(ISC)²®

Inspiring a Safe and Secure
Cyber World

CISSP. | ISSAP. ISSEP. ISSMP. | SSCP. | CCSP. | CAP. | CSSLP. | HCISPP.

The (ISC)²
Certification Prep Kit

Your Ultimate Guide to Exam Planning

Set Yourself Up for **SUCCESS!**

We know you're busy, and preparing for an (ISC)² certification exam can seem daunting at first. This training guide will help you develop your plan for a successful and rewarding journey.

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Training Success Stories

"I attended (ISC)²'s CISSP training and highly recommend it to others studying for the exam. The instructor's knowledge allows you to focus on what's really important and rationalize difficult subjects. Training is very comprehensive, covering a great deal of material with both depth and clarity."

Carlo Brantly,
Director of IT

"I chose (ISC)² for CISSP training because of their impeccable reputation and standards. My instructor was able to tie real-life scenarios into the course material, and learning was further enhanced by different IT experiences of fellow classmates."

Corley S. Bradford, Jr.,
Cyber Planner

"I attended (ISC)²'s SSCP CBK training and would definitely recommend this to others preparing for the exam. I found the discussions and diagramming to be especially helpful in better understanding what is portrayed in the books. Personalizing the scenarios during the training made the information much easier to recall during the exam."

Fredric Shope,
Database Administrator

Fast Facts

About (ISC)² Training and Study Tools

Have average of **15-20 years** of real-world security experience

Have **5+ years** of training/teaching experience

Hold the certification they are teaching

Complete our rigorous instructor onboarding program

(ISC)² Authorized Instructors

Help develop the official courseware — they know the content inside and out

Courses include an Official Student Guide*

24-40 hrs. of course content based the certification

Official (ISC)² Training

4 Ways to Train* (Classroom-Based, Online Instructor-Led, Online Self-Paced, Private On-Site)

Official (ISC)² Self-Study Tools

Textbooks
Study Guides
Practice Tests
Flash Cards

*Vary based on certification

Training Myths...
Debunked!

Choosing the right training provider requires some homework. Here are three myths debunked to help you avoid unwelcome surprises or pitfalls when you reach an (ISC)² certification exam.

MYTH 1
Pass rates of 90%+ are guaranteed.

No training provider knows exactly which items and real-world scenarios will be on the exam, so there's no way to guarantee a pass rate.

Our certification exams are rigorous, and they are constantly being updated to reflect the ever-changing cyber world. The notion that a company will prepare you for the exact items on the exam is impossible.

Bottom line: (ISC)² does not provide pass rate information to any training providers. Be cautious of any company that guarantees a pass rate.

MYTH 2
Any training company can get you an (ISC)² certifcation exam voucher.

(ISC)² and (ISC)² Official Training Providers are the only authorized organizations with the ability to offer vouchers for our exams.

Never provide your Pearson VUE credentials to an unauthorized company. This puts you at risk and violates the terms of the (ISC)² Non-Disclosure Agreement, which could result in losing your (ISC)² certification, being suspended indefinitely from retaking the exam, and losing money you've paid for the exam.

Bottom line: When you go through official channels for exam vouchers, you eliminate these risks. (ISC)² and our Official Training Providers will never ask you for your Pearson VUE credentials.

MYTH 3
Passing the exam is the one and only thing that matters.

There's a lot more at stake here. Our certifications are created to measure whether you have the experience, knowledge and critical thinking skills to be effective at your job. We help you prepare for test day, but never lose sight of the bigger picture: inspiring a safe and secure cyber world and developing professionals who can protect your organizations.

Because we create and manage the CBK, our training seminars always include the most current information, taught by authorized (ISC)² instructors who are (ISC)²-certified.

Bottom line: When you choose (ISC)² for your training, you are on your way to becoming the most well-rounded and effective information security professional.

Official (ISC)² Training

In addition to offering our own training, we partner with leading training providers around the world to make sure you have convenient access to official training. All instructors are verified security experts, authorized by (ISC)² to deliver the most relevant, up-to-date course content developed by (ISC)². If you're ever in doubt about a training provider's official status, look for the Official Training Provider or International Academic Program logos signifying official training.

(ISC)²® | TRAINING OFFICIAL PROVIDER   **(ISC)²®** | INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Training from the Creator of the CBK

Top-Notch Instructors

Our authorized instructors are incredibly knowledgeable. They make content highly relatable for you, undergo a rigorous process to teach our CBK and average 15-20 years of industry experience.

