Guidance on Scope and Sample Scope Statements

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Scope Defined

The scope states the content of an exam. Passing the exam certifies the competence of a candidate in specific domains. In essence, the test only confirms or denies competence in specific arenas. These arenas are defined by the scope.

A test sponsor is only responsible for assessing skills of a candidate within the scope of the test. Skills outside the defined scope are not the responsibility of the sponsor.

So, for example, a crane operator's skill in operating a crane may be certified. But that certification may not include setup or configuration of the crane. In this case, the scope is the operation of a crane that has been appropriately set up and configured.

A scope statement for a performance test attests to the competence of a certificant to be able to correctly achieve an arena of tasks. Many scope statements for multiple-choice tests assert the attainment of specific knowledge and "understanding," but fail to define the tasks a successful candidate can perform.

Scope Conformity

The examination content outline shall be reviewed *to conform to the scope of the exam* defined by the Scheme Committee. The content of the examination content outline shall not exceed the scope. If there are topics specified by the scope that are not addressed by the content outline, there shall be an explanation, or the content outline shall be modified.

ISO/IEC 17024, Section 4.1.1, requires that the certification process be fair and equitable among all candidates and *relevant to the specific scope of the certification.* It also restricts the CB from using procedures to unfairly inhibit access to the certification. Specifically, the CB must not use criteria irrelevant to the scope of the certification to limit access to certification.

Excerpt from PCAC GI-505 Scope Authority & Organizational Structure of the CB, Section 4:

> The certification body is responsible for determining the scope of the certification and establishing the parameters related to the requirements, evaluations and decisions related to the certification. *Typically the scope of certification should include the following components:* the purpose of certification, the occupation or profession served, the body of knowledge that is

assessed, and other parameters upon which the credential is based, for example, eligibility, recertification, ethical requirements, and policies and procedures.

Sample Scope Statements

Many scope statements are available on the websites of organizations that deliver certifications. Following are a few sample scope statements.

Linux Foundation

A certified ĸ8s administrator has demonstrated the ability to do basic installation as well as configuring and managing production-grade Kubernetes clusters. They will have an understanding of key concepts such as Kubernetes networking, storage, security, maintenance, logging and monitoring, application lifecycle, troubleshooting, API object primitives and the ability to establish basic use-cases for end users.

> *Exam DP-100: Designing and Implementing a Data Science Solution on Azure*
>
> This exam measures your ability to accomplish the following technical tasks: design and prepare a machine learning solution; explore data and train models; prepare a model for deployment; and deploy and retrain a model.

CompTIA Storage+

This exam will certify that the successful candidate has the knowledge and skills required to configure basic networks to include archive, backup, and restoration technologies. Additionally, the successful candidate will be able to understand the fundamentals of business continuity, application workload, system integration, and storage/system administration, while performing basic troubleshooting on connectivity issues and referencing documentation.

NAEC CET

The purpose of the National Association of Elevator Contractors (NAEC) Certified Elevator Technician (CET) certification is to provide the elevator industry with a means of obtaining and verifying knowledge and experience requirements related to compliance with industry codes, elevator and escalator specific technical theory, components, and competencies.