

# Exam Candidate Information Guide

CSX | Practitioner



**ISACA**<sup>®</sup>

<https://cybersecurity.isaca.org>

# ISACA CSX® Cybersecurity Practitioner (CSX-P) Exam Candidate Information Guide

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## Introduction

ISACA's Cybersecurity Nexus (CSX) certification program supports cybersecurity professionals throughout their career by assessing a candidate's current technical abilities and skills using freely available open source security tools.

ISACA's CSX® Cybersecurity Practitioner exam was developed utilizing existing global cybersecurity frameworks and input from hundreds of subject matter experts. The CSX-P exam is conducted in a sandbox using realistic scenarios intended to measure and evaluate a candidate's ability to perform cybersecurity tasks aligned to the [Exam Content Outline](#).

## Summary of Certification Program

<b>Exam Availability</b>	<b>February 2019</b>
<b>Exam Description</b>	The ISACA CSX® Cybersecurity Practitioner (CSX-P) certification verifies that successful candidates have the knowledge and skills required to identify and remediate vulnerabilities; configure and implement protective technologies; and detect, respond and recover from incidents.
<b>Content Areas</b>	<i>Domain 1-Business and Security Environment (20%)</i> <i>Domain 2-Operational Security Readiness (20%)</i> <i>Domain 3-Threat Detection and Evaluation (20%)</i> <i>Domain 4-Incident Response and Recovery (40%)</i>
<b>Certification Requirements</b>	Pass CSX Cybersecurity Practitioner examination. Apply for certification Compliance with ISACA's Code of Professional Ethics Compliance with ISACA's CSX-P CPE Policy is required to maintain certification
<b>Type of Exam</b>	Online, lab-based skills assessment
<b>Number of Tasks</b>	5
<b>Length of Exam</b>	1 hour (60 minutes) to complete and score the exam. Scoring is immediate.
<b>Languages</b>	English only
<b>Price</b>	\$549 member / \$599 non-member
<b>Re-certification Requirements</b>	Attain and report a minimum of one-hundred-twenty (120) CPE hours over three years with an annual minimum reporting requirement of twenty (20) CPE hours in years one and two. A minimum of 50% of the yearly and total CPE hours must be obtained from skills-based training/lab activities.

## About the Exam

The ISACA CSX® Cybersecurity Practitioner examination is an online performance examination consisting of 5 tasks aligned to the [Exam Content Outline](#). Each exam item consists of a prompt presented to examinees, whose responses are then evaluated against a pre-defined scoring criterion. Participants have 1 hour (60 minutes) to complete the exam.

## Purchase and Scheduling

### **Purchase**

The ISACA CSX-P exam can only be purchased online at <https://cybersecurity.isaca.org/csx-certifications/csx-practitioner-certification>.

*Exams are valid for 6 months (180 days) from the purchase date. Exams not taken within this period will result in forfeiture of fee. Membership pricing is based on membership status at time of exam purchase. If you are not an ISACA member, consider joining during the registration process to enjoy the member discount on your exam detailed at [www.isaca.org/benefits](http://www.isaca.org/benefits). Membership purchase requires at least 1 business day prior to exam purchase to receive the discounted rate. Exam fees are not refundable nor transferrable.*

### **Scheduling**

The CSX-P exam is completed online and does not require advanced scheduling.

## Exam Day Information

### **Confidentiality**

By taking an ISACA exam, the candidate understands and agrees that the exam (which includes all aspects of the exam, including, without limitation, the test, scenarios/questions, responses, examples and other information presented or contained in the exam and exam materials) belongs to ISACA and constitutes ISACA's confidential information (collectively, "Confidential Information"). At time of purchase, the candidate agrees to maintain the confidentiality of ISACA's Confidential Information at all times and understands that any failure to maintain the confidentiality of ISACA's Confidential Information may result in disciplinary action against the candidate by ISACA or other adverse consequences, including, without limitation, nullification of his/her exam, loss of his/her credentials, and/or litigation. Specifically, the candidate understands that he/she may not, for example, discuss, publish or share any exam scenarios/question(s), his/her responses or thoughts on any questions(s) or the exam's format in any forum or media (e.g., via email, Facebook, LinkedIn).

### **Exam Rules**

The exam is an online, closed-book exam. Cheating is not tolerated. Failure to comply will result in the exam being voided with no refund given.

The following are **NOT** allowed during testing:

- Candidates are not allowed to use reference materials, written notes, published materials, testing aids, blank paper, note pads or language dictionaries during the exam.
- Using an instant messenger tool/system
- Note taking or taking screen captures of the computer screen/exam content
- Electronic equipment is not permitted in the testing room at any time. This includes, but is not limited to, cameras, surveillance or recording devices, pagers, cell phones, etc.
- Accessing other programs on your system such as viewing documents, web browsing, email access, etc.

## Exam Information

### Exam Type

The CSX® Cybersecurity Practitioner exam is an online performance assessment of a candidate's ability to perform tasks in accordance with the respective job practice. There are no multiple-choice questions.

