SCALED AGILE®

Study Tips for All SAFe Certification Exams

After attending your SAFe course, your next step is to take the certification exam. Passing the exam is the way you show you've gained the knowledge and skills needed to successfully implement SAFe. Use the following suggestions to prepare for your certification exam.

1) Review the course "learning goals"

Always keep the course learning goals in mind as you study. These are the major things you should know or be able to do after participating in this course.

The learning goals can be found in your workbook, just before the start of Lesson 1.

At the end of this course you should be able to:

- Apply SAFe to scale Lean and Agile development in your enterprise
- Recognize and apply a Lean-Agile Mindset and principles
- Implement an Agile Release Train
- Plan and execute successful Program Increments
- Build a Lean-Agile Portfolio
- Coordinate large Value Streams
- Enhance your Lean-Agile leadership skills
- Support a Lean-Agile transformation in your enterprise

2) Review each "lesson"

The lessons are the major topics that are explored during the course. Use the lesson topics to organize your preparation for the exam.

Each lesson's title page has a full list of the Lessons that comprise the course.

Lesson 1
Introducing the Scaled Agile Framework

Day 1
1. Introducing the Scaled Agile Framework
2. Embracing a Lean-Agile Mindset
   Break
3. Understanding SAFe Principles
   Lunch
4. Implementing an Agile Release Train
   Break
5. Experiencing PI Planning

Day 2
6. Executing and Releasing Value
   Break
7. Building an Agile Portfolio
   Lunch
8. Building Really Big Systems
   Break
9. Leading the Lean-Agile Enterprise

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3) Review the "learning objectives"

The learning objectives in each lesson are the most important organizer you can use to prepare for the exam. Use the objective statements to determine your approach to studying the lesson materials. Some objectives describe conceptual knowledge while others are more procedural in nature.

The learning objectives are the numbered list that can be found immediately after the the title page in each lesson.

Learning objectives

1.1 Recognize the problem to be solved

1.2 Know the basic constructs of SAFe

1.3 Apply the 1,2,3 implementation strategy

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4) Focus on the "Lesson Content"

As you study the content of each lesson, be sure you are able connect the course concepts back to the learning objectives and you are able to articulate the connection.

Learn the general concepts first. Then, learn the related details. Write down a summary of important concepts and process details. Also, make notes on unclear concepts for further investigation using other content resources.

As you study, look for likely test items. If your instructor emphasized terms, concepts, workbook text or activities, these are potential topics for exam questions.

5) Review the "lesson exercises"

Review the lesson exercises to recall what you learned in these experiential activities. Make sure you connect your learning back to the lesson's learning objectives.

Exercises can be found throughout the lesson, and are labeled with "Exercise: … " in their titles.

6) Read the suggested Scaled Agile Framework articles listed on "Lesson summary" pages

The Lesson summary page at the end of each lesson has a reference to a Framework article abstract. The articles are a great resource for additional supporting information on the lesson topic. Study the articles and follow their links.

The Lesson summaries can be found at the end of each lesson.

7) Review the SAFe Glossary

Study the glossary to become familiar with the terminology commonly used in SAFe.
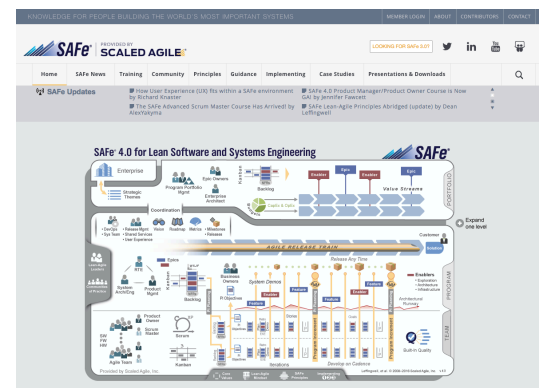
The SAFe Glossary can be found as an appendix in your workbook.
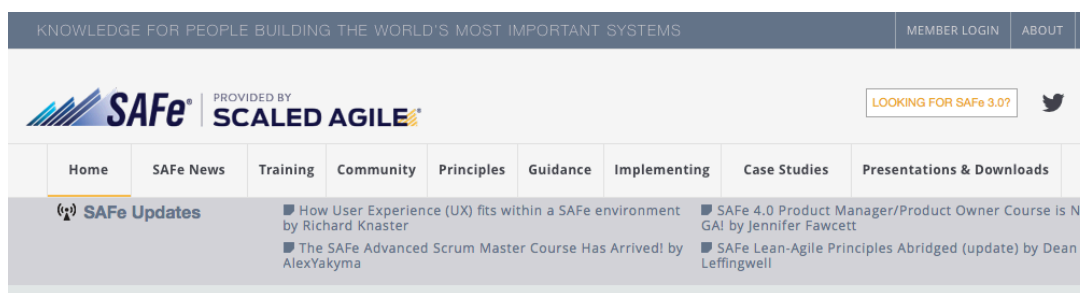
8) Review the SAFe Big Picture (online)

Go online and study the Big Picture to gain a holistic view of the SAFe Framework. Make sure you understand 4-level SAFe, Core Values, Lean-Agile Mindset, SAFe Principles, Lean-Agile Leaders, and Communities of Practice.

Each icon on the Big Picture is selectable and will take you to an article that provides extensive guidance on the topic area, along with links to related articles and further information. Review as many of the Framework article abstracts as possible to broaden your knowledge and understanding.

9) Review the SAFe Topics (online)

Explore the SAFe 4.0 Framework website dropdown menus and take advantage of the freely available resources to broaden your knowledge of SAFe.

10) Form a Study Group

Discuss SAFe content with your team members. Form a community of practice and quiz each other on learning objectives and course content.

Passing your certification exam is the culmination of your learning journey for a SAFe course.

We hope you find these study tips beneficial and that they offer you a roadmap to confidently take your test.