

ISEB Software Testing

- The world's leading Software Testing qualifications
- 280,000 certifications worldwide
- Over 90% of all Software Testing exams worldwide
- Internationally recognised Software Testing qualifications
- Trusted by employers for over 40 years



ISEB

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FAQ's

ISEB Software Testing Qualifications

Who is ISEB?

ISEB is an exam body that has been operating for 40 years. ISEB first provided exams in Software Testing 9 years ago, and were instrumental in the development of the original Software Testing syllabus that created the ISTQB syllabus. ISEB offer over 40 different exams in IT including IT Project Management, ITIL and Business Analysis.

ISEB accredit Training Providers to ensure that the company, their trainers and materials maintain ISEB's high standards. ISEB is part of BCS, the chartered Institute for the IT profession and plays a large role in raising skills and education in IT.

ISEB has delivered over 280,000 exams and has a strong worldwide reputation for quality.

Are ISEB qualifications internationally recognised?

Yes. ISEB has been developing exams for 40 years and has over 140 Training Providers globally.

ISEB courses have been delivered in over 50 countries including South Africa, Brazil, USA, India, Japan, Australia, across Europe and many others.

We have delivered over 50,000 exams in Software Testing so far and 35% of these have been delivered internationally.

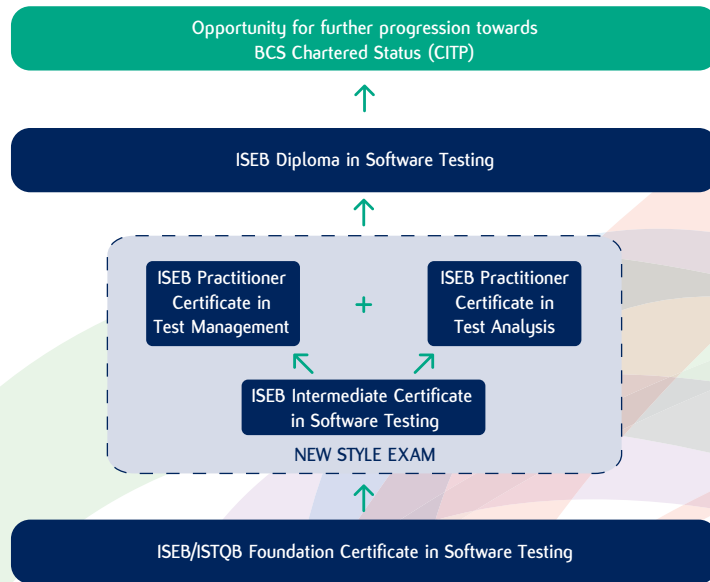
What is the value of taking an ISEB Software Testing exam?

The ISEB Software Testing qualifications offer an international benchmark of skills and experience for Software Testers. The exams offer a stepping stone from Foundation, through Intermediate, Practitioner and onto the ISEB Diploma in Software Testing. This assists testers with their career development every step of the way.

Candidates can be confident that the exams have been peer reviewed by subject experts and have been tested thoroughly to ensure the utmost credibility and reliability.

What ISEB Software Testing courses are available?

ISEB qualifications add value to professional careers by providing both the means and the platform for recognition and enhanced career development. They also match the growth in your skills and career.



ISEB Foundation in Software Testing

This provides a good overview of the basics of Software Testing.

ISEB Intermediate in Software Testing

This provides the next level of knowledge, understanding and practical expertise, and also covers the key topics which are needed as a pre-requisite for either of the Practitioner level exams.

ISEB Practitioner in Test Management

This is a high level qualification which examines knowledge and skills required for the management of Software Testing.

ISEB Practitioner in Test Analysis

This is a high level qualification which examines knowledge and skills required for the technical analysis of Software Testing.

Accredited course	Prometric	Exam type	Length
Foundation	✓	Multiple choice	1 hour
Intermediate	✓ (from early 2008)	Scenario-based multiple choice	1 hour
Practitioner in Test Analysis	✗	Essay based	2 hours
Practitioner in Test Management	✗	Essay based	2 hours

Software Testing: An ISEB Foundation

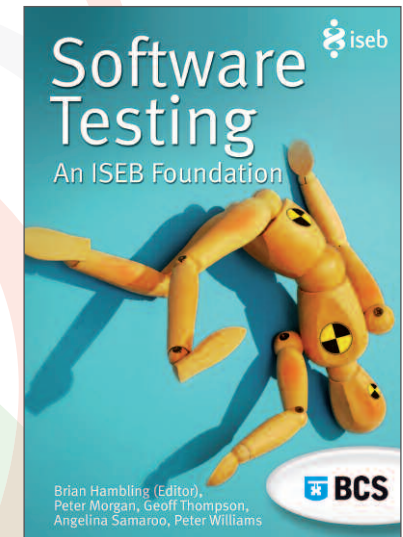
- Written by ISEB examiners and authors of the ISEB Foundation syllabus
- Contains sample exam questions
- Covers the full ISEB Foundation syllabus
- Ideal as a study guide or to reference key terms and topics
- Simple, reader-friendly language