Comprehensive Training

(ISC)² uses proven training techniques — with a focus on real-world learning activities and scenarios — so you get the most out of training.

Most Up-to-Date Content

You will learn about current exam topic areas covering all domains of knowledge. You'll gain deep awareness and understanding of new threats, technologies, regulations, best practices and more.

Official Study Tools

Feel fully prepared and supported with the Official (ISC)² Student Guide* and interactive flash cards.

Knowledge Checks
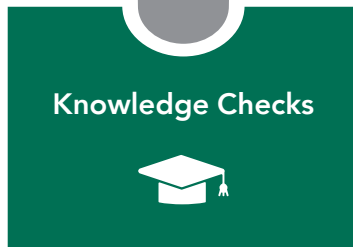
You'll be able to easily identify knowledge gaps with quizzes after every domain and post course assessment* to gauge overall exam readiness.

Want to view the current schedule?
Visit our training finder ▶

*Available for select certifications

Flexible Training Options

From self-paced to instructor-led, we have training options to fit your schedule and learning style.

Classroom-Based
Available for all certifications except for the CISSP concentrations

» Live, Instructor-led
» Official Courseware
» Instructor Support
» Collaboration with Classmates

Online Instructor-Led
Available for all certifications except for the CISSP concentrations

» Live, Instructor-led
» Instructor Support
» Official Courseware
» Collaboration with Classmates
» Access to Materials Online for 60 Days

Online Self-Paced
Available for CISSP, SSCP, CCSP and CISSP concentrations

» Videos
» Official Courseware
» Independent Readings*
» Journal Reflections and Entries*
» Access to Materials Online for 120 Days

Private On-Site
Available for all certifications except for the CISSP concentrations

» Live, Instructor-led
» Official Courseware
» Instructor Support
» Collaboration with Classmates
» Customizable Format

Official Course Previews

(ISC)² Official CBK Trainings provide a comprehensive review of the topics in the exam outline. These courses help you review and refresh your knowledge and identify areas you need to study. Discover which certification is right for you by exploring our course outlines. Learn more about course features and objectives.

CISSP – Leadership and Operations

Design, engineer and manage the overall security posture of an organization on.

View Course Outline ▶

SSCP – IT Administration

Implement, monitor and administer IT infrastructure in accordance with information security policies and procedures that ensure data confidentiality, integrity and availability.

View Course Outline ▶

CCSP – Cloud Security

Understand cloud computing and its information security risks and mitigation strategies.

View Course Outline ▶

CAP – Authorization

Authorize and maintain information systems within the NIST Risk Management Framework.

View Course Outline ▶

CSSLP – Software Security

Incorporate security practices – authentication, authorization and auditing – into each phase of the SDLC, from software design and implementation to testing and deployment.

View Course Outline ▶

HCISPP – Healthcare Security and Privacy

Implement, manage or assess the appropriate security and privacy controls of a healthcare organization.

View Course Outline ▶

CISSP-ISSAP – Concentration in Security Architecture

Design security solutions and provide management with risk-based guidance to meet organizational goals.

View Course Outline ▶

CISSP-ISSEP – Concentration in Security Engineering

Develop secure systems through practical application of systems engineering principles and processes.

