

Exam PL-400: Microsoft Power Platform Developer – Skills Measured

This exam was updated on March 23, 2021. Following the current exam guide, we have included a version of the exam guide with Track Changes set to “On,” showing the changes that were made to the exam on that date.

Audience Profile

Candidates for this exam design, develop, secure, and troubleshoot Power Platform solutions. Candidates implement components of a solution that include application enhancements, custom user experience, system integrations, data conversions, custom process automation, and custom visualizations.

Candidates must have strong applied knowledge of Power Platform services, including in-depth understanding of capabilities, boundaries, and constraints. Candidates should have a basic understanding of DevOps practices for Power Platform.

Candidates should have development experience that includes Power Platform services, JavaScript, JSON, TypeScript, C#, HTML, .NET, Microsoft Azure, Microsoft 365, RESTful Web Services, ASP.NET, and Power BI.

Skills Measured

NOTE: The bullets that appear below each of the skills measured are intended to illustrate how we are assessing that skill. This list is NOT definitive or exhaustive.

NOTE: Most questions cover features that are General Availability (GA). The exam may contain questions on Preview features if those features are commonly used.

Create a technical design (10-15%)

Validate requirements and design technical architecture

- design and validate the technical architecture for a solution
- design authentication and authorization strategy
- determine whether you can meet requirements with out-of-the-box functionality
- determine when to use Logic Apps versus Power Automate flows
- determine when to use serverless computing, plug-ins, or Power Automate
- determine when to build a virtual entity data source provider and when to use connectors

Design solution components

- design a data model
- design Power Apps reusable components
- design custom connectors
- design server-side components

Describe Power Platform extensibility points

- describe Power Virtual Agents extensibility points including Bot Framework skills and Power Automate flows
- describe Power BI extensibility points including Power BI APIs, custom visuals, and embedding Power BI apps in websites and other applications
- describe Power Apps portal extensibility points including CRUD APIs and custom styling

Configure Microsoft Dataverse (15-20%)

Configure security to support development

- troubleshoot operational security issues
- create or update security roles and field-level security profiles
- configure business units and teams

Implement tables and columns

- configure tables and table options
- configure columns
- configure relationships and types of behaviors

Implement application lifecycle management (ALM)

- create solutions and manage solution components
- import and export solutions
- manage solution dependencies
- create a package for deployment
- automate deployments
- implement source control for projects including solutions and code assets

Create and configure Power Apps (15-20%)

Create model-driven apps

- configure a model-driven app
- configure forms
- configure columns
- configure visualizations

Create canvas apps

- create and configure a canvas app
- implement complex formulas to manage control events and properties
- analyze app usage by using App Insights
- build reusable component libraries
- test an app by using Test Studio
- embed an app in Microsoft Teams

Manage and troubleshoot apps

- troubleshoot app issues by using Monitor and other browser-based debugging tools
- interpret results from App Checker and Solution Checker
- identify and resolve connector and API errors
- optimize app performance including pre-loading data and query delegation

Configure business process automation (5-10%)

Configure Power Automate

- create and configure a flow
- configure steps to use Dataverse connector actions and triggers
- implement complex expressions in flow steps
- implement error handling
- troubleshoot flows by analyzing JSON responses from connectors

Implement processes

- create and configure business process flows
- create and configure business rules
- create, manage, and interact with business process flows by using server-side and client-side code
- troubleshoot processes

Extend the user experience (10-15%)

Apply business logic using client scripting

- create JavaScript or Typescript code that targets the Client API object model
- register an event handler
- create client-side scripts that target the Dataverse Web API

Create a Power Apps Component Framework (PCF) component

- describe the PCF component lifecycle
- initialize a new PCF component
- configure a PCF component manifest
- implement the component interfaces

- package, deploy, and consume the component
- configure and use PCF Device, Utility, and WebAPI features
- test and debug PCF components by using the local test harness

Create a command button function

- create the command function
- design command button rules and actions
- edit the command bar by using the Ribbon Workbench
- manage dependencies between JavaScript libraries

Extend the platform (15-20%)

Create a plug-in

- describe the plug-in execution pipeline
- design and develop a plug-in
- debug and troubleshoot a plug-in
- implement business logic by using pre-images and post-images
- perform operations on data by using the Organization service API
- optimize plug-in performance
- register custom assemblies by using the Plug-in Registration Tool
- develop a plug-in that targets a custom action message

Create custom connectors

- create a definition for the API
- configure API security
- use policy templates to modify connector behavior at runtime
- expose Azure Functions as custom connectors
- create custom connectors for public APIs by using Postman

Use platform APIs

- interact with data and processes by using the Dataverse Web API or the Organization Service
- implement API limit retry policies
- optimize for performance, concurrency, transactions, and batching
- query the Discovery service to discover the URL and other information for an organization
- perform entity metadata operations with the Web API
- perform authentication by using OAuth

Process workloads

- process long-running operations by using Azure Functions

- configure scheduled and event-driven function triggers in Azure Functions
- authenticate to the Power Platform by using managed identities

Develop Integrations (5-10%)

Publish and consume events

- publish an event by using the API
- publish an event by using the Plug-in Registration Tool
- register service endpoints including webhooks, Azure Service Bus, and Azure Event Hub
- implement a Common Data Service listener for an Azure solution
- create an Azure Function that interacts with Power Platform

Implement data synchronization

- configure entity change tracking
- read entity change records by using platform APIs
- create and use alternate keys

The exam guide below shows the changes that were implemented on March 23, 2021.

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