



Your Certification Journey Timeline

A guide to prepare for your certification exam

Due Date



12 Months

- Begin research
- Determine eligibility through the certifying agency
- Set your exam date goal



9 Months

- Review the **Exam Blueprint**
- Review the Candidate Handbook
- Create a **Study Plan**



5-6 Months

- **Apply** for the certification exam
- Complete a **Self-Assessment Exam**
- Begin studying and working practice questions
- Dedicate a time and place to study



4-5 Months

- Take an **exam prep course**
- Purchase your exam
- **Schedule** your exam date



1-3 Months

- Complete your Course
- **Practice, Practice, Practice** with sample questions
- Concentrate on your weaker subjects



1-2 Weeks

- Take a **dry run** to the examination center (drive there at your scheduled exam time, check-in, etc.)
- Sit for a 5-6 hour period working practice questions



Day Before

- Close the books
- Gather exam day items (authorization letter, required identification, and calculator, if applicable)
- Eat a good dinner and get a good night's rest



Exam Day

- Eat a good meal and avoid excessive caffeine
- Meditate, take some relaxing breaths
- Give yourself a pat on the back and take the exam



Celebrate!!

You did it! Pass or Fail, be proud of yourself!



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