View Course Outline ▶
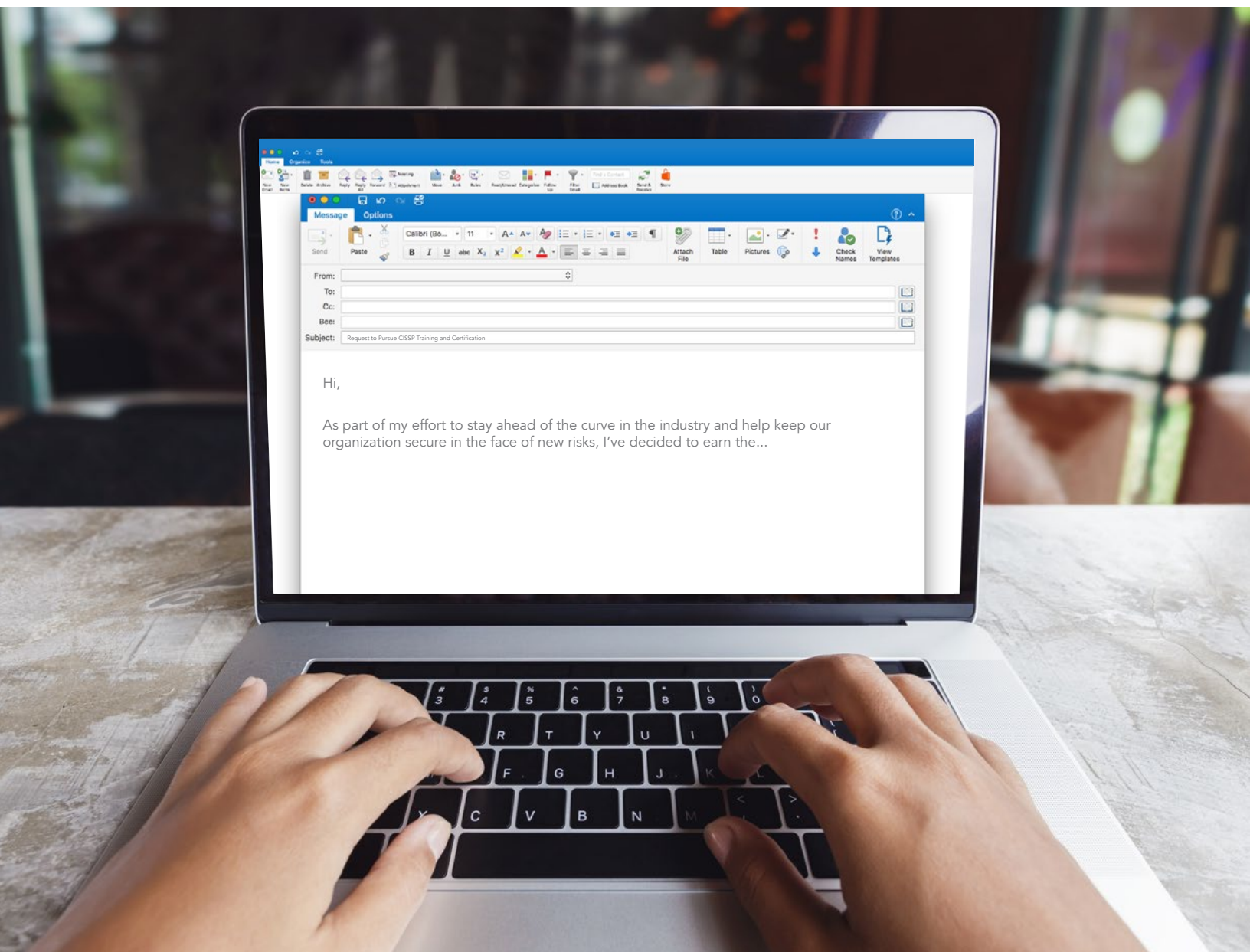
CISSP-ISSMP – Concentration in Security Management

Establish, present, and govern information security programs, while demonstrating management and leadership skills.

View Course Outline ▶
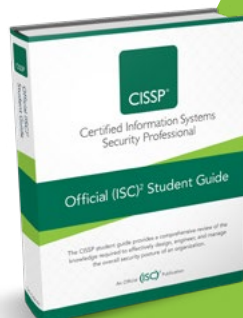
Get a sneak peek into our courseware! Download your free sample copy of the CISSP student guide to get a feel for what you receive when you purchase official training from (ISC)².

Subject: Request to Pursue CISSP Training and Certification

Hi,

As part of my effort to stay ahead of the curve in the industry and help keep our organization secure in the face of new risks, I've decided to earn the...

Boss Need Convincing?

We've got you covered! Simply download our justification letter templates for key points to help get you started and prove the value of training and certification.

Download justification letter templates ▶

Choosing the Right Study Tools

Looking to supplement seminar courseware and reinforce learning? We offer a variety of industry-leading study tools to round out your knowledge. From textbooks and study guides to interactive flash cards and study apps, we have options for every schedule and learning style.

Textbooks:
Official (ISC)² Common Body of Knowledge (CBK)

Insider's tip: The foundation everyone needs.

What it contains: The CBK on information security – everything you need to know to pass the exam.

How to best use this tool: Get familiar with its content before training (ideally, up to eight weeks before the exam). After training, use it to review everything learned during the training course.

Available for: CISSP, SSCP, CCSP, CAP, CSSLP, HCISPP, ISSAP and ISSMP

Study Guides:
Official (ISC)² Study Guides

Insider's tip: Continually updated, so you're always learning the latest information.

Ideal for: Exam takers who want to supplement their knowledge in a specific domain and get in more practice time.

What it contains: Practice items, hands-on exercises, assessment tests that check exam readiness and more.

