

Step-by-Step Guide to become a Certified Business Architect (CBA)®



In this video, we are going to go over the **Certified Business Architect®** or **CBA® Program** information.

Once you visit the businessarchitectureguild.org website then under the "Programs", the first link that you'll find is the link to the CBA® Program. And here you'll find all the information that you need around the CBA® Program and the certification.

There is an "Exam Content" list that we are going to take a look at that and then a set of "Program Policies" and also the "List of Certified Professionals". So once you achieve your certification, then your name will be published on that part of the website.

And then through this web page, you'll find a set of information around the program itself and also a video describing the program and the benefits of achieving the CBA® certification. There are more information around earning the certification and also maintaining your certification, and we are going to talk about that, as well, how you can maintain your certification.

And then let's take a look at the steps to certification.

And the first step is to "Become a Member" of the Business Architecture Guild, and you'll find the information here: You need to go to "Join Us" page, and then provide your information and then there is an option, by the way, for the "Corporate Associate" membership. But mostly for individuals, it would be that "Associate" membership, which is \$125 USD.

And then the second step is to "Request a Voucher", which is free. And the voucher identifies that you are the member of the Business Architecture Guild. So then you could use that voucher when you register for your exam.

But let's look at the Step 3. And the step 3 is the "Preparation for the Exam". And you'll find a set of guidelines here. So get your Study Guide. And we have incorporated all the information that you find in the Business Architecture Guild's Study Guide in this course along the sections that we cover of the further resources. And through those further resources sections, you'll also find the curated list of the webinars and also the endnote reference material, as well. So you have a very comprehensive set of further resources that's curated for you in this course.

And as you notice, we have gone through the BIZBOK® Guide. We covered version 12.0, but version 8.5 is enough for the CBA® exam. So you won't find questions around the "Operating Models" section, Section 3.12, and also from "Customer Experience Design", which is Section 3.13.

And prepare for 150 questions and you have 150 minutes. So the questions are multiple choice questions. You'll find some of the questions around the definitions and the foundation knowledge. And I did highlight those parts in the BIZBOK® Guide, as you went through different lessons.

But you might find few questions, as well that are a little bit scenario-based, meaning that there might be a very small scenario describing a situation and then asking what would be perhaps the role of the Business Architect in that scenario. Still it's multiple choice type of question, but that gauges your knowledge of applying business architecture into different scenarios. And

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that's why the Part 4 of the BIZBOK® Guide that talks about different scenarios is quite important. So I do strongly recommend to review that part of BIZBOK® a few times and be comfortable with each of those scenarios that highlighted there, along with the type of analysis and the tools and techniques that we leverage in those scenarios.

And then of course, one of the recommendations is to attend one of the professional training courses. So this course, in fact, is one of the courses that is accredited with the Business Architecture Guild and supports you to prepare for the exam.

And finally, take the Readiness Quiz. It's a very small quiz and the link is in the text section of this video, so you can try that out. But of course, we have our set of simulated practice exams, which in the following video, I'm going to walk you through those set of exams.

And finally, you "Schedule Your Exam". It's done by the Pearson, different Pearson centers. And you can decide either to take the exam online or perhaps in-person in one of the Pearson locations that is near you. And so it's just suggested that make your appointment at least one day in advance and ensure that to schedule your exam date as far in advance as possible. Sometimes, especially if you're scheduling in-person, you might find it a little bit challenging to find the time slot for your exam. But today, we can do online exam, as well, which is really great. So you can be at the convenience of your home, you can schedule and then do the exam online.

So these are the set of information you'll find here. You'll find the links that helps you to get through each of these steps and also a set of FAQ's, as well for the certification.

So let's look at the "Exam Domains and Objectives". There are 10 different domains for the CBA® exam, and under each of those you'll find a set of objectives.

The first one is the "Business Architecture Foundation Concepts". And you'll find a set of objectives here.

The second one is the "Core Mapping Knowledge". You might recall, we talked about the four core domains of business architecture, which are "Capabilities", "Value Streams", "Organization" and "Information". And as you notice, they are identified as objectives here.

The third one is the set of "Extended Domains". And we covered those extended domains in the course.

And then the fourth criteria is the "Alignment with Related Business Disciplines". And we covered those again throughout our course, alignment with the "Business Model Canvas", with "Business Process Management", "Lean Six Sigma", "Performance Management", "Requirements Management", and so on.

And then the fifth criteria is the "Business Architecture & Business Performance Analysis". We had a dedicated chapter around the performance alignment with business architecture.

And then "Business Architect Role". We also covered this chapter, as well.

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"Business Architecture Governance".

"Business Architecture and IT Architecture Alignments". And through all these different disciplines under IT architecture, looking at "Enterprise Architecture", "SDLC", "Service Oriented Architecture", alignment between "Business Information and Data Architecture", and so on.

And then the "Business Architecture Situation and Scenario Usage". So again, I want to emphasize that this is a very important part for the CBA® exam, and that's Part 4 of the BIZBOK® Guide. So I definitely recommend to review Part 4 few times and make sure you're comfortable with those scenarios and different types of techniques and tools and analysis that we leverage in those scenarios.

And finally, the "Business Architecture Infrastructure Management", which is mainly about the knowledgebase and the tooling.

So these are main criteria that is used in the CBA® exam. And once you complete the exam, you will get your results exactly based on these 10 set of criteria that you see here. And for that reason, we have also designed our simulated practice exam results exactly based on these 10 set of criteria. So it's very helpful for you as you finish each of those simulated practice exams to see in which of these 10 criteria you need to focus further and then improve your score and gauge your readiness to sit for the official exam.

So let's look at the "Continuing Education Unit" Program in order to maintain your certification once you achieve the CBA® certificate. And find information here around the CEU Program. And another video that describes how the CEU works, more information, and also how to earn the credits.

So you do need to maintain 25 CEU credits during a three-year period. So there's expiry for the credits that you earn, but you need to constantly maintain that 25 credits during the three-year period. And here you'll find different types of activities that you can get engaged in order to receive those as CEU credits. And as you get engaged into these different activities, you will see that you will automatically receive those credits under your "Professional Development" in your Business Architecture Guild Profile.

So that's how the CEU's work. And I find attending the Business Architecture Summit, in fact, a very good way of maintaining the certification. And for the Summit, if it is two days Summit, is about 16 credits, it's 8 credits per day. So it's two days that's 16. And if it's a three-day you receive 24 credits for the Summit. But as you see, there are many other different activities that you can get engaged in order to receive credits and then maintain your certification.

And finally here, you'll find a list of all the Certified Business Architect® professionals that are listed here alphabetically.