How to Prepare for the APICS CSCP Exam
March 15, 2016 Webinar

Thank you to all of our webinar attendees. Below is the list of submitted questions with answers. We are here to support the achievement of your professional designation. If you have additional questions, please contact our staff at pdadmin@apics.org.

Question
If I take the CSCP Exams in AFRICA and get certified and then I relocate to the US or Canada. Would I be required to regularize my certificate in other to practice in these region?

Answer
The certification is not region specific. Once you have successfully completed the exam your certification is acceptable worldwide.

Question
On the context of the pre-test, can you provide feedback on score ranges?

Answer
There are no scores for the pre-test questions. Answers are reviewed by the certification committed and at then it is determined whether the question will be added to the scored questions.

Question
Pre test can be taken from Apic website for the 2015 exam?

Answer
The pre-test questions are not available for viewing. They are a part of the final exam.

Question
Could you please give us the learning system pre-test exam hyperlink?

Answer
When you purchase the CSCP Learning System a link will be provided to take the pre-exam quizzes.

Question
How many questions does the practice-test have online?

Answer
The entire CSCP Learning System includes over 1200 practice test questions – the Posttest contains 50 questions cover topics across the entire Learning System. The Practice Exam contains 50 retired CSCP exam questions and simulates the Pearson VUE computer-based CSCP examination experience.
**Question**
The number of 'pre-test' questions strikes me as quite high (16.7% of total number in 2015, 15.4% of total number in 2016), I understand why you need them - for market research, developing new questions etc. but why such a high percentage of total?

**Answer**
Pre-test questions on a certification exam is a best practice standard that is highly recommended for certifying bodies to gather research information. The general rule of thumb is 10-30% of the total number of questions on the exam. The pre-test questions are mapped to the certification body of knowledge.

**Question**
How many questions must one do of the pre-test questions before taking the exam?

**Answer**
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**Question**
Is anyone module or section covered more in the exam than others?

**Answer**
All modules are covered equally.

**Question**
The exam we should be taking is the Basics of Supply Chain Management?

**Answer**
The Basics of Supply Chain Management is a module in the CPIM program.

**Question**
Can you purchase the Exam content Manual by it self

**Answer**
Yes. It is available in Shop APICS at: http://www.apics.org/ProductCatalog/APICSPproduct?ID=9653

**Question**
Are all questions same for all regions, or will there be specific questions only applicable to certain regions?

**Answer**
Yes. The exam is the same for all regions, it is not region specific.

**Question**
Testing with Disabilities, how do I get approved.

**Answer**
When you schedule your exam you will be able to let them know that you have disability. You will be contacted by a team member who will discuss your needs and make the appropriate accommodations.
Question
Any special offer for people that have already purchased the Learning system?

Answer
No. Not at this time.

Question
How long should I take to prepare for the exam? I am a master graduate of SC Management on Dec.2015.

Answer
We recommend around a 100 hour study time investment. In surveys, 56% of successful APICS CSCP candidates said that they studied 75 or more hours. Also 70% of candidates took the exam one to three months after completing studies, with 51% taking the exam one month after.

Question
Are the flagged questions presented in chronological order?

Answer
Yes. You they are presented in chronological order.

Question
Is a listing of questions missed provided at the end of the exam?

Answer
No. On the final exam we do not list out the questions that you missed. There will be a diagnostic for each of the key areas of focus which will show a percentage based on your answers.

Question
Where I can find the link to the video posted by Liezl Smith about techniques for taking APCIS exams if I already have the CSCP Learning System?

Is Liezl Smith video included with 2015 learning system?

Do you only have the video for 2016 Exam? How about 2015 Exam?

Answer
The video is not included in the 2015 CSCP Learning System. The video is available for purchase at: http://www.apics.org/ProductCatalog/APICSPProduct?ID=8543

Question
What is the suitable stage to take online quizzes. Is it at beginning or after study learning system?

Answer
We recommend that you should take it at the beginning and to continue testing yourself right through the courses. After each chapter you can review the chapter with some questions then do the final practice test before you go to take the final exam.
Question
What % of exam takers pass the exam while utilizing the Self-Study Option?

Answer
We don't have this information available.

Question
I have purchased APICS CSCP 2014 learning system. Any major changes to material and ECM of 2015

I bought the APICS 2014 Learning System, but haven't had a chance to take the exam yet. Can I still use it or do I have to buy a newer version?