How to best use this tool: Use it to gear up for the exam in the eight weeks leading up to the test.

Available for: CISSP, SSCP and CCSP

Used the official CBK and some online material, but this book beat all of them hands down. The practice tests were worth their weight in gold! Read the book and take EVERY practice question, especially the extra quizzes. The CCSP exam questions do not mirror these, but if you understand why the answers are the answers then you'll be fine.

- CCSP Study Guide (Amazon Review)

Practice Tests:
Official (ISC)² Practice Tests

Insider's tip: No one knows the exact questions on the exam, but these practice tests do a great job helping you review key concepts.

Ideal for: Exam takers looking for extra practice.

What it contains: Full practice tests.

How to best use this tool: Give yourself time to complete the practice tests, particularly in the days leading up to the exam.

Available for: CISSP, SSCP and CCSP
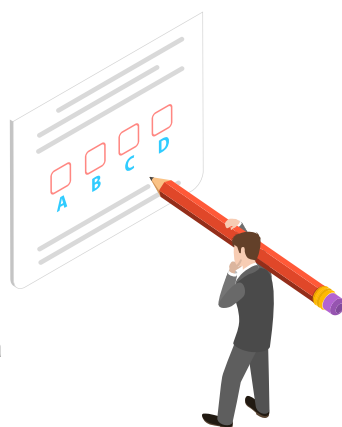
Study Apps:
Official (ISC)² Study App

Insider's tip: Based on the Official (ISC)² Study Guide, delivered with on-the-go convenience.

Ideal for: Exam takers looking to reinforce knowledge of all learning objectives.

What it contains: Flash cards, study items and practice tests covering all exam domains.

How to best use this tool: As a supplement to the textbook and study guides.

Available for: SSCP and CCSP

Flash Cards:
Official (ISC)² Interactive Flash Cards

Insider's tip: Instant feedback and knowledge checks right on your smartphone.

Ideal for: Exam takers looking to test their knowledge interactively

What it contains: Content segmented by domain, immediate feedback on test answers and the ability to flag individual cards

How to best use this tool: Apply customizable study modes to maximize content retention.

Available for: CISSP, SSCP, CCSP, CAP, CSSLP, HCISPP, ISSAP, ISSEP and ISSMP

View all our available study tools ▶

7 Tips for Success

Prepare to rock your exam!

1 Get familiar with the exam
The exam outline is a great place to start. It's a free resource that details the major topics and subtopics within the domains you will be tested on.

2 Develop your plan
Commit to an exam date early. This can help you stay motivated and work backwards as you create a study schedule. Stick to a routine by blocking study time on your calendar each day.

3 Invest in study materials
Take advantage of the many self-study resources available. (ISC)² offers several options to suit your study needs.

4 Refresh knowledge through training
Once you've built a foundation through self-study, expand that knowledge through Official (ISC)² CBK Training. Whether you are a hands-on learner or prefer to learn at your own pace online, we have a training solution for you.

5 Brush up on less familiar topics
After your training, think about the topics covered. Were there any areas where you could improve? Refer to your study materials and review those domains more closely as you continue to prepare.

6 Practice, practice, practice
Self-study tools help you keep knowledge sharp and monitor exam readiness. Use our free interactive flash cards – available for all (ISC)² certifications – to prepare anytime, anywhere.

7 Catch some ZZZs
Get a good night's sleep before the exam and eat a healthy breakfast that morning. And don't worry… You got this!

READY
to take the next step?

Contact our Training Team ▶

Get in Touch with Us

We are here to help! If you have questions please reach out to our Training Team in your region:

North America: Phone: +1.866.331.4722 ext. 2 Email: **training@isc2.org**

Europe, Middle East and Africa: Phone: +44 (0)203 960 7804 Email: **info-emea@isc2.org**

Latin America: Phone: +55 11 3174 4613 Email: **connectlatam@isc2.org**

Asia-Pacific: Hong Kong: +852.2850.6951
Japan: 81-3-5322-2837
China: 86-10-58732896
Email: **isc2asia@isc2.org**

About (ISC)²

(ISC)² is an international nonprofit membership association focused on inspiring a safe and secure cyber world. Best known for the acclaimed Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP®) certification, (ISC)² offers a portfolio of credentials that are part of a holistic, pragmatic approach to security. Our membership, more than 160,000 strong, is made up of certified cyber, information, software and infrastructure security professionals who are making a difference and helping to advance the industry. Our vision is supported by our commitment to educate and reach the general public through our charitable foundation – The Center for Cyber Safety and Education™.