exam; however this is a local arrangement.

Exams and study courses are offered on an occasional basis, please contact office@iccp.org for details and to express interest.

You will receive your certificate and official exam performance profile from the ICCP office in about one month after you take the exams.

Are there different levels of CDMP certification?

Yes, if you pass the exams with an average score of > 70% you will receive the "Masters" designation. Those that pass the exam, but do not obtain a 70% score will receive the "Practitioners" designation.

For the CDMP Mastery Level: Candidates must pass each exam, e.g. the IS Core (mandatory), Data Management Core (mandatory) and one data specialty exam of your choice at the 70% level or higher.

For the CDMP Practitioner Level: Candidates must pass each exam, e.g. the IS Core (mandatory), Data Management Core (mandatory), and one data specialty exam of your choice at the 50% level or higher.

You can retake the exam(s) later to upgrade your standing from Practitioners to Masters.

What are the study materials and how do I obtain them?

Study materials can be obtained through the ICCP. The study materials required are:

1. *The CORE IS Skills Package to prepare for the CORE IS Skills exam costs \$215 USD.*
2. *The CDMP examination guide. This guide outlines the source materials to prepare for each specific elective exam, so your actual cost of study materials will depend on which area of interest you are focused on (and hence which study materials are required). The guide costs \$89 USD.*
 - *You can either purchase or borrow from the library the referenced materials in this study guide.*
3. *Data Management Study Guide – particular to that exam*
4. *Data Warehousing Study Guide - particular to that exam*

Additionally the DAMA Guide to the Data Management Body of Knowledge (DAMA-DMBOK) and the DAMA Dictionary of Data Management can be purchased from Amazon.com and in the future will be included in CDMP course materials.

All materials can be purchased from this web site: <http://www.iccp.org/iccpnew/materials.html>.

If purchasing materials is a concern, contact your local DAMA Chapter to see if there is a program for loaning out or subsidizing the materials to chapter members.

Exam Cram courses are also available from the ICCP. Contact office@iccp.org for further information.

What CDMP services can a DAMA Chapter provide?

IRMAC has provided an example in deciding to take a group and session based approach to the exams. Namely, IRMAC offers a select number of sessions per year to which, if you join the session, offering the following advantages:

1. *Students can study with CDMP peers*
2. *Students can share study materials and study material costs with past and present students*
3. *The examination facility is centrally located in a subway accessible facility in Toronto (CIPS is based out of Mississauga), or another central Toronto location arranged by IRMAC.*

What happens after I am certified?

After gaining the CDMP, there is an annual recertification fee of \$75 USD. Every 3 years, 120 credits of mandatory Personal Development units in Data Management must be performed and registered with the ICCP in order to keep the CDMP certification in good standing. The goals of continuing professional development are:

1. To maintain professional competence.
2. To update existing knowledge and skills.
3. To attain new or additional knowledge and skills.

Note: if you obtain both the CDMP and CCP, the fee is still \$75 USD per year. If you obtain a CDMP and/or CCP and the CBIP, the annual fee is \$125 USD. Annual fee payment can be handled through <http://www.iccp.org/iccpnew/recertification.html>. You will receive an annual ICCP transcript of your continuing education contact hours.

The recertification cycle begins at various times, depending on what certification you obtain first. For the CDMP or CCP, your recertification cycle starts in January of the following year after you complete certification requirements. For the CBIP, your recertification cycle begins in the month following your completion of certification requirements.

If unemployed, underemployed, retired or have lapsed certification, contact ICCP office (office@iccp.org) to maintain / reinstate your professional development / recertification status.

For further information, the ICCP Recertification brochure is located at <http://www.iccp.org/iccpnew/recertification.html>. Posting of Recertification / Professional Development contact hours can be done at <http://www.iccp.org/cgi-bin/pdfform.php>. Although documentation is not necessary to submit, do keep it in case you are audited.

What type of professional activities qualifies for professional development or recertification?

Many different activities qualify for professional development or recertification. They include:

- Formal educational institutions
- Independent organized programs (other professional credentials - max: 40 hrs/per different credential achieved)
- Professional society meetings, seminars, conferences
- Write ICCP examination questions
- Articles, teaching, lecturing (max: 60 hrs)
- Self-study programs (max: 60 hrs)
- Sit for same or other ICCP examinations
- As a volunteer (non-compensated), serve as an Elected Official, Committee/Council Member of a Professional Organization (max: 20 hrs)

How to Determine Contact Hours

Activity	How to Determine Contact Hours
* Formal educational institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Quarter Hour = 8 contact hours • 1 Semester Hour = 12 contact hours • 1 Continuing Education Unit (CEU) = 10 contact hours
* Independent organized programs * Professional society meetings, seminars, conferences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count contact hours of education program content (not breaks or meals) • 1 contact hour = 1 hour of educational activity
* Teaching, lecturing, presenting * Self-study programs * Published article, book	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count contact hours of education activity content • 1 contact hour = 1 hour of educational activity • For each activity category, credit limited to 60 contact hours per 3 year period
* Sit for other ICCP exams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Depends on exam score: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 70% or higher = 60 contact hours - 60 - 69% = 30 contact hours - 50 - 59% = 20 contact hours - Less than 50 % = 0 contact hours
* Submit exam questions to ICCP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 recertification contact hours will be granted for each exam question accepted by the respective ICCP Certification Council
* Hold an executive or administrative role in a professional society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count contact hours of serving on professional association boards • 1 contact hour = 1 hour of educational activity • For this activity category, contact hours maximum is 20 recertification contact hours total per 3 year period
* Serve on the ICCP Certification Council / committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count contact hours of serving on ICCP Certification Council • 1 contact hour = 1 hour of educational activity • For this activity category, contact hours maximum is 20 recertification contact hours total per 3 year period
* Serve a leadership role in a Business / Computing industry society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count contact hours of serving on business / computing industry society boards • 1 contact hour = 1 hour of educational activity • For this activity category, contact hours maximum is 20 recertification contact hours total per 3 year period

Some Sources of Free Webinars

These sites will periodically list / send out notices of free data management webinars open to anyone.

1 contact hour = 1 hour of educational or professional development activity.

- www.b-eye-network.com
- www.information-management.com/
- www.ricoslist.com
- www.searchbusinessanalytics.com
- www.searchdatamanagement.com
- www.tdwi.org