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Paperback

www.bcs.org/books/softwaretesting

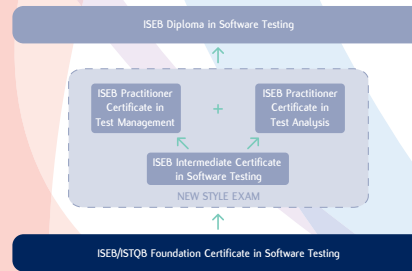


ISEB Foundation in Software Testing Syllabus Overview (level K3)*

The syllabus covers the following areas:

- Principles of testing
- Testing throughout the life-cycle
- Dynamic testing techniques
- Static testing
- Test management
- Tool support for testing

* K3 (Bloom's Taxonomy) – Application: Using previously learned information in new and concrete situations to solve problems that have single or best answers.

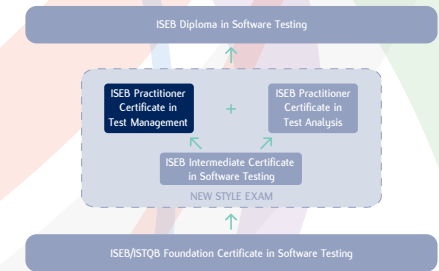


ISEB Practitioner Certificate in Test Management Syllabus Overview (level K6)*

The syllabus covers the following areas:

- Risk Management
- Test Management
- Test Techniques, Test Types & Test Coverage Selection
- Test Tool Selection & Implementation
- People Skills
- Test Process Improvement

* K6 (Bloom's Taxonomy) – Evaluation: Judging the value of material based on personal values and opinions, resulting in an end product, with a given purpose, without real right or wrong answers.

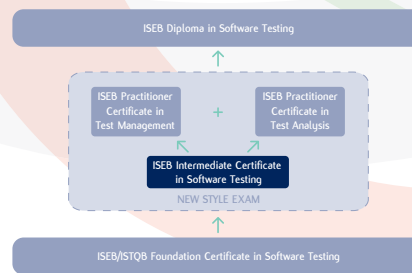


ISEB Intermediate in Software Testing Syllabus Overview (level K4)*

The syllabus covers the following areas:

- Testing Fundamentals
- Reviews
- Testing and Risk
- Test Management
- Test Analysis

* K4 (Bloom's Taxonomy) – Analysis: Breaking down information into components, examining organisational links to make conclusions by identifying motives or causes, making inferences, and/or finding evidence to support generalisations.

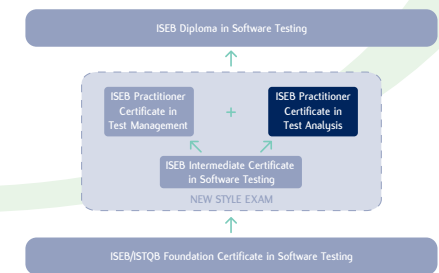


ISEB Practitioner Certificate in Test Analysis Syllabus Overview (level K6)*

The syllabus covers the following areas:

- Choices
- Influence of Context
- Analysis of Test Basis
- Supporting Activities
- Techniques
- Testing in Action
- Use of Test Techniques & Test Types
- Test Techniques
- Test Types

* K6 (Bloom's Taxonomy) – Evaluation: Judging the value of material based on personal values and opinions, resulting in an end product, with a given purpose, without real right or wrong answers.



How can I take the ISEB Foundation in Software Testing?

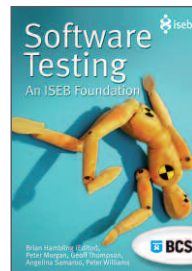
ISEB strongly recommends taking an accredited training course before attempting an ISEB exam. Candidates can feel confident that by using an accredited training course the training materials, course tutors and the organisation are of a high standard and have been independently assessed by ISEB.

Detailed statistical analysis proves that candidates attending accredited training courses have a much better chance of passing ISEB's examinations as well as adding more value to their career and for their employer.

Taking an accredited course can also enable candidates to understand the topics more clearly, allow interaction with tutors and fellow candidates, facilitate discussions and utilise the tutor's practical experience as a software tester.

