

Comparison of Project Management Certifications PMI, PRINCE2 and IPMA

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Topics

- Present the three major internationally recognized project management certifications: PMP, PRINCE2 and IPMA
- Present “pluses” and “minuses” of each certification
- Highlight some future trends in project management certification

Certificates

- PMI
 - Project Management Professional (PMP)

- PRINCE2
 - PRINCE2 Foundation
 - PRINCE2 Practitioner

- IPMA
 - Level C – Certified Project Manager (CPM)
 - Level D – Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM)

Comparison (1)

	PMP	PRINCE Foundation and Practitioner	IPMA Level C and D
Certification Body	Project Management Institute (www.pmi.org)	APM Group (www.apmgroupltd.com) on behalf of OGC (www.ogc.gov.uk)	Bulgarian Project Management Association (www.project.bg) on behalf of IPMA (www.ipma.ch)

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Comparison (2)

	PMP	PRINCE Foundation and Practitioner	IPMA Level C and D
Preliminary requirements	3 years of project management experience (for university degree holders)	None	Level C: university degree and 3 years of project management experience Level D: university degree
Validity	3 years	Foundation: unlimited Practitioner: 5 years	5 years
Assessment basis	Project Management Body of Knowledge	Managing Successful Projects with PRINCE2 (official manual)	National Competence Baseline, based on ICB

Comparison (3)

	PMP	PRINCE Foundation and Practitioner	IPMA Level C and D
Exam preparation courses	4-5 days, 35 training hours 695-795 euro	Foundation: 3 days, 650-750 euro Practitioner: 2 days, 495-595 euro	7 days, 56 training hours 790-890 euro
Exam fee	405-555 USD	Foundation: 150 euro Practitioner: 350 euro	Level C: 425-500 euro Level D: 340-400 euro
Language of training and examination	English	English	Bulgarian

Comparison (4)

	PMP	PRINCE Foundation and Practitioner	IPMA Level C and D
Exam type	Test with closed questions	Test with closed questions	Level C: test with open and closed questions, tasks, report, interview Level D: test with open and closed questions, tasks
Application and exam logistics	Online application to PMI, computer based exam in Fulbright Commission (Sofia)	No preliminary application is necessary. The exams are invigilated by the trainer (Sofia)	Application to BPMA, paper based exams in Sofia

PMP



- International recognition
- Applicable to all sectors
- Extremely prestigious within the IT sector
- Very well known worldwide
- Advantage when working with American partners (considered mainly North American certification)

PMP



- Not based on PM methodology
- Stress on theoretical knowledge
- Study materials, courses and exams in English
- Requires considerable exam preparation efforts

PRINCE2



- International recognition
- Applicable to all sectors
- Based on full PM methodology which is being applied extensively
- Advantage when working with European partners (considered mainly European certification)
- Exam application / registration is not needed

PRINCE2



- Better known in Europe and Australia (though grows rapidly worldwide)
- Study materials, courses and exams in English
- Requires considerable exam preparation efforts



IPMA

- **Competence** based
- International recognition
- Applicable to all sectors
- Advantage when working with European partners (considered mainly European certification)
- Study materials, courses and exams in Bulgarian

IPMA



- Better known in Europe (though grows rapidly worldwide)
- Not based on PM methodology
- Lack of self-study materials
- Requires considerable exam preparation efforts

Future Trends

- Multi-certification
- Better market recognition (Bulgaria)
- Upgrades/Bridges
 - from PRINCE2 Practitioner to IPMA Level C or D
 - PMP “upgrades” – e.g. to TenStep Project Manager

Future Trends

- Unification (e.g. AIPM certification will be aligned with IPMA certification)
- Migration – from *knowledge* to *competence* based certification
- In **long** term – the importance of PM certification will decrease (*leaders without a title vs. leaders with a title*)
- Market potential (Bulgaria)
 - ✓ 20,000
 - ✓ 50,000
 - ✓ 0

Thank You

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