

Questions and Answers about Autodesk® Academic Certification

1. What is the Autodesk Academic Certification Program?

The Autodesk Certification program enables students to earn a credential in recognition of their knowledge of specific Autodesk software applications. In support of this program, Autodesk provides an end-to-end certification solution; pre-assessment testing, Autodesk Official Training Courseware for reviewing the knowledge and skills covered on the certification examinations and Certification examinations for validating knowledge and skills. The Academic Certification program provides the same level of certification that professionals in the market earn, but at an affordable academic price for students.

2. Who should attempt Certification?

Certification credentials are for anyone seeking to validate their knowledge of Autodesk software. The design and visualization industries are competitive environments, where only the best stand out. Any student and teacher who use Autodesk software can benefit from the program by validating their skills and knowledge with an official certification from Autodesk. An Autodesk Certification has earned recognition of their knowledge and skills of the performance tasks in each examination.

3. Where is Autodesk Academic Certification Available?

Academic Certification is available only in North America at this time.

4. How does Academic Certification differ from Professional Certification?

The Certification exams are the same for both professionals and students. The only difference is the cost. The students are eligible for an academic discount which is validated by their student ID.

5. Why should students be interested in Academic Certification?

The Autodesk Certification program gives students the opportunity to validate the knowledge and skills required to use Autodesk products by obtaining certification in an Autodesk software application. Students will be able to demonstrate their software skills and gain a competitive edge in their academic and professional careers. They can also leverage the Autodesk brand by using the certification logo and certificate they will earn.

6. What score must I obtain to pass a certification examination?

The passing score varies by certification examination. Please refer to information about a specific certification examination to determine the passing score.

7. What happens if I do not pass?

If you do not pass, you will receive a diagnostic score report that indicates areas for improvement. You may then retake the examination up to three times a year. If you do not pass after three attempts, you must wait until one year has passed from the first attempt before retaking an examination. Full payment is required for re-tests.

8. Once granted, does certification last forever?

Certification is version specific. Although certification for a particular version of an application never expires, certification is not considered current unless you have passed the latest recertification examination, and the full examination for the prior release.

9. My students passed the 2008 Certified User exam, can they upgrade to 2009 Certified Professional?

Students who have earned a 2008 User certification, you can update to 2009 Certified Professional by taking the 2009 Certified Associate exam. There is no update from 2008 Certified User to 2009 Certified Associate, you must pass the 2009 Certified Associate exam. There is also no update from 2007 Certified User to 2009 Certifications. Students must take the required 2009 Certification exams if you are certified on 2007.

10. How much does it cost to take the examination?

The costs for the examinations are:

Secondary Student

- 2009 Associate Exam \$25
- 2009 Professional Exam \$50 (requires passing of Assoc exam also)
- 2008 User Exam \$50
- 2008 Proficiency Exam \$15

Post-Secondary Student

- 2009 Associate Exam \$25
- 2009 Professional Exam \$50 (requires passing of Assoc exam also)
- 2008 User Exam \$75
- 2008 Proficiency Exam \$15

11. Where can I take an examination and how do I schedule my session?

You can take the examination at any Autodesk Authorized Certification Center participating in the academic program. When you purchase your certification examination you have the option of scheduling your examination at the time of purchase, or any time in the future. To schedule your examination at the time of purchase click the **Schedule** link and then use the **Center Search** function to locate an authorized test delivery facility in your area. After you locate a list of potential centers, select a center and click the option to continue your appointment. If the center has open appointments you will have the option of selecting a time that is convenient for you. To schedule an appointment after the time of purchase, visit <http://autodesk.starttest.com>, log in to your profile, and then click the link for your unscheduled appointment. You will then be able to schedule your appointment by locating a center.

12. How do I prepare for the certification examination?

Each certification examination assesses your knowledge and skills of specific tasks using an Autodesk application. For 2008 certification examinations, Autodesk offers an Autodesk Official Certification Courseware (AOCC) book, available for purchase. For 2009 certification examinations, Autodesk offers an Autodesk Official Training Courseware (AOTC) book.

You may also review the certification examination objectives and Exam Guides for 2009 tests at <http://www.autodesk.com/certification>.

13. What do I receive when I become certified?

When you earn Autodesk Certification you obtain the right to use the official Autodesk Certified logo in marketing your Autodesk skills (on business cards, websites, Résumés,) pursuant to the Autodesk logo usage guidelines. You also have access to your electronic Certificate, and if you choose (when establishing or modifying your candidate profile), you may request your certification results be available in the Certified Users database for employers to search for jobs or to verify your certification.

To access your certification history, score reports, certificates, and any associated certification logos, login at <http://autodesk.starttest.com>.

14. Do the certification exams map to academic standards?

The Autodesk Certification Program supports career pathways in architecture and construction, manufacturing, science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and is mapped to the following national academic standards.

- ITEA standards for Technological Literacy
- NCTM standards for Mathematics
- NCTE standards for Language Arts
- NCSESA standards for Science

15. Are exams available for past software versions?

Exams are available for the both 2007 and 2008 product offerings. The list of available exams are as follows: (Note: Some 2008 exams will be made available during the fall of this year.)

- AutoCAD® 2008 and 2009
- AutoCAD® Architecture 2008 and 2009
- Revit® Architecture 2008 and 2009
- Autodesk® Inventor® 2008 and 2009
- AutoCAD® Civil 3D® 2008 and 2009

16. My school wants to become an certification center, what are the next steps?

Educational Institutions can apply directly online after reviewing the program requirements that are found at <http://www.autodesk.com/academiccertification>. A link to the online application is on the same page.

17. What are the software and hardware testing requirements to offer certification testing?

As a testing center you will be required to have the following:

- **Application Software:** All Autodesk exams require licensed Autodesk applications for each testing station. (e.g. AutoCAD 2008 exam required AutoCAD 2008 software)
- **Browser:** Microsoft Internet ExplorerV5 or better
- **Operating System:** MS Windows, XP or NT or Vista 32bit
- **Internet Connection:** Broadband connection (DSL, Cable, or T1) recommended

18. What are the benefits of becoming a testing center?

The Program Benefits for Institutions are:

- Provides professional-level exams at an affordable academic price.
- Exams are performance based and easy to implement.
- The final result is the same credential earned by working professionals.
- Certification exam objectives map to select national standards.
- Assessment exams and Autodesk Official Certification Courseware is available for certification preparation.
- Free certification tests for teachers at your school.

The Program Benefits for Students are:

- Provides professional-level exams at an affordable academic price.
- The final result is the same credential earned by working professionals.
- Students differentiate themselves in a competitive job market.
- Students can add value to their resume and leverage the Autodesk brand.
- Proficiency exams and Autodesk Official Certification Courseware is available for certification preparation.
- Student score report maps back to lessons in Certification Courseware so students can review missed areas.

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