

About the Course

This course is a three-day tutor-led course, with exam preparation, revision and the examination on the afternoon of the third day.

The ISTQB-ISEB Certified Tester Foundation Level is ideal for all who have an interest in understanding the basic concepts of software testing and has been rated SFIA Plus level 3 by the BCS.

The qualifications are principally aimed at anyone involved in software testing. This includes people in roles such as testers, test analysts, test engineers, test consultants, test managers, user acceptance testers and software developers.

This Foundation Level qualification is also appropriate for anyone who wants a basic understanding of software testing, such as project managers, quality managers, software development managers, business analysts, IT directors and management consultants.

It examines up to level K3 of the given learning objectives / levels of knowledge. We recommend that candidates taking this course spend some time in preparation by studying and becoming familiar with the learning objectives and syllabus for the course.

The Exam

The examination lasts one hour and consists of 40 multiple-choice questions. It's a 'closed book' examination i.e. no notes or books are allowed into the examination room. The pass mark is 26/40.

Course Objectives

- to prepare candidates for the ISEB Foundation Certificate in Software Testing based on the ISTQB syllabus;
- to improve understanding of software testing - its purpose and nature - and to raise awareness of issues and constraints around testing;
- to provide a professional qualification widely recognised by employers, customers and peers;
- to introduce test techniques (static, white box and black box) to delegates as well as providing practical experience of some key techniques;
- to learn standard terminology;
- to provide a complete picture of the test activities and processes from requirements review to system implementation; and to discover good sources of information.

The objectives for the qualification are in the ISTQB syllabus and include:

- enabling software suppliers to hire certified testers and thereby gain commercial advantage over their competitors by advertising their tester recruitment policy; and
- enabling comparison of testing skills across different countries, testers to move across country borders more easily and multi-national/international projects to have a common understanding of testing issues.

Entry Requirements

- The candidate should have a basic working knowledge of IT.
- It is recommended that you attend an ISEB approved training course run by an accredited training provider.
- The overall public exam pass rates are notably higher for candidates who have attended an accredited training course.

Syllabus – Key points

The fundamentals of testing:

- Why testing is necessary; harm caused by defects in software; root causes; testing and quality assurance; what testing is; general testing principles; fundamental test process and the psychology of testing.

Testing throughout the software life cycle:

- Software development models; relationship between development, test activities and work products in the development life cycle, project and product characteristics and context; test levels, objectives, typical objects and targets of testing; functional, non-functional, structural and change-related testing; confirmation and regression testing; maintenance testing; regression testing and impact analysis in maintenance.

Static techniques:

- Reviews and the test process; software work products and the different static techniques; importance and value of static techniques; difference between static and dynamic techniques; typical formal review process; different types of review: informal review, technical review, walkthrough and inspection; explain the factors for successful performance of reviews; static analysis by tools; defects and errors identified by static analysis; typical benefits; typical code and design defects identified.

Test design techniques

- Identifying test conditions and designing test cases; categories of test design techniques; specification-based (black-box) and structure-based (white-box) approaches; equivalence partitioning; boundary value analysis; decision tables; state transition diagrams, use case testing; structure-based or white-box techniques; code coverage; statement and decision coverage; control flows using statement testing and decision testing; coverage; experience based techniques; choosing techniques.

Test management

- Test organization; independent testing; tasks of typical test leader and tester; test planning and estimation; 'Standard for Software Test Documentation' (IEEE 829); typical factors that influence the effort related to testing; estimation approaches (metrics-based and expert-based); test preparation and execution tasks; exit criteria; test progress monitoring and control; metrics and reporting; configuration management; risk and testing; incident reporting and management.

Tool support for testing

- Types of test tool; effective use of tools; potential benefits and risks; introducing a tool into an organization.

Next steps

- The next step from this qualification is the Intermediate Certificate in Software Testing, although this is not a pre-requisite for the ISTQB Advanced courses.
- There is also the Advanced level qualifications which comprise of Test Analyst, Test Manager and Technical Test Analyst.

How to buy

- Call TSG +44 (0)20 7469 1500
- Visit our website at <http://testing-solutions.com/training/courses>