

ISTQB Expert Level

Introduction and overview

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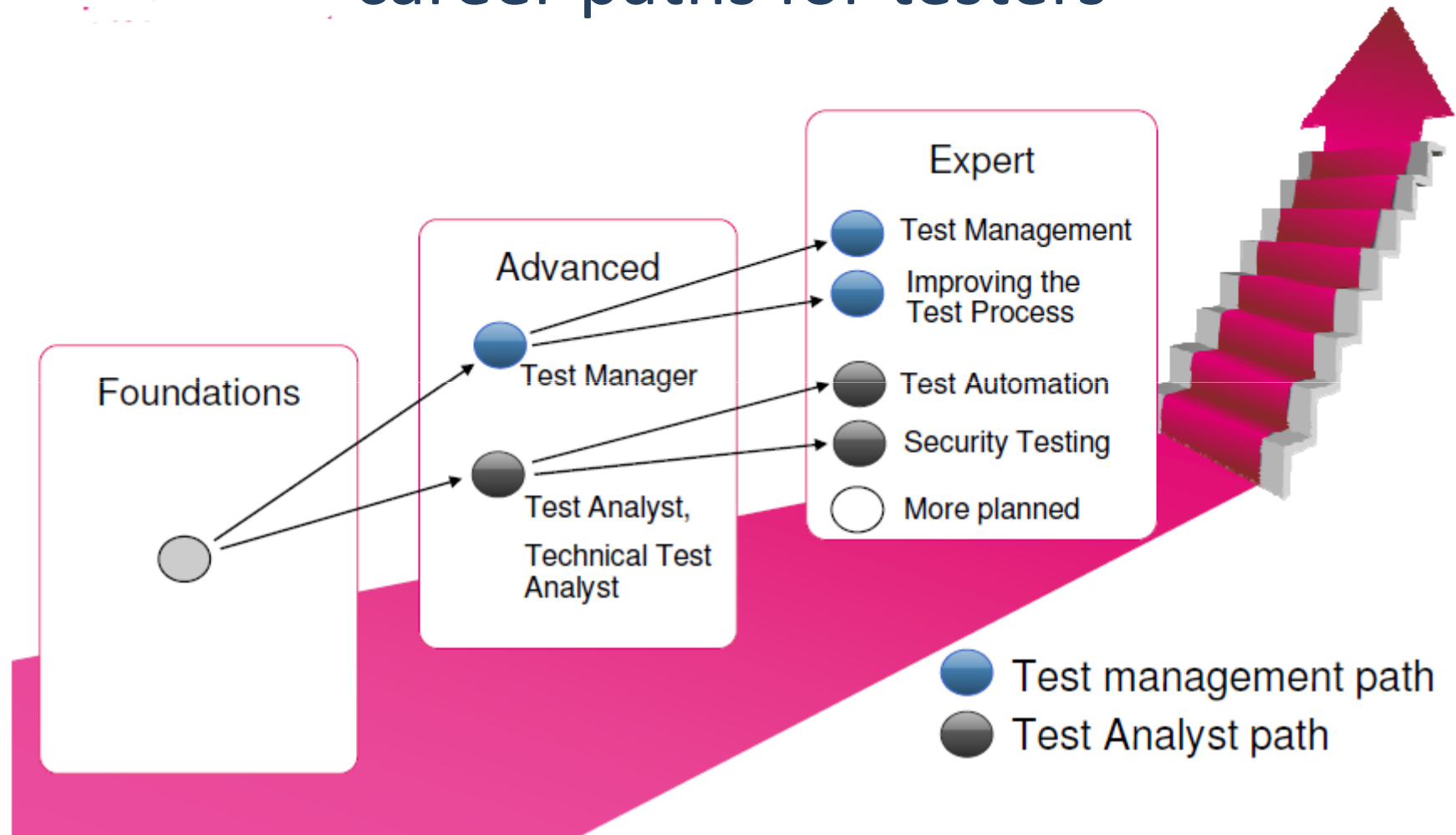
List of Contents

- Expert Level: Building on Success
- What is an Expert?
- Achieving Expert Certification
- The Training Courses
- Achieving Roll-Out
- Summary of Benefits

ISTQB Certified Tester - a success story

- 200,000 certifications
- 50 National Boards
- Benefits to businesses:
 - Standard language for testing
 - Testing Body of Knowledge
 - More professionalism in testing
 - Career paths for testers

With the new Expert Level, ISTQB offers career paths for testers



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For ISTQB, Expert really means Expert

