

## 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 products and solutions. It includes tests and exams for sales, presales, installation, implementation, and support 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 medium-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 medium-stakes tests are short online assessments that either validate fundamental general knowledge, or confirm basic technical expertise usually acquired through course attendance.
- Passing a qualification test leads to a **QUALIFICATION** credential valid two years (sales and presales tests), or three years (technical tests). The credential is provided with a printable PDF certificate and a shareable digital badge. Hitachi Vantara 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, or other 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.
- Passing a certification exam leads to a CERTIFICATION credential valid three years. The credential is provided with a printable PDF certificate and a shareable digital badge. Hitachi Vantara 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 Services or Authorized Training Partners instructors, or by Hitachi Vantara subject matter experts. The tests are then reviewed and validated by one or several subject matter experts who have practical field experience.

All Hitachi Vantara certification exams (HCE-XXXX) are exclusively developed by Hitachi Vantara subject matter experts with practical, real-life experience at customer sites. These exams are created 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 other technical qualification (HQT-XXXX) tests 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, installation, implementation and support 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 maintain 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 validation of basic technical knowledge and understanding of concepts and products.

**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-1025 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - Solution Selling

HQT-2125 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - Presales Data Infrastructure foundation

HQT-2225 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - Presales Data Solutions foundation

HQT-2925 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-6230 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - VSP One File 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

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-6742 Hitachi Vantara Qualified Professional - VSP 360 storage 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-5211 Hitachi Vantara Certified Specialist - NAS systems 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-5711 Hitachi Vantara Certified Expert - Replication and migration 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 the Hitachi Vantara exams are offered through the Webassessor system from Kryterion, by Drake International.

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

All proctored certification exams (HCE-XXXX) and proctored technical qualification tests (HQT-XXXX) are available at all Kryterion testing centers worldwide, or can be taken online, wherever an internet connection and a suitable environment are available. Online proctored exams require an external web camera.

Depending on your training center location and the format of the course, some 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 qualification tests in combination with their supporting courses.

**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/>
- Click the **Register Now!** link
- Fill-in and complete the registration form and follow the instructions to activate your account

For further instructions, please refer to the Webassessor candidate user guide here:

<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.

Unproctored online exams do not require scheduling and are therefore not subject to any cancellation or rescheduling policy.

**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) unproctored tests are US\$75.00, or the equivalent in local currency (plus local tax, depending on location).
- Proctored technical qualification (HQT-XXXX) tests are US\$100.00, or equivalent in local currency (plus local tax, depending on location).
- Proctored certification exams (HCE-XXXX) are US\$225.00, or the 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 and describe the 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 CM Connect credential management system from Alpine Testing Solutions Inc., available at <https://cp.certmetrics.com/hitachi/en/login>.

CM Connect 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, please refer to the [User Guide](#).

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

### Q: What are the recertification rules?

**A:** Credentials are stamped by the year. Sales and presales credentials are valid for two years; technical qualification and certification credentials are valid for three years.

- Recertification must take place before the credential expiration date by passing the same exam, if still available, or by passing a newer exam covering the same area of expertise or product range.
- Partners are required to renew their credentials to maintain compliance with Hitachi Vantara partner programs and to retain the associated benefits.

### 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.

### 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 Hitachi Vantara or Global Learning Services 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 after passing 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.