

# Accreditation Corner

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## Accreditation and the APMP Conference

The Accreditation Program will be very visible at the 21st Annual APMP International Conference & Exhibits in Orlando, FL with the following accreditation events.

- June 1 pre-conference workshop and exam: Foundation Level workshop and exam conducted by Shipley Associates, an APMP Approved Training Organization (ATO).
- June 1-3 Professional Level interviews: face-to-face interviews for Professional Level accreditation; primary interviewers to be Cathy Day, PPF.APMP, APMP Chief Examiner; and Charlie Divine, PPF.APMP. (By the way, a new PowerPoint template for developing the Proposal Profession Impact Paper [PPIP] for Professional Level accreditation has been released. See <http://www.apmp.org/fv-202.aspx> for the template.)
- June 2 conference presentation: “Renewing Your Commitment Through Accreditation” panel/workshop to provide help for those seeking Practitioner and Professional Level accreditation presented by Betsy Blakney, PPF.APMP; Brenda Crist, PPM.APMP; Charlie Divine, PPF.APMP; Wendy Frieman, PPM.APMP; and Bobbie O'Brien, AM.APMP (moderator). (As the APMP Accreditation Program Director, I'll participate in a Q&A session and mini-workshop to support this panel presentation.)
- June 3 conference presentation: coaching to become a mentor for Practitioner and Professional Level accreditation by Cathy Day, PPF.APMP, APMP Chief Examiner.
- June 4 conference presentation: “The APMP Accreditation Program: Q&As for Professional Growth and Recognition” given by me—a presentation to provide an overview of the APMP Accreditation Program.

## Sessions for Foundation Accreditation

The schedule is quite busy for workshop and exam sessions for earning Foundation Level accreditation. In February there were 14 such sessions listed for 2010 on the Accreditation Event Calendar of the APMP Website: 11 in Europe (UK, Germany, and Netherlands) and 3 in the US (Florida, Virginia, and Texas). I think it's possible that at least six other Foundation Level training and exam sessions will be scheduled as chapter-sponsored events later in the year. To keep track of scheduled sessions, see [www.apmp.org/av-108.aspx](http://www.apmp.org/av-108.aspx).

As part of a pilot program, organized by Cathy Day, APMP Chief Examiner, a Foundation Level workshop and exam session was held on March 10-11 in Munich, Germany, with the workshop taught in German and English, and the exam in English. The session was conducted by Strategic Proposals, an ATO, in cooperation with CSK Management.

## Foundation Facts

If you're planning to obtain (or have) your Foundation Level accreditation, here are answers to questions you might have.

- I have enough years of proposal experience to qualify for any accreditation level. Can I start at any accreditation level as long as I have the requisite experience? There are three levels (Foundation, Practitioner, and Professional), and you must attain them in that order.

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- I have Foundation Level accreditation. The Practitioner Level requires three years of experience. Does this mean that I have to have three years of experience with Foundation accreditation before I can seek Practitioner accreditation? No. The three years pertain to your overall experience, not three years with Foundation Level accreditation.
- When I register and pay for the Foundation Level exam online, must I have my experience verified by my referee before I can take the exam? No. Verification will occur later.
- When I register and pay for the Foundation Level exam online, must I begin the exam at that time? No. However, you have three months to take the exam after doing so, and when you start the exam, you have 60 minutes to finish it. You can take a short practice exam online, and return later to take the real exam.
- After I take the Foundation Level exam, when will I find out if I passed? And if I've passed, how long will it take for me to receive my accreditation certificate? You will learn right after taking the exam if you passed. Expect to receive your certificate within about month.
- If I don't pass the Foundation Level exam, when can I retake the exam, and will I have to pay the fee again? You must wait six months before taking the exam again, and you will have to pay the exam fee again.

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