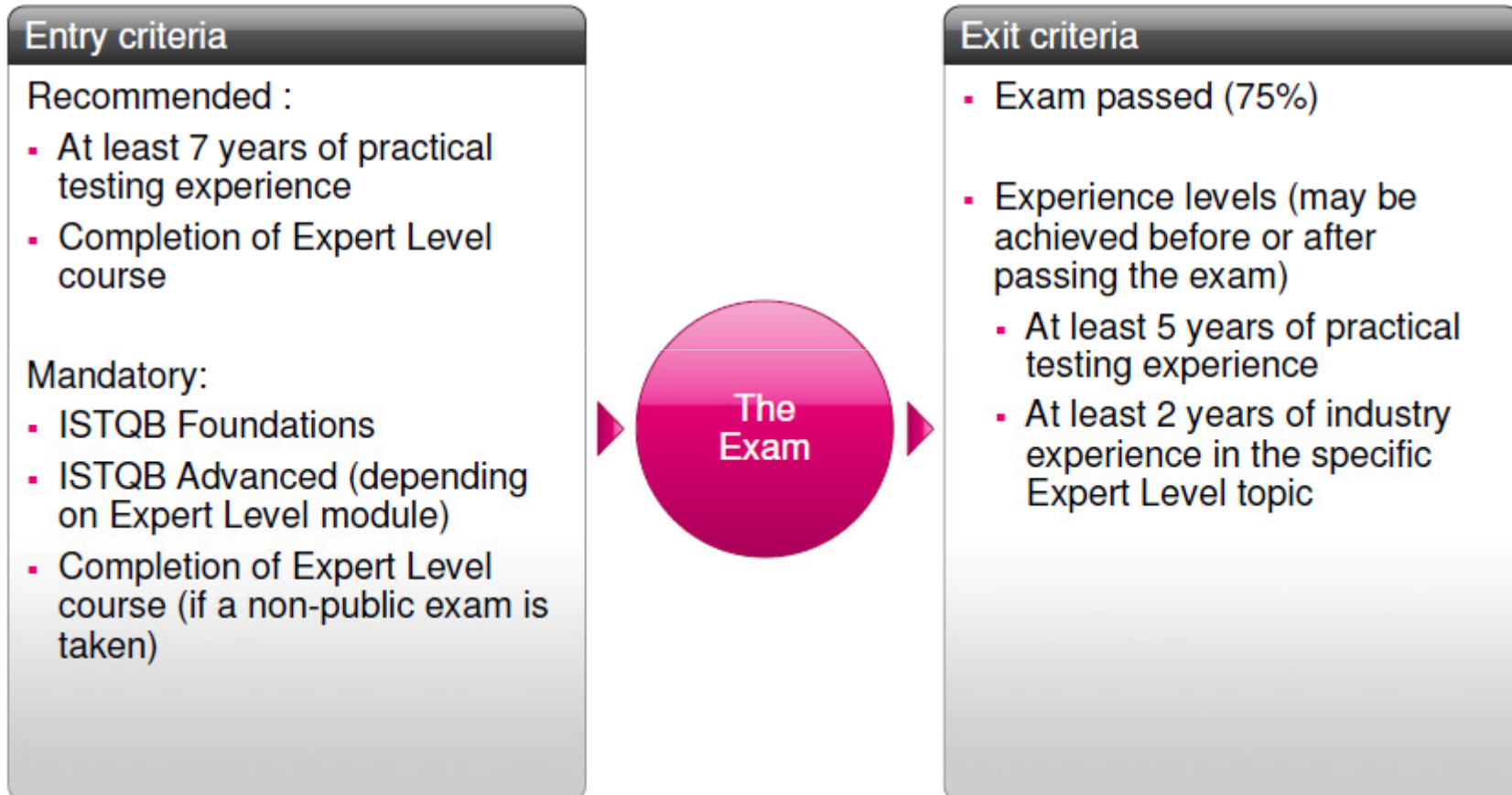
- A person with the special skills and knowledge representing mastery of a particular testing subject.
- Being an expert means possessing and displaying special skills and knowledge derived from training and experience.
- Clearly stated expectations and business outcomes are established for each subject covered at Expert Level (see module overviews later).



