

**EXAM DESCRIPTION**

# Hitachi Vantara Certified Professional Program Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: What is the Hitachi Vantara Certified Professional Program?**

**A:** The Hitachi Vantara Certified Professional program validates that our customers, partners, and employees have acquired the appropriate skills, knowledge, and abilities to be successful in the digital transformation journey.

It is a role-based program that offers a variety of exams in the areas of IT solutions architecture, implementation, management, and administration using Hitachi Vantara hardware, software, solutions, services, and technology. It features a two-tier assessment structure with qualification-level tests and certification-level exams that provide an evolution path as professionals increase their expertise and advance their careers.

**Q: Who should become certified?**

**A:** The Hitachi Vantara Certified Professional program is designed for all professionals who sell, design, deploy, integrate, and support Hitachi Vantara solutions. It includes tests and exams for sales, presales, architects, installation, and implementation personnel as well as storage administrators.

**Q: Why become certified?**

**A:** The Hitachi Vantara Certified Professional program is an industry-leading certification program that allows you to:

- Validate your skills, knowledge, and technical competencies.
- Establish your credibility and increase your value in the IT marketplace.
- Gain peer recognition and distinguish yourself from the competition.

**Q: Which credential levels are available?**

**A:** The Hitachi Vantara Certified Professional program features a two-tier assessment structure in which low-stakes and high-stakes testing is used in combination with four credential levels. This structure gives IT professionals the most appropriate assessment method for their roles, and provides an upgrade path to accompany career growth.

QUALIFICATION via qualification-level (HQT-XXXX) tests:

- These low-stakes tests are short entry-level online assessments that either validate fundamental general knowledge, or confirm basic technical expertise usually acquired through course attendance.
- In most cases, passing one qualification test leads to a QUALIFICATION credential. Alternatively, passing a qualification test can also be a requirement for a certification credential. Hitachi Vantara currently offers two qualification levels: *ASSOCIATE* and *PROFESSIONAL*.

CERTIFICATION via certification-level (HCE-XXXX) exams:

- These high-stakes exams are designed to effectively and accurately validate that candidates have the skills, knowledge, and abilities to perform specific tasks related to their jobs in real-life situations.
- To pass certification exams, candidates are expected to use knowledge acquired through multiple means and experiences, including formal and informal training, and learning methods. It is therefore expected that certification exams will cover topics that are beyond the scope of any given course or set of courses that have been identified to support the exams.

In most cases, passing one certification exam leads to a CERTIFICATION credential. Alternatively, some certification credentials may require passing a combination of qualification tests and certification exams. Hitachi Vantara currently offers two certification levels: *SPECIALIST* and *EXPERT*.

#### Q: How are the qualification tests and certification exams developed?

**A:** Hitachi Vantara qualification tests (HQT-XXXX) are either developed by Hitachi Vantara Global Learning instructors or Hitachi Vantara subject matter experts. The tests are then reviewed and validated by a team of subject matter experts who have practical experience.

All Hitachi Vantara certification exams (HCE-XXXX) are exclusively developed by a team of Hitachi Vantara subject matter experts with practical experience, following psychometric best practices and industry-standard processes and procedures for certification exam development.

#### Q: What is the format of the exams?

**A:** The *Storage Concepts* (HQT-0050), *Sales* (HQT-1xxx) and *Presales* (HQT-2xxx) tests are online, open-book examinations. They typically include 25 to 35 multiple-choice questions.

The technical qualification tests (HQT-XXXX) are closed-book, proctored examinations. They typically include 25 to 35 multiple-choice questions.

The certification exams (HCE-XXXX) are closed-book, proctored examinations. They typically include 60 to 65 multiple-choice questions.

#### Q: Which tracks are available?

**A:** Credentials are available for sales, presales, architects, installation, and implementation personnel as well as storage administrators.

**Sales track:** This track is intended for Hitachi Vantara partners and employees who sell products, solutions, services, and technology from Hitachi Vantara.

**Presales track:** This track is intended for Hitachi Vantara partners and employee presales personnel who support the sales activities related to Hitachi Vantara products, solutions, services, and technology.

**Implementation and Integration track:** This track is intended for Hitachi Vantara partner and employee implementation and professional services personnel who deploy, integrate and support Hitachi Vantara products and solutions.

