



New Frontiers: An Overview of IFPUG's New Software Measurement Certification for Individuals

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SOFTWARE MEASUREMENT SPECIALIST CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

- **Designation**
 - **Certified Software Measurement Specialist (CSMS)**
- **Levels**
 - **1: Practitioner**
 - **2: Analyst**
 - **3: Consultant**

HISTORY

- **2000**
 - **Board of Directors forms a task group to look into CFPS re-certification and a new certification for software measurement professionals**

HISTORY

- **Fall, 2002**
 - **MRC took over the activities of the “New Certification Task Force” which was split off from the “Re-Certification Task Force.”**
 - **The new certification activity involved examining the feasibility of a new IFPUG sponsored certification that would be a broad IT metrics based certification and would not be tied to the current CFPS certification.**

HISTORY

- **Fall, 2002**
 - **MRC conducted a Certification Market Survey in order to provide the membership an opportunity to have input into the new certification. We received almost 150 responses from 19 different countries.**
 - **MRC researched other organizations to see if there was anything in existence already for a software measurement certification for individuals.**

HISTORY

- **Spring, 2003**
 - **MRC received board approval for the proposed outline of the new certification.**
- **Fall, 2003**
 - **MRC introduced the general concepts and requirements of the new certification at the IFPUG conference.**

HISTORY

- **Spring, 2004**
 - **MRC releases additional information about the new certification.**
- **Fall, 2004**
 - **The program is officially rolled-out at the IFPUG conference.**
 - **Workshops and presentations are offered that will receive credits under the plan.**
 - **The revised Guidelines to Software Measurement (GSM) is made available.**

TARGET AUDIENCE FOR NEW CERTIFICATION

- **Individuals involved in managing or implementing a software measurement program**
- **Serves people who are involved in software measurement but not necessarily in the role of counting function points**

LEVELS OF CERTIFICATION

- **Multiple levels of progressive certification**
- **Higher levels would recognize increased levels of expertise, knowledge and contributions to the software measurement field**
- **Demonstration of knowledge, education and experience would be required at each level**

COMPONENTS OF CERTIFICATION

- **Exam**
 - **One-time**
- **Credits**
 - **Application with packet of evidence which will support credits earned in the applicable areas**

EXAM COMPONENT

- **Exam**
 - **Passing of a written exam that tests a candidate's knowledge of the principals and application of software measurements**
 - **The Body of Knowledge for the exam will be the revised Guidelines to Software Measurements**
 - **The passing of the exam is only required one-time**
 - **Exam must be passed prior to submitting application package**

CREDIT COMPONENT

- **Creditable activities will come from the following areas:**
 - **Work Experience**
 - **Education**
 - **Professional Participation**
 - **Teaching**
 - **Software Measurement Related Publishing**

CREDIT COMPONENT

- **Not all levels will require credits in all areas**
 - **However all levels must have credits from Work Experience and Education**
- **Credits will be retro active for 3 years from the time the individual submits their application with verification of all credits**

CREDITS AND LEVELS

Three levels of the CSMS are awarded to qualified candidates:

Category	Abbreviation	Maximum Credits
Work Experience	WE	400
Education	ED	250
Professional Participation	PP	150
Measurement Related Publishing	MP	100
Teaching	TE	100

The maximum number of credits by category is:

Level	Level Designation	Required Credits	Credits from Categories . . .
1	Practitioner	600	WE, ED, and at least one other
2	Analyst	750	WE, ED, and at least two others
3	Consultant	900	All five categories

GUIDELINES & REQUIREMENTS

- **Please see the complete CSMS package for the official guidelines and requirements:**
 - **MRC Category Process Guidance**
 - **Evidence Guidance**
 - **Category-by-category Evidence Requirements**
 - **CSMS Submission Summary Sheet**
 - **CSMS Submission Summary Sheet Example**
 - **How Credits are Used to Determine the CSMS Level**

GUIDELINES & REQUIREMENTS

- **MRC Category Templates**
 - **Summary sheet of credit matrix for all five categories**
 - **Detail sheet for each of the five categories:**
 - **Category Name**
 - **Category Credit Matrix**
 - **Maximum Percent**
 - **Example Inclusion**
 - **Example Exclusion**
 - **Definitions**

OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE

- **The length of the certification designation is 3 years**
- **It is not necessary to progress through the levels**
 - **An individual might qualify for any level at any time**
 - **Can re-certify or apply for higher level before original certification expires**

OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE

You do not have to be able to count function points in order to obtain the certification!

CERTIFICATION COST

- **Initial application & exam fee**
 - **IFPUG MEMBER: \$250**
 - **NON-MEMBER: \$500**
- **Application to advance level fee**
 - **IFPUG MEMBER: \$100**
 - **NON-MEMBER: \$150**

GSM COST

- **Member**

- **Download:** **Free**

- **Disk:** **\$25**

- **Hard Copy** **\$50**

- **Non-member**

- **Download:** **Not Available**

- **Disk:** **\$50**

- **Hard Copy** **\$100**

WHAT'S NEXT?

- **First exam planned for the spring, 2004, IFPUG workshops in Orlando**
- **Applicants begin to submit packages after notification of a passing grade on the exam**
- **First designations are conferred**

WHAT'S NEXT?

- **Roll out on an international level**
 - **Translate GSM**
 - **Translate and offer exam outside of the U.S.**
- **Establish relationship with other organizations**
 - **Exam conducted at other venues**
 - **Promote workshops, presentations, classes, etc. as “CSMS creditable”**



QUESTIONS?



THANKS

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**WE INVITE YOU TO
VISIT THE MRC
BOOTH TODAY!**