However, ISEB understands that this is not always possible. If you have five or more year's software testing experience you may be able to take the exam via a Prometric test centre (www.prometric.com/ISEB). Prometric delivers many ISEB exams in secure testing centres around the world.

To assist you, we have published a book written by some of the authors of the ISEB syllabus. This book can be used as a study guide and covers all aspects of the syllabus (www.bcs.org/books/softwaretesting). It is not designed to be a substitute for an accredited training course.



How can I take the ISEB Intermediate in Software Testing?

As above. ISEB expect to produce a book relating to the Intermediate exam during early 2008. The exam will also be added to the Prometric system so that it can be taken anywhere around the world (www.prometric.com/ISEB).

How can I take the ISEB Practitioner in Software Testing?

This is the only exam where it is mandatory to undertake an accredited course before taking the exam. This is because there is a lot of course content that is taught and assessed. Accredited training providers can request exams to be run for their customers on a quarterly basis. ISEB also organises public exam sessions on a quarterly basis.

Should I use an accredited training provider?

ISEB prides itself on the high quality training providers. We have a rigorous assessment of each company including the tutors, the training materials, the company and their facilities. This ensures that candidates have the best possible chance of passing the exam and learning a lot about software testing in the process.

How can I find an ISEB accredited training provider?

ISEB has many training providers that are based across the world. Most training providers will offer courses in their home country, and also in many other countries. For a full list of training providers visit www.iseb-exams.com/st-tp

Is the ISEB Foundation qualification suitable for me?

The ISEB Foundation qualification is regarded as the de facto international standard for Software Testing. It has been taken by over 50,000 candidates across the world. It is aimed at new entrants to Software Testing.

However it is increasingly being used by more experienced Software Testers to ensure they understand the key topics and techniques, as well as the common language used in Software Testing.

The ISEB Foundation exam is used as a way to assess the skills and knowledge of candidates. This means it is the natural start to the career of any Software Tester.

Are the ISEB Practitioner or Intermediate qualifications suitable for me?

If you have already taken the ISEB Foundation qualification, the simple answer is yes. It assesses candidates to a deeper level of knowledge and skills, making it the natural progression for your career and continued learning.

The ISEB Intermediate and ISEB Practitioner courses and exams are aimed at Software Testers with three or more year's experience that are keen to certify their skills and capabilities. This is increasingly important because employers across the world expect Software Testers to be able to externally verify their skills and expertise.

The ISEB Intermediate exam offers an overview exam that is applicable to all Software Testers covering topics that all Software Testers will need to know.

ISEB Practitioner exams are designed for Software Testers that want a higher level qualification that is specific to their skills and capabilities. At present, the ISEB Practitioner exams are the highest level qualifications available in the Software Testing market.

Why should I take the ISEB Practitioner exams?

The ISEB Practitioner exams are externally verified and available now. The exams assess candidates to Level K6 (Bloom's Taxonomy) which involves applying knowledge, thus adding real benefit to candidates and employers.

ISEB works with leading Software Testing experts to write and mark exams. This means that candidates can be confident in the validity and credibility of the exam. These exams are based on an international syllabus and are accepted internationally.

The exams also follow ISEB's rigorous standards in exam writing, peer review and administration. For example, ISEB has run over 280,000 exams in the last 8 years in a range of IT qualifications. Over 50,000 of these exams were in Software Testing alone – that's over 90% of all Software Testing exams.

The exams are specifically designed for Test Managers and Test Analysts so that they retain more content that is relevant for their chosen specialism, and less content in the exam that is outside their specialist area.

Do I have to take all of these exams?

The ISEB Intermediate exam must be taken before taking an ISEB Practitioner exam. You do not have to take both ISEB Practitioner exams.

Do candidates need to recertify?

Candidates will not be expected to sit the new exams if they already hold the previous ISEB Practitioner Certificate in Software Testing. Some candidates may choose to do so to keep abreast of changes.

Do the ISEB exams match my career progression?

Candidates can study for each of the exams at separate times, with the new Intermediate exam providing a springboard towards either of the Practitioner level exams. This offers flexibility for candidates to study a step at a time, and within the subject area in which they choose to specialise.

Are the ISEB Practitioner exams available in a multiple choice format?

No, they are both written exams. It is extremely difficult to examine candidates to the high level of expertise as required at Practitioner level, using a multiple-choice format. A written exam enables candidates the opportunity to express their skill, experience, knowledge and expertise.

What are the pass marks for the new ISEB exams?

For the ISEB Intermediate exam the pass mark is 60% – there are 25 questions in all and 15 of these must be correct.

For the ISEB Practitioner exams the pass mark is also 60% and a distinction can be achieved with 80% correct.