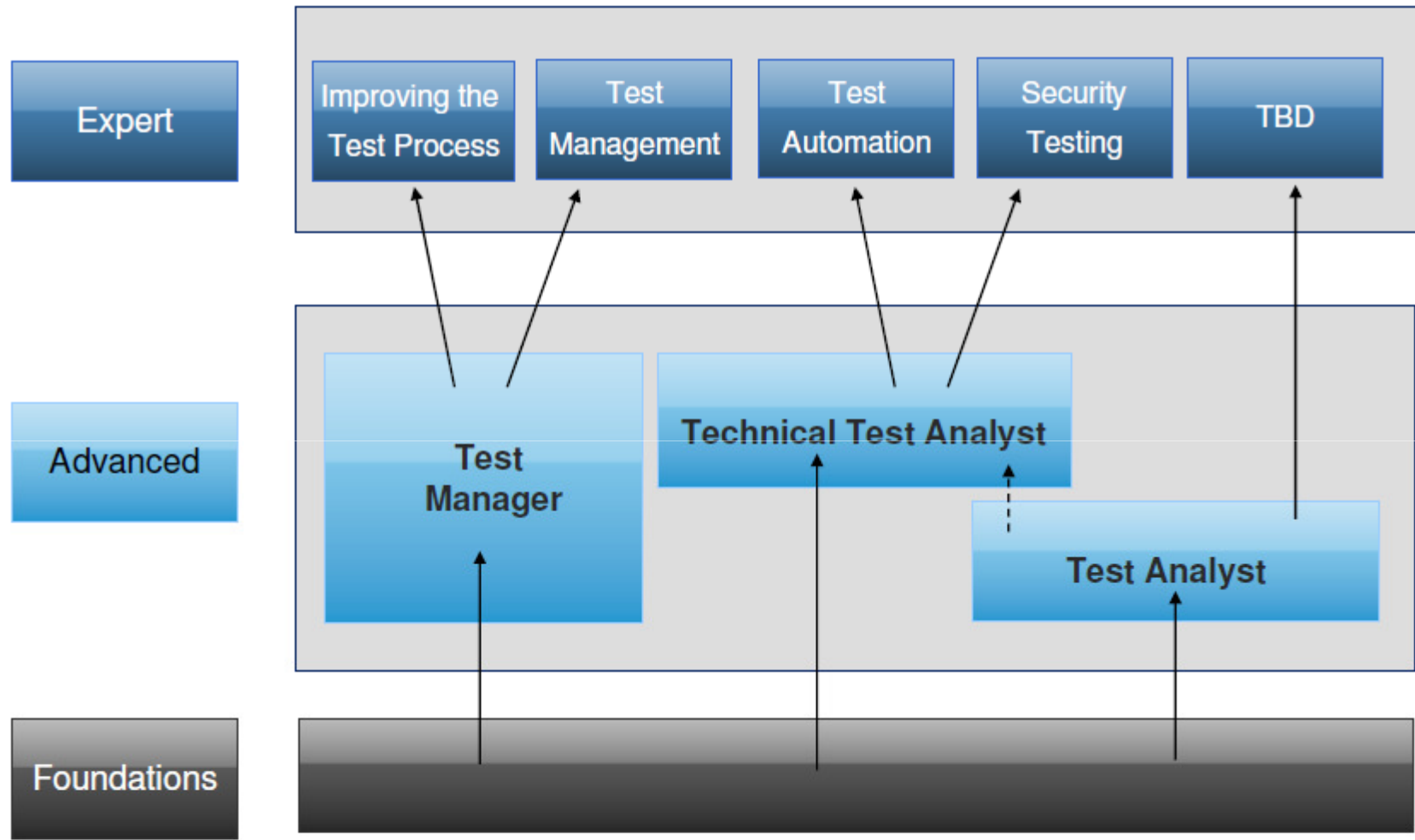
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Achieving Expert Level: Criteria



Achieving Expert Level: Required Certificates



↑ Required Certificate

↑ Syllabus dependency
 ⋮ (TTA has examinable LOs from TA)

Achieving Expert Level: The Exam

- The exam therefore consists of a multiple-choice section and a written “essay” section
- A score above 75% is required to pass

Multiple-Choice section

- Duration: 1 Hour
- 20 Questions
- Learning objectives covered: K2, K3, K4 (like Advanced Level)

Essay section

- Duration:
 - Reading: ½ hour
 - Answering: 2 hours
 - Add ¾ hour for non-native speakers
- Answer 4 questions out of 5 Learning objectives covered:
- Mostly higher learning objectives (K5,K6)

Maintaining Certification at Expert Level

Expert certification is not for life

- An Expert Level certificate is valid for 5 years.
- Expert certification must be renewed using one of the following two options

Repeat the exam

- A passed exam results in certification for a further 5 years.

Achieve 200 “Certification Extension Credits” (CEC)

- CECs may be achieved in a number of areas. For example:
 - Perform a professional testing activity
 - Take a relevant training course
 - Attend a testing conference
 - Present at a testing conference
 - Teaching a relevant training course
 - Write a testing article or book
 - Actively participate in a Working Group (NB, SIGIST, ISTQB)
- Verifiable evidence must be submitted to the certifier
- The Certification Extension Program is published by ISTQB

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Focus on Practical education

- Higher level Learning Objectives in focus
- “Evaluate” and “Create”*
- Emphasis is on practical work
- In-depth consideration of subjects introduced at advanced levels
- Goal: Mastery of the subject
- As a result, Expert Level courses are 5 days or more
 - Improving the Test Process (8 days)
 - Test Management (9 days)

* also known as K5 and K6 learning objectives

Gain practical experience with workplace exercises

- Some learning objectives (mostly K5 and K6) may be performed at the student's place of work instead of in the classroom. These are identified in each syllabus.
- Workplace exercises are particularly useful for syllabi requiring more than 5 days of tuition.

