

**CBAP**® Certified Business  
Analysis Professional™

**Certified Business Analysis  
Professional™ (CBAP®)  
Handbook**

**October 2011**

# Table of Contents

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <b>Table of Contents</b> .....  | <b>2</b>  |
| <b>1.0 About this Handbook</b> .....  | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>2.0 About International Institute of Business Analysis</b> .....             | <b>3</b>  |
| 2.1 IIBA Vision Statement .....   | 4         |
| 2.2 IIBA Mission Statement .....  | 4         |
| 2.3 Fair & Equitable Policy .....   | 4         |
| <b>3.0 IIBA <i>BABOK</i><sup>®</sup> Guide Overview</b> .....                   | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>4.0 About the CBAP<sup>®</sup> Certification</b> .....                       | <b>5</b>  |
| 4.1 What is Certification? .....  | 5         |
| 4.2 Definition of a Business Analysis Practitioner .....                        | 5         |
| 4.3 CBAP <sup>®</sup> Certification Program Overview .....                      | 5         |
| 4.4 Benefits of CBAP <sup>®</sup> Certification .....                           | 6         |
| <b>5.0 CBAP<sup>®</sup> Certification Requirements</b> .....                    | <b>7</b>  |
| 5.1 Work Experience Requirement .....   | 7         |
| 5.2 Knowledge Area Requirement .....  | 9         |
| 5.3 Education Requirement .....   | 9         |
| 5.4 Professional Development Requirement .....                                  | 10        |
| 5.5 Reference Requirement .....   | 10        |
| <b>6.0 CBAP<sup>®</sup> Application and Exam Process</b> .....                  | <b>11</b> |
| 6.1 Step 1: Applying for and Paying for CBAP <sup>®</sup> Certification .....   | 12        |
| 6.2 Step 2: Paying for the Exam .....   | 13        |
| 6.3 Step 3: Registering for the Exam .....                                      | 14        |
| 6.4 Step 4: Preparing for the Exam .....  | 14        |
| 6.5 Step 5: Taking the Exam .....   | 15        |
| <b>7.0 Granting CBAP<sup>®</sup> Certification</b> .....                        | <b>16</b> |
| <b>8.0 Re-writing the CBAP<sup>®</sup> Exam</b> .....                           | <b>16</b> |
| <b>9.0 Maintaining CBAP<sup>®</sup> Certification and Recertification</b> ..... | <b>17</b> |
| 9.1 Suspending or Withdrawing CBAP <sup>®</sup> Certification .....             | 17        |
| <b>10.0 Audit of Candidate and CBAP<sup>®</sup> Information</b> .....           | <b>17</b> |
| <b>11.0 Resolution of Appeals &amp; Complaints</b> .....                        | <b>17</b> |

## 1.0 About this Handbook

The purpose of this handbook is to provide Certified Business Analysis Professional™ (CBAP®) applicants and exam candidates the information needed to understand the International Institute of Business Analysis (IIBA®) organization and the process to become certified.

## 2.0 About International Institute of Business Analysis

IIBA® is an independent, non-profit professional association serving the growing field of business analysis. The IIBA mission includes the development and maintenance of standards for the practice of business analysis and for the certification and recognition of its practitioners. IIBA is the first organization to offer the formal certification for business analysis professionals.

To facilitate the public recognition and certification of qualified practitioners, IIBA is responsible for:

- Creating and developing awareness and recognition of the value and contribution of the business analyst.
- Defining and maintaining the *Business Analysis Body of Knowledge® (BABOK®) Guide*.
- Identifying the required skills and competencies of a qualified practitioner of business analysis.
- Defining training and professional development standards.
- Identifying and endorsing education providers.
- Publicly recognizing and certifying qualified business analysts.

IIBA membership includes many important benefits to help support your development and career growth as a business analyst including but not limited to:

- Access to a free copy of the [Business Analysis Body of Knowledge® \(BABOK®\) Guide v2.0](#)
- Free access to the [Online Library](#) of more than 300 books
- Discounted fee for IIBA certification exams
- Knowledge sharing and networking opportunities through the [IIBA Community Network](#)
- Access to exclusive IIBA monthly publications such as the IIBA [BA Connection](#) monthly newsletter and Quick Tips for Better Business Analysis™ e-Bulletin
- Eligibility to join a local [IIBA Chapter](#)
- Access to a free copy of the [Business Analysis Competency Model](#)
- Access to IIBA [Webinars](#) on a range of professional development topics
- Job search capabilities using the [Career Center](#)

- Free access to the Agile Extension to the *Business Analysis Body of Knowledge*<sup>®</sup> (*BABOK*<sup>®</sup>) *Guide*
- Access to a free copy of the *BABOK*<sup>®</sup> Learning Guide

The formation of IIBA started in October of 2003, and was formalized at the organization's first Annual General Meeting in March 2004. IIBA is headquartered in Toronto, Canada and maintains a website at [www.theiiba.org](http://www.theiiba.org).

## 2.1 IIBA Vision Statement

To be the world's leading association for business analysis professionals.