Answer
If you have the 2014 learning system, we recommend that you take the 2015 exam, there were only minor changes to the system from 2014 to 2015. If you decide that you want to take the 2016 exam, you will need to purchase the 2016 learning system, there were major updates and the exam will cover a different body of knowledge.

Question
If I retake the chapter quiz, do the questions refresh? Or are they the same 21 quiz questions?

Answer
You may have some questions repeat, but there is a pool of questions.

Question
I purchased the 2016 Learning System. I would prefer to have electronic access for longer than a year. I.e. when I travel, I don't want to take the system with me. Are there any plans to make access for a longer period of time?

Answer
Not at this time, the learning system is only available for a year.

Question
If I can allocate 4-6 hours a week to study and prepare for the test, in your experience how many weeks would I need at least to be ready for the test?

Answer
It is recommended that you study 75 - 100 hours to prepare for the exam. This is based on survey completions from candidates who have successfully passed the exam.

Question
Does the question difficulty level increase as the candidate give right answers in the final exam?

Answer
No. The exam does not change based on your answers.
Question
Can we download or stream the video of test taking tips? Or it comes only in a CD version

Answer
The video is an online streaming video, it is not available on a DVD.

Question
Is there an APICS community or group site on LinkedIn for candidates that may like to form study groups?

Answer
You can connect to your community through the APICS Supply Chain Channel which is located at: http://www.apics.org/apics-membership/apics-supply-chain-channel. There are also groups on LinkedIn and Facebook which you will find by searching on APICS.

Question
I purchased learning system already, how I can get discount now.

Answer
Unfortunately, we are not giving discounts to previously purchased learning systems.

Question
Result will not be declared instantly as soon as we finish the test?
How long does it take to receive test results?
Do we get result (pass or fail) right at the exam center after the test?

Answer
Yes you will get a pass / fail report at the completion of your exam.

Question
If I have 2015 Learning Version and cannot buy the video. What would be a better guideline to pass the exam - concentrate on the quizzes/exams or read the material again?

Answer
Yes. We would recommend repeating the quizzes and reading the materials, focusing on areas you feel you need to work on. We also have test taking tips located on our website at: http://www.apics.org/careers-education-professional-development/certification/test-taking-tips

Question
My 1 year of on line testing support end next month. Can I purchase additional testing or purchase extended time with that on line access.

Answer
You need to schedule your exam before the expiration. If your authorization to test expires, you will need to purchase a new one.
**Question**
If we want to postpone the scheduled test, will the ATT validity extend for another 6 months for will it stay the same as the initial ATT?

**Answer**
If you postpone, the ATT validity stays the same.

**Question**
What is the process to reschedule the exam if I will be unavailable (6 month offshore assignment) during my Exam window period that ends on May 7?

Is it difficult to reschedule a test if I feel like I am not ready when the time comes?

What if you request an ATT for July and it’s still valid for August can you change the exam date as long as it’s within the 6 months window?

**Answer**
Candidates who need to reschedule their exam appointment within their chosen window can make modifications directly in their My APICS account or by calling Pearson VUE direct. There is a nonrefundable USD $45 rescheduling fee. Reschedule requests received less than 24 hours before the scheduled exam appointment will not be accepted, and if the candidate does not test, the candidate forfeits the exam fees. Candidates who need to reschedule their examination in the same window should not cancel their exam appointment. Candidates must reschedule the examination through their My APICS account or by contacting Pearson VUE directly. APICS cannot accept cancellation/reschedule requests by email.

**Question**
What is the difference between the 2015 vs 2016 version, that makes significant update--change in content?

**Answer**
The 2016 Learning System is the result of a Job Task Analysis (JTA) that we did in 2014. The JTA was a survey of thousands of supply chain professionals around the world who told us what they actually do. Because supply chain management is still a growing and changing field, this data allowed us to update the exam and learning system to keep them in alignment with the profession. There are both new topics and a few topics have been eliminated and other topics emphasis is different now.

**Question**
Is it a computer based test?

**Answer**
Yes. The exam is administered on a computer at a test center location.
**Question**
I haven't seen an exam center in Finland or nearby countries, e.g. in Sweden. I might have to go to Germany for example to take the exam, right?