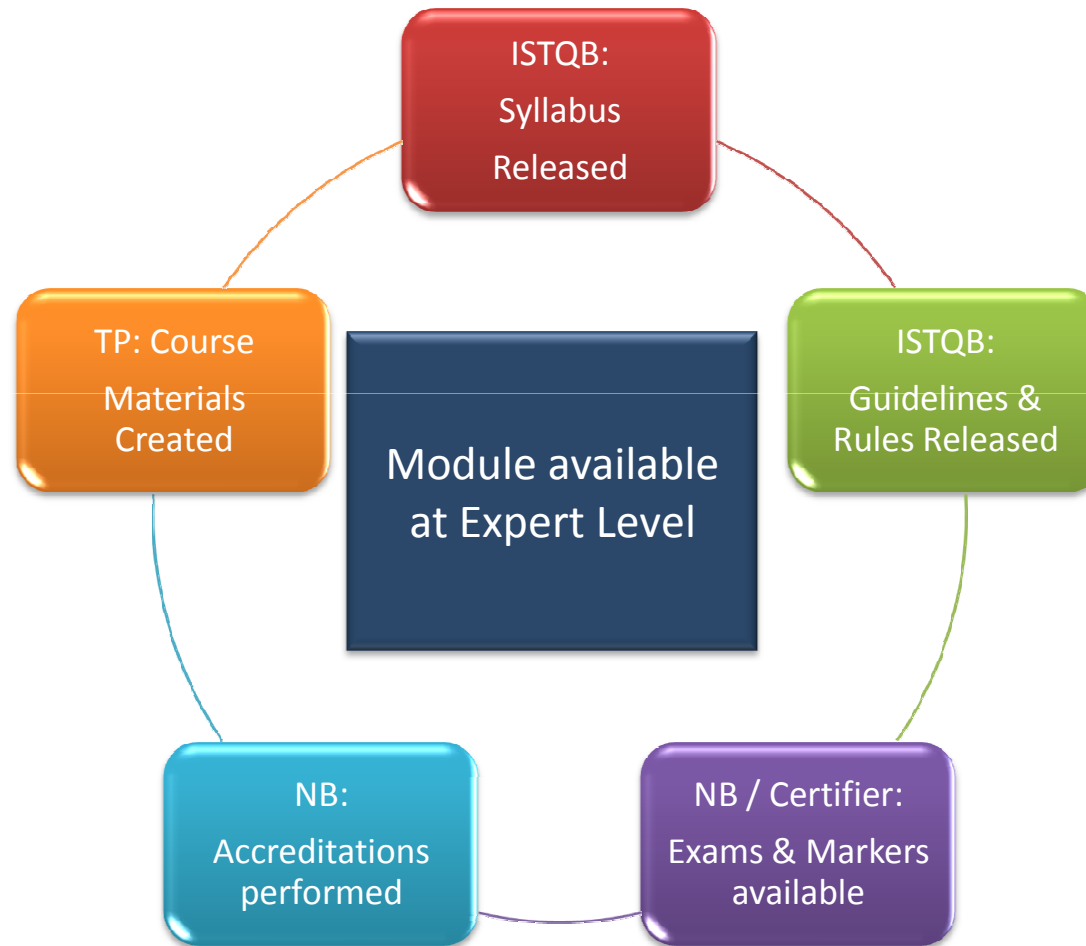


- Benefit for trainee:
 - Practical application in the workplace
 - Tutor checks work and provides valuable feedback.
- Benefit for sponsor:
 - Spread of training budget
 - Project-specific application of knowledge

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Elements Required for Roll-Out



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Summary: Advantages for a Professional Tester

An Expert level certificate demonstrates mastery of a particular testing subject and brings several advantages for a professional tester.

From a knowledge perspective

- Overview of current best practices for a specific topic.
- Ability to select the best solutions for specific project contexts.
- Ability to assess the value of new trends & hypes.

From a practical perspective

- Enables leadership for a topic.
- Ensures that work is conducted to state-of-the-art and performed efficiently.
- Enables best practices to be adjusted according to project context.

From a self-selling perspective

- Increases business value of employees.
- Demonstrates high potential for a candidate.
- Underpins continuous learning.

Questions?