

PMP Exam FAQs

Q1. What is the format of the PMP exam?

- The PMP exam has **180 questions** to be completed in **230 minutes**.
- It includes multiple-choice, multiple responses, drag-and-drop, hotspot, and fill-in-the-blank.
- There are **2 scheduled breaks**, each 10 minutes, after every 60 questions. Break is optional, but that doesn't mean the time will be added in your exam. Ideally all of you will get 230 minutes

Q2. What are the domains covered in the PMP exam?

- **People** – 42%
 - **Process** – 50%
 - **Business Environment** – 8%
- These are based on real-world scenarios and not just theoretical knowledge.

Q3. What are the eligibility criteria for PMP certification?

There are two tracks:

- **With bachelors degree:** 36 months project experience + 35 hours of project management education that Simplilearn course will give you.
- **With a high school diploma/associate degree:** 60 months experience + 35 hours education.

Q4. How do I apply for the PMP exam?

- Apply through PMI.org, fill in your experience details (projects, roles, timelines), and submit. Application filling guidelines shared separately with the samples
- PMI may take 5 days to approve; random audits are possible. Procedure will be explained during last session when we will discuss Application filling

Q5 What if I am not a Project Manager by title—can I still apply?

Yes. PMI is more concerned with **what you *did***, not your job title.

If your work involved **leading or directing project tasks** (planning, executing, managing scope/timeline/resources), you can qualify even if your title was “Team Lead,” “Coordinator,” “Engineer,” etc.

Q6 What if I had a break in my career—does that affect my PMP eligibility?

Not at all.

PMI requires **36 months (or 60 months)** of project management experience in the **last 8 years**. A gap doesn't matter if you have qualifying project experience within that time.

Q7 I'm from a different industry—IT, Civil, Education, HR, etc. Can I still become PMP certified?

Yes.

PMP is **industry-neutral**. You can be from **IT, Construction, Healthcare, Defense, Government, Education, Manufacturing**, etc.

What matters is if you've managed projects—regardless of the domain.

Q8. I work in an operational/support role. Can I count any of that as project experience?

Only **project-based** work counts. If you've done work to enhance , innovate or improve processes , Tools during Operations that had:

- A **clear start and end date**
- Delivered a **unique outcome or service**
- Involved **planning, execution, and closure**
Then it can be considered project experience—even within an operational environment.

Q9 How do I identify and write my project experience for the application?

Will discuss on last day of session , for now just to give you high level idea

Break down each project into:

- **Project Objective**
- Your **Role & Responsibilities** (initiating, planning, executing, etc.)
- Tools used (Agile/Scrum/Waterfall)
- Outcomes or challenges solved
Focus on **action verbs** and PMI terminology (e.g., “facilitated planning,” “monitored risks,” “engaged stakeholders”).

☐ **Q10. I'm managing Agile or Hybrid projects—will PMP cover that?**

Yes. The current PMP exam includes about **50% Agile or Hybrid content**.

You don't need to be an Agile coach, but understanding of:

- **Scrum, Kanban, Stand-ups, Retrospectives, Product Backlog, Servant Leadership**
is essential.

Q 11. How long should I study for the PMP exam?

- On average, **8–12 weeks** with 1–2 hours daily is sufficient.
- Consistency, mock tests, and reviewing wrong answers are key.

Q 12. Is PMBOK Guide enough for the PMP exam?

- No. It's **one of the references**. PMI expects candidates to understand both **Agile and Hybrid** methods.
- **Agile Practice Guide**, PMI ECO, and exam simulators are crucial.

Q 13. What's the best way to practice for the PMP?

- Use high-quality **mock tests** and **scenario-based questions**. (Simplilearn provides more than 12 exams)
- **Review why an answer is correct or incorrect (VERY IMP)** . Focus on PMI mindset.

Q 14. Can I take the PMP exam online?

- Yes. You can choose between an online proctored exam or a test center. (Pearson Vue centre list is available in Doc – Important Links).
- Online exam requires a quiet room, webcam, and clean desk setup.

Q 15. What happens if I fail the PMP exam?

- You get **3 attempts per year**.
- Analyze the performance report and focus on weak areas before retaking.

Q 16 How soon will I get the result?

- If given from Test Centre- Tentative result Immediately after the exam, but if online from home – wait for 3-4 days

Q 17 Is there Negative Marking

NO

Q 18 What is the passing percentage for the PMP exam?

PMI **does not disclose** an exact pass percentage or score “The passing score for all PMI exams is determined by sound psychometric analysis. PMI uses subject matter experts – project professionals from around the world and many different disciplines – to help determine how many questions you must answer correctly to pass the exam”.

What we know:

- PMP uses a **proficiency level model** (Above Target, Target, Below Target, Needs Improvement).
- Your overall performance across **all domains** determines pass/fail.
- It's **not necessary to get all questions right**, but consistently performing at or above target in most domains helps.

Q1 9 What happens if my answer is partly correct in multiple-choice questions?

If it's a **single-answer multiple-choice question**:

- You **must select the *one best answer***—even if more than one seems partly right.
- PMI designs options where only **one is most correct** based on **PMI mindset** and the **context** given in the scenario.

If it's a **multi-select question** (e.g., “Select two answers”):

- You **must select *all correct options***.
- Partial correctness **does NOT earn partial credit**—you either get **full credit or none**.

Post-Exam

Q 20. How long is the PMP certification valid?

- Valid for **3 years**.
- You need to earn **60 PDUs (Professional Development Units)** to renew it.