**Answer**
There are many sites worldwide. At this time, we see that there are 10 test locations in Finland and 4 locations in Sweden. They should contact Pearson VUE if they do not see a site available in their area. It could be that the site has not yet updated the scheduling for the future. While it is encouraged that the sites provide scheduling at least 3 months in advance, it is possible that their site has not yet opened up their schedule. The best suggestion is to first contact Pearson VUE prior to booking in another country. In order to find a site location before they purchase their ATT, they can visit: pearsonvue.com/APICS and choose test center location. While this will not provide them with open availability, it will tell them how many sites are in or around their area. They can only see availability after they have purchased their exam or by calling Pearson VUE customer service.

**Question**
Is there an authorized APICS learning center in Moscow, Russia?

**Answer**
We do have a partner in Moscow. You can find their information on our website in the Partner and Event finder at: http://www.apics.org/partners

**Question**
Can I take the CSCP exam in all APICS partners in Turkey or you have authorized partner for test?

**Answer**
We have several partners in Turkey. You can find their locations by accessing the Partner and Event finder located on the APICS website

**Question**
How to we know the specific exam dates and locations on a given test window?

How long the 2015 source pack (preparation material) would be valid this year?

Please share the dates for taking 2015 exams.

**Answer**
The exam windows depend on whether you are in North America or Outside North America. To access the dates visit the APICS website at: http://www.apics.org/careers-education-professional-development/certification/cscp/testing/

**Question**
My international passport expires in September, Can I take my exam in July 2016?

**Answer**
If you are located in North America the July test window is July 9 - August 27. If you are located outside North America the July test window is June 4 - July 16 and there is a window for August 13 - October 1.
Question
Is it possible to buy only the online / practice test materials for the exam (I have the books already).

Answer
No. The learning system comes as a complete package.

Question
In the questions of the exam. Do we have to mark only one answer? Example only A. Or in some questions, is it possible to mark more than one option? Example A, B and C.

Answer
There will be only one correct answer.

Question
I took and passed the CSCP exam last December. The APICS site listed each webinar hour counted for 1 continuing education unit. Can you confirm that this is the case, and that this webinar counts toward continuing education units?

Answer
The CSCP webinar series is not eligible for maintenance. Although the webinar are about the CSCP program, they do not enhance current supply chain knowledge and skills and are not considered as continuing education. A list of eligible webinars is located on our website in the maintenance section. http://www.apics.org/careers-education-professional-development/certification/maintenance

Question
Do you recommend re-taking the test 14 days later if you do not pass or wait until next testing window?

Answer
It depends on your comfort level for the re-take. At the completion of the exam there is a diagnostic ranking for each of the areas which will help you to determine which areas of focus you need to work on. You will have to determine what works best for you.

Question
If the 12 month time frame is up from when we signed up to take the test, what are our options online for resources?

Answer
If you are asking about taking the exam. Typically if you have the exam scheduled and the date is past your 12 month time frame, you can call the CSCP Learning System number and they will extend your access to the exam date.

Question
You mentioned the use of dictionaries in the exam. Is the CSCP exam only available in English?

Answer
Yes. The exam is only available in English.
Question
There are 2 different exams. Which one is more effective to take? CPIM or CSCP or should we take both?

Answer
Whether you should pursue that CPIM or CSCP, it depends on your focus. CSCP gives you the view of the end-to-end supply chain and the information flows and the material flows to help you understand the supply chain. Many companies find the supply chain to be the strategic driver for their companies. The CPIM shows you multiple ways to get your product to the customer on-time and cheaper by looking at inventory management and different levels of planning, procurement and production scheduling. One isn’t more important than the other, it depends on your area of focus.

Question
What's a good review strategy for CSCP 2015 say I have about 5 weeks to take the Exam?

Answer
We recommend taking the quizzes and read all of the material for review. Successful candidates recommend studying 75 - 100 hours before taking the exam.

Question
After how long does the certificate expire?

Answer
Candidates are required to maintain the designation every five years.

Question
Should I worry about memorizing formulas or will any formulas needed to solve a question be provided?

Answer
Yes, there will be formulas in the exams. Online calculators will be provided.

Question
In the learning system quizzes, I can see what section/module the question is from. Does the exam follow this method, or is the module/section unknown?

Answer
The module and section will be unknown in the final exam.

