Adobe Certification

About Adobe Certifications

Adobe provides two levels of certification: Adobe Certified Expert (ACE) and Adobe Certified Associate (ACA). *Adobe Certified Expert* is a professional-level certification aimed at industry professionals using Adobe technology, while *Adobe Certified Associate* is an entry-level certification aimed at aspiring professionals using digital technology.

What Does This Logo Mean?

It means this book will prepare you for the Adobe Certified Expert (ACE) and Adobe Certified Associate (ACA) exams for Adobe Photoshop CS6. Each certification exam has a set of objectives, which are organized into broader skill sets. The ACE and ACA objectives and the specific pages that cover them are available on the web at *www.perspection.com.* An objective is identified with the following Adobe Certified logo and objective number below the title of the topic:

ACE: PS 3.1
ACA: PS 1.1, 1.4

About the Adobe Certified Expert (ACE) Program

The Adobe Certified Expert (ACE) program is for graphic designers, Web designers, systems integrators, value-added resellers, developers, and business professionals seeking official recognition of their expertise on Adobe products.

What Is an ACE?

An Adobe Certified Expert is an individual who has passed an Adobe Product Proficiency Exam for a specific Adobe software product. Adobe Certified Experts are eligible to promote themselves to clients or employers as highly skilled, expert-level users of Adobe software. ACE certification is a recognized worldwide standard for

excellence in Adobe software knowledge. There are three levels of ACE certification: Single product certification, Specialist certification, and Master certification. To become an ACE, you must pass one or more product-specific proficiency exams and sign the ACE program agreement. When you become an ACE, you enjoy these special benefits:

◆ Professional recognition

◆ An ACE program certificate

◆ Use of the Adobe Certified Expert program logo

Choosing an ACE Certification Level

There are three levels of certification to become an Adobe Certified Expert.

◆ **Single product certification.** Recognizes your proficiency in a single Adobe product. To qualify as an ACE, you must pass one product-specific exam.

◆ **Specialist certification.** Recognizes your proficiency in multiple Adobe products with a specific medium: print, Web, or video. To become certified as a Specialist, you must pass the exams on the required products. To review the requirements, go online to *http://www.adobe.com/support/certification/ace_certify.html*.

◆ **Master certification.** Recognizes your skills in terms of how they align with the Adobe product suites. To become certified as a Master, you must pass the exam for each of the products in the suite.

Preparing for an ACE Exam

Every Adobe Certified Expert Exam is developed from a list of objectives, which are based on studies of how an Adobe program is actually used in the workplace. The list of objectives determine the scope of each exam, so they provide you with the information you need to prepare for ACE certification. Follow these steps to complete the ACE Exam requirement:

1 Review and perform each task identified with a Adobe Certified Expert objective to confirm that you can meet the requirements for the exam.

2 Identify the topic areas and objectives you need to study, and then prepare for the exam.

3 Review the Adobe Certified Expert Program Agreement. To review it, go online to *http://www.adobe.com/support/certification/ace_certify.html*.

You will be required to accept the ACE agreement when you take the Adobe Certified Exam at an authorized testing center.

4 Register for the Adobe Certified Expert Exam.

ACE testing is offered at more than a thousand authorized Pearson VUE and Thomson Prometric testing centers in many countries. To find the testing center nearest you, go online to *www.pearsonvue.com/adobe* (for Pearson VUE) or *www.2test.com* (for Prometric). The ACE exam fee is US$150 worldwide. When contacting an authorized training center, provide them with the Adobe Product Proficiency exam name and number you want to take, which is available online in the Exam Bulletin at *http://www.adobe.com/support/certification/ ace_certify.html*.

5 Take the ACE exam.

Getting ACE Recertified

For those with an ACE certification for a specific Adobe product, recertification is required of each ACE within 90 days of a designated ACE Exam release date. There are no restrictions on the number of times you may take the exam within a given period.

To get recertified, call Pearson VUE or Thomson Prometric. You will need to verify your previous certification for that product. If you are getting recertified, check with the authorized testing center for discounts.

Taking an ACE Exam

The Adobe Certified Expert exams are computer-delivered, closed-book tests consisting of 60 to 90 multiple-choice questions. Each exam is approximately one to two hours long. A 15-minute tutorial will precede the test to familiarize you with the function of the Windows-based driver. The exams are currently available worldwide in English only. They are administered by Pearson VUE and Thomson Prometric, independent third-party testing companies.

