

A 2.5-day formal assessment center facilitated by the APM - The APM PQ assessment is a demanding three day assessment center which involves a mixture of group work and written assessment. The APM PQ qualification aligns to level C of the IPMA's international classification system.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

On completion of this course participants will have demonstrated an overall '**Upper Intermediate**' **Competence Level** in Project Management.

The attainment of the APM PQ provides evidence that an individual:

- Understands project context and the overall business case;
- Effectively applies project management planning;
- Can apply a risk management process competently to the project;
- Is able to optimize project plans to respond to a major change;
- Can monitor project progress and take suitable controlling action;
- Plans and conduct a suitable post project evaluation review;
- Works effectively as a team member.

ASSESSMENT METHOD

This assessment is highly interactive and demands the full participation of the candidates in order to demonstrate the correct behaviors and knowledge to pass. The use of the case study allows the assessors to observe how each candidate approaches the task, their level of ability to conduct the processes and the way that they interact with group members.

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WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

The APM PQ is for Project Managers, Project Coordinators and Team Leaders with more than three years' experience of managing non-complex projects across their whole life-cycle or those who have managed a key control function of a complex project.

The suitability of each candidate must be verified by an approved center (20|20) prior to being put forward for the exam. The approved provider will be responsible for verifying that candidates either have passed the APMP exam, can demonstrate good familiarity with the APM BoK (or equivalent), or can demonstrate good foundation knowledge by providing CPD evidence.

The assessment is looking for individuals to demonstrate the desired behavioral characteristics of a project management professional. The characteristics sought are: open positive attitude, Common sense, open mindedness, adaptability, inventiveness, prudent risk taking, fairness, and commitment.

OVERVIEW

It is an assessment designed to observe leadership and team working behaviors as well as prove a deeper and practical working knowledge of the management of projects. The assessment center is formally invigilated under examination conditions by an appointed APM facilitator as well as an assessor per group of four candidates.

The assessors grade candidates against a set of 30 assessment criteria through the demonstration of knowledge and behaviors during a series of individual written activities, group planning activities and an individual interview.

The assessment uses a case study project to create activities and exercises that facilitate the responses that the assessors are looking for- evidence of knowledge and ability against the assessment criteria.

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ASSESSMENT CONTENT

The areas which are tested are:

- **Project management in context**
 - Project management
 - Project context
 - Project sponsorship
- **Executing the strategy**
 - Scope management
 - Scheduling
 - Resource management
 - Budgeting and cost management
 - Change control
 - Information management and reporting
 - Issue management
- **Business and commercial**
 - Business case
 - Procurement
 - Legal awareness
- **People**
 - Communication
 - Teamwork
 - Leadership
 - Conflict management
 - Negotiation
- **Planning the strategy**
 - Project success and benefits management
 - Stakeholder management
 - Value management
 - Project management plan
 - Project risk management
 - Project quality management
- **Techniques**
 - Requirements management
 - Estimating
 - Configuration management
- **Organization and governance**
 - Project life cycles
 - Concept
 - Definition
 - Implementation
 - Handover and closeout
 - Project reviews
 - Organization structure
 - Organizational roles