Question
Is there a resource where we can download and practice old CSCP exam papers other than the practice test in learning system?

Answer
No, we do not have any other practice exams available.
Question
I have already bought a 2016 learning system, how can I access the free video?

Answer
After logging into the online portion of the 2016 CSCP Learning System, navigate to the PRACTICE page and select the “Taking APICS Exams with Confidence” link found on the right had side of the page.

Question
I purchased 2015 and soon after 2016 was out, should I buy 2016 to stay current and relevant in CSCP space

As I understand that 2016 is a major change, will appearing for the 2015 be disadvantageous in terms of contemporary and up to date in SCM domain?

Answer
No. The 2016 Learning System is the result of a Job Task Analysis (JTA) that we did in 2014. The JTA was a survey of thousands of supply chain professionals around the world who told us what they actually do. Because supply chain management is still a growing and changing field, this data allowed us to update the exam and learning system to keep them in alignment with the profession. There are both new topics and a few topics have been eliminated and other topics emphasis is different now.

Question
Is there a fixed period between which you have to take the CSCP or the eligibility is valid indefinitely.

Answer
The eligibility does not expire.

Question
Why not have a test for each Module instead of one big 3.5 hour test?

Answer
It is easier for the candidate to sit for one exam instead of having to schedule three different exams. We follow industry standards for the number of questions and timing of the exam.

Question
How much it is to retake the exam in North America?

Answer

Question
Please advise when is the latest time I can take CSCP exams this year based on 2015 CSCP textbook?

Answer
If you are in North America, the last exam day for the CSCP 2015 Learning System is October 15. If you are outside North America, the last exam day is October 1.
**Question**
Does Liezl provide any classes in South Africa?

**Answer**
Yes. Her company is Businessix Business Brokers and Services.

**Question**
The 300 minimum score to pass the exam is a total for the whole thing or is it like each section or body of knowledge has a minimum score as well? I mean, in terms of %, do I have to get a minimum 70% in each and every section as well?

**Answer**
The 300 minimum score is for the entire exam, it is not for each module.

**Question**
What's the difficult level between learning system and actual exam?

**Answer**
At times, APICS exam candidates perceive a difference in the exam content and what they learned during their courses. It is important to understand that courseware is a REVIEW course and not the entire educational component.

**Question**
Can you bring water and snacks to the exam? My exam is at 10am.

**Answer**
No. You are not permitted to bring in food and drinks to the testing centers. If you need to step out for water, you will need to notify the proctor and your exam time will continue.

**Question**
What are the weights among those three modules?

**Answer**
The information is located in the exam content manual (ECM). The way that the ECM is developed, there is an exam content outline. It has high level topic areas that could be covered in the exam. In the beginning of the ECM we list the percentage of questions that will appear in the exam for each of the diagnostic areas. Module one is 32%, Module 2 is 40-42%.

**Question**
The prep class I am taking ends on May 21 (two weeks after the first exam window closes). Can you share your thoughts on taking the exam early vs. waiting at least 6 weeks for the second exam window to open?

**Answer**
You should wait, you will be able to use the 6 weeks for additional preparation. There may be areas that you missed and it will give you more time to go through the learning system to use the practice questions and flash cards to learn the teams in the dictionary.
Question
Have you planned to translate the CSCP in French? The documents and the test itself?

Answer
We are not planning on any translations at this time for the exams and courseware.

Question
What is the % of success of the CSCP exam in 2015?

Answer
The pass rate report is available online at: http://www.apics.org/careers-education-professional-development/certification/pass-rate-report/exam-pass-rate-report

Question
I have the CSCP exam in 10 days. I did all activities provided by learning system once. What do you recommend for these next 10 days (considering 1 hour per day)? (More test, re-read books, others documents).

Answer
The first thing that you should do is watch the Test Taking Tips Video. There are a lot of tips on how to maximize the scores with your knowledge. Take the quizzes, they will give you an accurate indication on how prepared you are for the final exam.

Question
I am a manager of a logistics company as a logistics manager. How can I get membership?

Answer
You can find membership information on the APICS website at: http://www.apics.org/apics-membership

Question
Where is the place that we need to take the exam? is it online or there is a place that we need to go to take the exam?

Answer
The CSCP exam is administered through our test partner Pearson VUE. There are test center locates worldwide and all tests are administered online.