Exam Results

At the end of the exam, a score report appears indicating whether you passed or failed the exam. Diagnostic information is included in your exam report. When you pass the exam, your score is electronically reported to Adobe. You will then be sent an ACE Welcome Kit and access to the ACE program logo in four to six weeks. You are also placed on the Adobe certification mailing list to receive special Adobe announcements and information about promotions and events that take place throughout the year.

When you pass the exam, you can get program information, check and update your profile, or download ACE program logos for your promotional materials online at:

http://www.adobe.com/support/certification/community.html

About the Adobe Certified Associate (ACA) Program

The Adobe Certified Associate (ACA) program is for graphic designers, Web designers, video production designers, and digital professionals seeking official entry-level recognition of their communication skills using Adobe products.

What is an ACA?

An Adobe Certified Associate is an individual who has passed an Adobe Product Proficiency Exam for a specific Adobe software product. Adobe Certified Associates are eligible to promote themselves to clients or employers as entry-level skilled users of Adobe digital media software. ACA certification is a recognized worldwide standard for excellence in Adobe software knowledge. There are four areas of ACA certification: Visual Communication using Photoshop, Web Communication using Dreamweaver, Rich Media Communications using Flash Professional, and Video Communication using Premiere Professional. To become an ACA, you must pass a communication program/product-specific proficiency exam and sign the ACA program agreement. When you become an ACA, you enjoy these special benefits:

◆ Professional recognition

◆ An ACA program certificate

Preparing for an Adobe Certified Associate Exam

Every Adobe Certified Associate Exam is developed from a list of objectives, which are based on studies of how an Adobe program is actually used in the workplace. The list of objectives determine the scope of each exam, so they provide you with the information you need to prepare for ACA certification. Follow these steps to complete the ACA Exam requirement:

1. Review and perform each task identified with a Adobe Certified Associate objective to confirm that you can meet the requirements for the exam.

2. Identify the topic areas and objectives you need to study, and then prepare for the exam.

3. Review the Adobe Certified Associate Program. To review it, go online to *http://www.adobe.com/education/instruction/ace*.

   Each Adobe certification exam corresponds to a particular Adobe application used for digital communication, and represents a single certification.

4. Register for the Adobe Certified Associate Exam.

   ACA testing is offered at authorized Certiport testing centers in many countries. To find the testing center nearest you, go online to *www.certiport.com*. When contacting an authorized training center, provide them with the Adobe Product

program exam name you want to take, which you can take on a per-test basis; the student price is $65, while the commercial retail price is $80.

There is also a recertification exam for those who have already passed an ACA exam with a previous exam version, which you can take on a per-test basis for the student price of $50. For more information about the recertification process, go online to *www.certiport.com*.

As an educational provider, you can also conduct unlimited ACA testing with the ACA Classroom License. The once-a-year fee allows a school or institution to partner with Certiport to conduct unlimited online ACA testing for an entire campus or within one classroom with up to 30 computers. If you are interested in becoming an exam provider, contact a Certiport Representative at 1-800-933-4493 or email *adobeinfo@certiport.com*.

5 Take the ACA exam.

Taking an Adobe Certified Associate Exam

The Adobe Certified Associate exams are computer-delivered, closed-book tests consisting of 40 multiple-choice and application simulation questions that you have 50 minutes to complete. The exams are currently available worldwide in English only. They are administered by Certiport, independent third-party testing companies.

Exam Results

At the end of the exam, a score report appears indicating whether you passed or failed the exam. Diagnostic information is included in your exam report. When you pass the exam, your score is electronically reported to Adobe by Certiport. Within two weeks of passing a certification exam, you'll receive an official certificate in the mail with an Adobe Certified Associate logo that highlights your accomplishment.

Getting More Information

To learn more about the Adobe Certified Expert (ACE) or Adobe Certified Associate (ACA) programs, read a list of frequently asked questions, and locate the nearest testing center, go online to:

ACA: *http://www.adobe.com/education/instruction/ace*

ACE: *http://www.adobe.com/support/certification/ace.html*

To learn more about other Adobe certification programs, go online to:

http://www.adobe.com/support/certification