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Sign up

ISAQB® CPSA® Advanced Certification Training

3 days (21 hours)

Overview

The ISAQB CPSA Advanced certification helps you structure and defend your architectural decisions in real-world contexts: modernization, cloud, microservices, quality, and governance. You gain credibility to lead architecture reviews and effectively prepare for the exam.

This 3-day training aims to consolidate the skills expected at the Advanced level: requirements analysis, design, documentation, and communication. The approach focuses on concrete cases (existing systems, non-functional constraints, trade-offs) and alignment with the CPSA Advanced modules.

You will alternate between guided workshops, mini-demos, and writing exercises (arc42, ADRs, views, and scenarios). Deliverables: a summary architecture document, a set of justified ADRs, a review checklist, and a personalized revision plan.

Objectives

- Analyze requirements and constraints to define an architectural framework.
- Design solutions and explain quality/cost/time trade-offs.
- Document with usable views, scenarios, and ADRs.
- Evaluate architectures through reviews, metrics, and risk assessments.
- Prepare for the CPSA Advanced exam using a revision method.

Target Audience

- Software and solution architects
- Tech leads / lead developers
- Technical Project Managers / Engineering Managers
- Architecture and Quality Consultants

Requirements

- Experience in software design and architectural patterns
- Experience with non-functional requirements (performance, security, availability)
- Basic knowledge of architecture documentation (views, diagrams, scenarios)
- Understanding of distributed architectures (APIs, messaging, cloud)

Technical requirements

- PC/Mac with at least 8 GB of RAM (16 GB recommended)
- Windows 10/11, macOS, or Linux
- VS Code, IntelliJ, or equivalent
- Modern browser, PDF reader, Git (optional)

ISAQB CPSA Advanced Certification Training Program

[Day 1 - Morning]

CPSA Advanced positioning and architecture approach

- Review of the ISAQB framework: expected competencies, units, deliverables, and evaluation criteria
- Formulating measurable architecture objectives and an architecture “done” definition
- Identify stakeholders, concerns, and constraints (business, technical, organizational)
- Establishing an iterative approach: exploration, decision-making, validation, communication
- Hands-on workshop: Mapping stakeholders, objectives, and constraints for a common case study.

[Day 1 - Afternoon]

Architectural requirements and quality scenarios

- Distinguish between functional requirements and quality requirements and constraints
- Transforming requirements into quality scenarios (performance, security, availability, maintainability)
- Prioritizing using a value/risk matrix and defining acceptance thresholds
- Trace requirements → decisions → tests (traceability and governance)
- Hands-on workshop: Draft and prioritize 10 quality scenarios with measurable criteria.

[Day 2 - Morning]

Design: styles, patterns, and decomposition

- Choose an architectural style (monolithic, modular, microservices, event-driven) based on scenarios

- Define boundaries: bounded contexts, responsibilities, dependencies, and contracts
- Integration and communication: REST, messaging, events, idempotence, and error handling
- Data strategies: ownership, transactions, consistency, migrations
- Hands-on workshop: Propose two architectural options and compare their impacts across five scenarios.

[Day 2 - Afternoon]

Architectural decisions (ADR) and solution evaluation

- Formalizing a decision: context, options, decision, consequences, risks, and technical debt
- Evaluate options using trade-offs, criteria, assumptions, and evidence (spikes, benchmarks)
- Managing evolution: versioning, deprecating, planning migration, and communicating
- Establishing a decision registry and a pragmatic architecture review
- Hands-on workshop: Drafting 2 ADRs (e.g., synchronous vs. asynchronous, shared DB vs. ownership).

[Day 3 - Morning]

Architecture documentation and communication

- Structuring useful documentation: views, levels of detail, target audience, update rules
- Model using consistent diagrams: context, containers, components, deployment
- Describing interfaces and contracts: APIs, events, schemas, compatibility, and versioning
- Preparing a review: key messages, risks, decisions, open questions
- Hands-on workshop: Produce a mini architectural portfolio (4 views) for the central case study.

[Day 3 - Afternoon]

Validation, risks, and preparation for certification

- Define a validation strategy: architecture tests, fitness functions, SLO/SLI
- Analyzing risks and technical debt: registry, prioritization, mitigation plans, and exit criteria
- Lightweight governance: standards, reviews, CI/CD safeguards, security by design
- Preparing for the exam: question types, practice, time management, and common pitfalls
- Hands-on workshop: Mock exam (multiple-choice/case study) + detailed feedback.

FAQ – QUESTIONS / ANSWERS

In what language is the CPSA® Advanced training taught?

The course is taught in French.

Is the exam included in the course price?

Yes, the certification fee is included in the course cost ($2,550 as a rough estimate). You will be able to take the exam at the end of the session.

How is the CPSA® Advanced certification exam conducted?

The CPSA-A® exam consists of two parts: a written assignment followed by an oral exam in the form of a defense of the assignment.

Target Audience

This training is intended for both individuals and companies, large or small, wishing to train their teams in new advanced IT technology or to acquire specific professional knowledge or modern methods.

Entry-level assessment

The assessment conducted at the start of the training program complies with Qualiopi quality standards. Upon final registration, the learner receives a self-assessment questionnaire that allows us to evaluate their estimated proficiency with various types of technology, as well as their expectations and personal goals for the upcoming training, within the limits imposed by the selected format. This questionnaire also allows us to anticipate certain connection or internal security issues within the company (intra-company or virtual classroom) that could pose challenges for monitoring and ensuring the smooth running of the training session.

Teaching Methods

Practical Course: 60% Practical, 40% Theory. Training materials distributed in digital format to all participants.

Organization

The course alternates between theoretical input from the trainer, supported by examples and reflection sessions, and group work.

Assessment

At the end of the session, a multiple-choice questionnaire is used to verify that the skills have been properly acquired.

Certification

A certificate will be issued to each trainee who has completed the entire training program.