**Installation and Support track:** This track is intended for Hitachi Vantara partners and employee installation personnel who install, configure and support Hitachi Vantara products and systems.

**Administration track:** This track is primarily intended for end-users and Hitachi Vantara customers who use, manage, and administer Hitachi Vantara products and solutions. It is also available to Hitachi Vantara employees and partners.

**Basics and Fundamentals track:** This is an entry-level track for audiences who seek basic knowledge and understanding of IT concepts, technologies, and standards.

**Q: Which exams are currently available?**

**A:** The following qualification tests and certification exams are currently available.

**Qualification tests:**

## Associate-level

HQT-0050 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Associate - Storage Concepts  
HQT-6751 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Associate - Ops Center operations

## Professional-level

HQT-1024 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - Solution Selling  
HQT-2002 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - Presales solution positioning  
HQT-2124 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - Presales Data Infrastructure Foundation  
HQT-2224 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - Presales Data Solutions Foundation  
HQT-2924 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - Presales Data Operations Foundation  
HQT-4160 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - VSP 5000 Series installation  
HQT-4180 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - VSP Midrange installation  
HQT-4230 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - VSP One File installation  
HQT-4420 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - Content Platform installation  
HQT-6200 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - NAS Administration  
HQT-6420 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - Content Platform administration  
HQT-6430 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - Content Platform for Cloud Scale administration  
HQT-6701 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - Storage performance analysis with Ops Center Analyzer  
HQT-6711 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - Ops Center protection  
HQT-6712 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - Global-Active Device management and operations  
HQT-6713 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - In-system replication management  
HQT-6714 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - Universal Replicator management  
HQT-6721 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - Enterprise storage for mainframe management  
HQT-6741 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - Ops Center administration  
HQT-6761 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - Ops Center automation  
HQT-6771 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - Ops Center Analyzer Management

**Certification exams:**

## Specialist-level

HCE-5210 Hitachi Vantara Certified Specialist - NAS solutions implementation  
HCE-5910 Hitachi Vantara Certified Specialist - Pentaho Business Analytics implementation  
HCE-5920 Hitachi Vantara Certified Specialist - Pentaho Data Integration implementation

## Expert-level

HCE-5400 Hitachi Vantara Certified Expert - Content solutions implementation  
HCE-5700 Hitachi Vantara Certified Expert - Block storage solutions implementation  
HCE-5710 Hitachi Vantara Certified Expert - Replication solutions implementation

**Q: How long are the exams and what are the passing scores?**

**A:** Exam details are found in the exam descriptions posted on the [Hitachi Vantara Certification website](#) and are subject to change. Passing scores are set for each exam independently; refer to the exam descriptions.

Unless otherwise specified in the exam description, exam durations are set according to the following guidelines:

- *Sales and Presales* qualification tests: 2 hours

- All *technical* qualification tests: 1 hour
- All *certification* exams: 90 minutes

#### Q: Where are the exams offered, and how do I register to take the exams?

**A:** All proctored certification exams (HCE-XXXX) and proctored technical qualification tests (HQT-XXXX) are offered through the Kryterion Webassessor system. The exams and tests are available at all Kryterion testing centers worldwide, or can be taken wherever an internet connection and a suitable environment are available, using the online proctoring feature.

Depending on your training center location and the format of the course, proctored technical qualification tests (HQT-XXXX) may also be available immediately at the end of the supporting training. Your local Hitachi Vantara training delivery organization can inform you about the availability of (HQT-XXXX) tests in combination with their supporting courses.

The *Storage Concepts* (HQT-0050), *Sales* (HQT-1xxx) and *Presales* (HQT-2xxx) are open-book, un-proctored tests and they can be taken online anywhere and at any time using Webassessor.

#### Hitachi Vantara Exam Registration is available through the Hitachi Vantara Single Sign On (SSO) authentication portal.