## 2.2 IIBA Mission Statement

To develop and maintain standards for the practice of business analysis and for the certification of practitioners.

## 2.3 Fair & Equitable Policy

IIBA policies and procedures contribute to the development, oversight, evaluation and maintenance of fair and equitable certification and assessment. IIBA complies with all applicable laws and regulations, including the Americans with Disabilities Act.

## 3.0 IIBA *BABOK*<sup>®</sup> *Guide* Overview

The *Business Analysis Body of Knowledge (BABOK*<sup>®</sup>) *Guide* is the collection of knowledge within the profession of business analysis and reflects current generally accepted practices. The *BABOK*<sup>®</sup> *Guide* is defined and enhanced by the business analysis professionals who apply it in their daily lives. The *BABOK*<sup>®</sup> *Guide* describes business analysis areas of knowledge, their associated activities and tasks, and the skills necessary to be effective in their execution.

Since the *BABOK*<sup>®</sup> *Guide* is growing and evolving, each release must be considered a move toward the complete body of knowledge. Additions will be made periodically based on feedback and changes to generally accepted practices. While specific business analysis techniques may be referenced in the *BABOK*<sup>®</sup> *Guide*, the criteria for including information in the guide are that it is proven, generally accepted and widely applied. The *BABOK*<sup>®</sup> *Guide* is a reference for professional knowledge for business analysis and provides the basis for the CBAP<sup>®</sup> certification.

The *BABOK*<sup>®</sup> *Guide* is composed of six knowledge areas plus underlying competencies. For more information about the *BABOK*<sup>®</sup> *Guide*, please visit the [Business Analysis Body of Knowledge](#)<sup>®</sup> section of the IIBA website.

## 4.0 About the CBAP® Certification

### 4.1 What is Certification?

There are many definitions of professional certification, but the general meaning involves the concept of a certifying organization approving the knowledge, experience, skills, and expertise of the certified individual.

Certification involves formal recognition of achievement after proving competency through an actual demonstration of a designated set of skills and/or knowledge.

A business analysis professional certification is of growing importance within business and information technology projects as the range and depth of required professional knowledge continues to expand.

The CBAP® certification process includes demonstrating the required experience, knowledge and competencies of a qualified practitioner of business analysis according to requirements designated by IIBA.

### 4.2 Definition of a Business Analysis Practitioner

The business analysis practitioner is responsible for identifying the business needs of his or her clients and stakeholders to help determine solutions to business problems.

The business analysis practitioner is responsible for requirements development and requirements management. Specifically, the business analysis practitioner elicits, analyzes, validates and documents business, organizational and/or operational requirements. Solutions are not predetermined by the business analysis practitioner, but are driven solely by the requirements of the business. Solutions often include a systems development component, but may also consist of process improvement or organizational change.

The business analysis practitioner is a key facilitator within an organization, acting as a bridge between the client, stakeholders and the solution team. Business analysis is distinct from financial analysis, project management, quality assurance, organizational development, testing, training, and documentation development. However, depending on the organization, a business analysis practitioner may perform some or all of these related functions.

### 4.3 CBAP® Certification Program Overview

A CBAP® recipient is an elite member of the business analysis community, and a recognized expert in identifying the business needs of an organization in order to determine business solutions. CBAP® recipients are senior BAs who have the skill and expertise to perform business analysis work on projects of various sizes and complexities. More and more companies are recognizing the CBAP® designation and the value and expertise these professionals bring to their organizations.

You will want to consider the many professional benefits of earning the CBAP® designation if you have an advanced level of knowledge and experience, and are working in any of the following roles:

- Business analysis
- Systems analysis
- Requirements analysis or management
- Process management
- Consulting

This certification program has been carefully designed to be in compliance with the International Standards Organization (ISO) 17024 standard for certifying the competence of personnel. The program is also intended to achieve ISO approval.

Certification applicants should be aware that the application process is a screening process for the exam. Therefore, applicants should be very familiar with the requirements for applying, and with the application process as described further in this handbook.

This CBAP® certification is targeted to senior business analysts only. IIBA's Certification of Competency in Business Analysis™ (CCBA™) certification is for experienced business analysts who have acquired core BA skills. The certification examination is only offered in the English language; other languages may be included in the future.

A certification applicant is not required to be an IIBA member in order to take the certification examination, but IIBA members receive discounts on certification exam fees.

## 4.4 Benefits of CBAP® Certification

### Benefits to the individual may include:

- Competence in the principles and practices of business analysis.
- Participation in a recognized professional group.
- Recognition of professional competence by professional peers and management.
- Advanced career potential due to recognition as a professional Business Analysis practitioner.
- Provides individuals with personal satisfaction of accomplishing a milestone in their BA careers.
- Certification can improve overall performance, remove uncertainty and widen market opportunities.
- The process of achieving and maintaining certification helps ensure you are continually improving and refining your activities.
- Potentially higher income for being formally recognized as an experienced BA professional. For more details, view this recent [salary survey](#).
- Demonstrates knowledge of the skills necessary to be an effective senior member of the business analysis community.