### Exam Content Outline

<b>1</b>	<b>Business and Security Environment (ID)</b>	<b>20%</b>
1A	Business Environment	
1A1	Digital Infrastructure	
1A2	Enterprise Architecture	
1A3	Data and Digital Communication	
1B	Security Environment	
1B1	Network	
1B2	Operating Systems	
1B3	Applications	
1B4	Virtualization and Cloud	
<b>2</b>	<b>Operational Security Readiness (PR)</b>	<b>20%</b>
2A	Protection	
2A1	Digital and Data Assets	
2A2	Ports and Protocols	
2A3	Protection Technologies	
2A4	Identity and Access Management	
2A5	Configuration Management	
2B	Preparedness	
2B1	Threat Modeling	
2B2	Contingency Planning	
2B3	Security Procedures	
<b>3</b>	<b>Threat Detection and Evaluation (DE)</b>	<b>20%</b>
3A	Monitoring	
3A1	Vulnerability Management	
3A2	Security Logs and Alerts	
3A3	Monitoring Tools and Appliances	
3A4	Use Cases	
3A5	Penetration Testing	
3B	Analysis	
3B1	Network Traffic Analysis	
3B2	Packet Capture and Analysis	
3B3	Data Analysis	
3B4	Research and Correlation	
<b>4</b>	<b>Incident Response and Recovery (RS&amp;RC)</b>	<b>40%</b>
4A	Incident Handling	
4A1	Notifications and Escalation	
4A2	Digital Forensics	
4B	Mitigation	
4B1	Containment	
4B2	Attack Countermeasures	
4B3	Corrective Actions	
4C	Restoration	
4C1	Security Functions Validation	
4C2	Incident Analysis and Reporting	
4C3	Lessons Learned and Process Improvement	

## ***Exam Environment Familiarization***

Candidates unfamiliar with Lab on Demand's platform are encouraged to view this [lab tutorial](#). After the tutorial loads, you will notice a blue task bar at the bottom of the screen. Instructions for each task within the exam will be included within this blue task bar.

Click "Launch Lab" to launch the exam, you will only have ONE HOUR to complete the assessment once you have clicked "Launch Lab." Within that hour, if you close the browser, you will need to restart the exam. Provide yourself three minutes for the grading to occur at the end. You will initiate the grading yourself by using EVALU8R.

## ***Exam Scoring and Certification***

***You must grade your exam prior to time expiring.*** To initiate, enter your Nexus/ISACA login credentials (username & password) prior to clicking "SUBMIT SCORE". Once scores are submitted, a "PASS" or "DID NOT PASS" will be displayed on the screen.

To complete the certification process, individuals who pass the exam will need to go to the "Performance and Transcript" page in their Nexus account to apply for certification. "Click here to apply" will bring up the certification application. Applicants will be required to select the Certifications and/or Certificates they possess OR indicate which domains they have the required 3 years of work experience. Work experience must be in at least 3 of the domains listed (1 year per domain) and will need to be verified by a supervisor/manager.

Once the application has been approved, official results will be uploaded into your ISACA account within 10 business days, and an email will be sent to the email address listed in the candidate's ISACA/Nexus profile. To ensure the confidentiality of scores, exam results are not reported by telephone or fax. Once released, results will also be available on the [MyCertifications](#) page of the ISACA web site. Candidates will earn their certification once they pass the CSX-P exam and complete their application. A PDF containing a printable certificate of certification will be available at [MyCertifications](#), as well as in the "Certificates" section of your Nexus account.

## ***Retesting Policy***

Candidates who are unsuccessful may purchase subsequent exam attempts.

## ***Exam Day Comments***

Candidates who wish to address comments or concerns about their experience, including exam day issues or content, must contact ISACA by email ([csxexam@isaca.org](mailto:csxexam@isaca.org)) within 48 hours of their exam date. ISACA will review complaints prior to the release of official exam scores. Correspondence shall include: Full name, ISACA ID number, exam day and time, and any relevant details on the specific issue. Only those comments received by ISACA within 48 hours of the exam date will be considered in the final scoring of the exam.

## ***Misconduct***

Candidates who are discovered in violation of the exam rules or engaging in any kind of misconduct including but not limited to the activities listed below will be subject to disqualification including voiding of their exam results. All cases of misconduct will be reported to ISACA for review to render any decision necessary.

- Giving or receiving help; using notes, papers or other aids
- Attempting to take the exam for someone else
- Attempting to share test information contained in the exam (as such are the confidential information of ISACA); including sharing test information after the exam
- Attempting to alter, bypass, or otherwise defeat scoring mechanisms
- Falsifying attestation related to the required three years' experience or professional certifications required to apply for certification.

## **ISACA Code of Professional Ethics**

ISACA sets forth a Code of Professional Ethics to guide the professional and personal conduct of members of ISACA and/or its certification holders. ISACA certification holders are required to abide by the Code. Failure to comply with this Code of Professional Ethics can result in an investigation into a certification holder's conduct and, ultimately, in disciplinary measures. The ISACA Code of Professional Ethics can be viewed online at [www.isaca.org/ethics](http://www.isaca.org/ethics).

## ISACA CSX CPE Policy and Recertification

All CSX-P certification holders must meet recertification requirements annually. These requirements are detailed within the [CSX-P CPE Policy](#).

## Open Badges/Digital Certificates

ISACA offers digital badges to all that hold an ISACA certification as validation of certification. An additional email will be sent from ISACA containing information on how to accept the CSX-P digital badge. The badge, once accepted, provides a link to a page that verifies that you have earned the certification as well as provides an explanation of the achievement. Open badges are also able to be shared through social networking. Please go to [www.isaca.org/badges](http://www.isaca.org/badges) to read more.

## CSX-P Exam Contact Information

If you have questions regarding your CSX-P Certification or your ISACA Membership, contact us at:

**ISACA Support**

<https://support.isaca.org>