To register for a Hitachi Vantara exam offered through the Kryterion Webassessor system please follow these steps:

##### If you already have an account with Hitachi Vantara:

- Go to: <https://www.webassessor.com/form/ssoLogin.do?method=process&provider=hitachi&brand=hitachi>
- Log in with your Hitachi Vantara credentials and you will be redirected to your Webassessor personal home page

##### If you do not have an account with Hitachi Vantara:

- Go to <https://sso.hitachivantara.com/content/login-page.html>
- Click the **Register Here** link at the bottom of the login window
- Complete the registration form and follow the instructions to activate your account

The Webassessor candidate user guide can be found at: <https://www.hitachivantara.com/en-us/pdf/training/kryterion-webassessor-test-taker-guide.pdf>

#### Q: What are the Kryterion cancellation and reschedule policies?

**A:** For on-site proctored exams at Kryterion testing centers, candidates can cancel or reschedule a test session at least 72 hours (3 days) in advance. Test fees, vouchers or coupons used to pay for the exam will not be refunded for sessions cancelled within 72 hours, and additional fees may apply.

For online proctored exams with remote proctoring, candidates can cancel or reschedule an online proctored test session at least 24 hours (1 day) in advance. Test fees, vouchers or coupons used to pay for the exam will not be refunded for sessions cancelled within 24 hours, and additional fees may apply.

#### Q: How much do the exams cost?

**A:** Exam costs are based on the U.S. dollar value assigned and then converted to the local currency (plus local tax, depending on location).

- The *Storage Concepts* (HQT-0050), *Sales* (HQT-1xxx) and *Presales* (HQT-2xxx) tests are US\$75.00 or equivalent in local currency (plus local tax, depending on location).
- Technical qualification (HQT-XXXX) tests are US\$100.00 or equivalent in local currency (plus local tax, depending on location).

Certification exams (HCE-XXXX) are US\$225.00 or equivalent in local currency (plus local tax, depending on location).

#### Q: How do I prepare for the exams?

**A:** Exam descriptions that are posted on the [Hitachi Vantara Certification website](#) include a *Supporting material* section that provides information regarding exam preparation. They also include a list of test objectives that identify topics covered by the exams.

Practical experience with the product(s) and/or solution(s) covered is also required to pass certification-level exams.

#### Q: How do I get my credentials?

**A:** The Hitachi Vantara Certified Professional program office uses the *CertMetrics* credential management system from Alpine Testing Solutions Inc., available at <https://www.certmetrics.com/hitachi>.

CertMetrics self-service benefits include the ability for test-takers to:

- Review and update demographic data
- Check certification status
- View certification history
- Download logos and certificates
- Create and manage transcripts

For information on how to navigate the system and use its various functions, refer to the [User Guide](#).

Please note that to take advantage of the CertMetrics functionality, all candidates must first complete the *First-Time Login procedure* as described in the user guide.

#### Q: Does Hitachi Vantara offer digital badges?

**A:** The Hitachi Vantara Certified Professional program office has partnered with Credly to offer you a free digital badging service.

##### What are Digital Badges?

Digital Badges are secure, web-enabled versions of a credential, learning or certification outcome that allow you to communicate your achievements in a way that is simple, trusted and easily verifiable in real time.

##### How can I earn a Hitachi Vantara Digital Badge?

- Successfully complete training on selected courses
- Pass a Hitachi Vantara qualification test or certification exam
- Complete a Learning Path
- Participate in specific Global Learning events

##### What can you do with a badge?

- Share your accomplishments in a way that is simple and trusted
- Provide employers and peers with concrete evidence of what you accomplished to earn your credential
- Gain labor market insights based on your skills and search for job opportunities through the Credly platform

Learn more about our digital badges at: <https://www.hitachivantara.com/en-us/services/learning/certifications/digital-badges>

### Q: How do I get my digital badge?

**A:** After you have completed a course associated with a digital badge or passed an exam, you will receive an email notifying you to claim your badge at the Credly website.

- Click the “Accept your badge” button in that email.
- Create an account on the Credly platform and confirm your email.
- Sign back in and claim your badge.
- Start sharing.

### Q: What are the recertification rules?

**A:** Credentials are stamped by the year. Qualification and certification credentials are valid for three years. Recertification must take place every three years by passing the same exam if still available, or by passing a newer exam covering the same area of expertise or product range.

Credentials associated with partner programs also require recertification every three years.

### Q: What is the re-take policy?

**A:** Participants must wait 72 hours before retaking a qualification test or a certification exam. The Hitachi Vantara Certified Professional program office may waive this requirement.

For un-proctored tests, a second attempt on the same day is allowed.

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