### Benefits to the organization may include:

- Provides advancement and recognition opportunities for staff.
- Demonstrates to customers, competitors, suppliers, staff and investors that you use industry-standard business analysis practices.
- Demonstrates to your stakeholders that your business is run effectively.
- The regular assessment process will improve staff responsibility, commitment and motivation.
- Establishment and implementation of business analysis practices as outlined in the *Business Analysis Body of Knowledge® (BABOK®) Guide* by individuals recognized as being knowledgeable and skilled.
- More reliable, higher quality results produced with increased efficiency and consistency by BA professionals who use industry standard BA techniques.
- Identifies professional business analysts to clients and business partners.
- Offers professional development and recognition for business analysts.

- Demonstrates commitment to the field of business analysis, increasingly recognized as a vital component of any successful project.

## 5.0 CBAP® Certification Requirements

Each CBAP® applicant must meet the requirements specified in this section to be eligible to write the exam.

To earn the CBAP® designation, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Minimum 7500 hours of BA work experience aligned with the BABOK® Guide in the last 10 years
- Minimum 900 hours in four of the six knowledge areas
- Minimum 21 hours of Professional Development in the past four years
- Two references from a career manager, client or CBAP® recipient
- Signed Code of Conduct

If you don't meet the requirements for the CBAP® certification, you may want to consider applying for the [CCBA™ designation](#).

### 5.1 Work Experience Requirement

7,500 hours (approximately five years) of business analysis work experience in the last ten years engaged in tasks specifically aligned with the knowledge areas and underlying competencies defined within the *BABOK® Guide*. The ten year time frame is based on the application submitted date.

The business analysis work experience can either be activities the applicant has applied directly OR activities the applicant has assisted others in applying—all activities must be aligned with the *BABOK® Guide* knowledge areas and underlying competencies.

Acceptable activities include:

- Hands-on business analysis activities (e.g., requirements gathering, writing requirements documentation, etc.).
- Coaching or mentoring business analysts with respect to business analysis activities (e.g., planning the requirements gathering process with the BA, reviewing requirements documents, etc.).

Activities that are not acceptable include:

- Non-supervisory management of business analysis activities (e.g., resource management, status reporting, performance management, etc.).
- Teaching of business analysis training courses.
- Selling requirements tools/software.
- Project management.
- Testing (e.g., creating and executing test scripts, reporting on testing status, creating test plans/strategies, etc.).
- Programming.

Neither the acceptable and unacceptable activities listed above are comprehensive. These are provided only as a guideline. Each applicant's work experience will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

The following table lists examples of work experience that will qualify and that will not qualify during the application assessment process. This is not a complete list. See below for instructions on how to document the work experience section of the application form.

| <b>BABOK® Guide Knowledge Area</b>               | <b>Work Experience that Qualifies</b>  | <b>Work Experience that does NOT Qualify</b>  |
|--|--|---|
| <b>Business Analysis Planning and Monitoring</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Creating requirements plan to feed into project plan</li> <li>○ Identifying and documenting requirements risks</li> <li>○ Reporting on requirements progress as input to project status report</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Creating project plan</li> <li>○ Identifying project risks</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Elicitation</b>                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Facilitating requirements gathering workshop</li> </ul>   |   |
| <b>Requirements Management and Communication</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Walkthroughs and sign-offs of requirements package</li> <li>○ Preparing and conducting requirements presentation for senior executives</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Providing weekly project status reports</li> <li>○ Conducting design walkthroughs</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Enterprise Analysis</b>                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Determining business objectives</li> <li>○ Creating business architecture</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Creating Project Charter</li> <li>○ Creating system or application architecture</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Requirements Analysis</b>                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Functional requirements</li> <li>○ Non-functional requirements</li> <li>○ User requirements</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Creating service level agreements</li> <li>○ Creating and documenting design solution</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Solution Assessment and Validation</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reviewing design document and ensuring requirements are met</li> <li>○ Reviewing test strategy, test plans and test cases to ensure requirements are met</li> <li>○ Supporting QA and testing team</li> <li>○ Reviewing defects and working with client to determine: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Priority of fix</li> <li>● Manual work around</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Creating design document</li> <li>○ Creating test strategy, test plan or test cases</li> <li>○ Executing testing</li> <li>○ Tracking and managing defects</li> </ul> |

**Instructions for Documenting Work Experience:**

1. The Work Experience section of the application form must be filled out by project as follows:
  - For several small projects within the same year, those projects should be combined into one project. Indicate this on the application under Description.
  - List projects in date order with the most recent project experience first.

- It is mandatory that at least 7500 hours of BA related work in the last ten years has been documented in order to meet the application requirement.
  - Resumes will not be accepted to complete this requirement.
  - For each project, enter your Total BA Hours. These hours will count towards the minimum 7500 hours of business analysis work experience requirement and the minimum 900 hours in four of the six Knowledge Areas requirement. The Total BA Hours and the tasks you select must be aligned with the *BABOK® Guide v2.0*.
  - For each project, from the list of tasks in the table, check off the tasks you have completed that are aligned with the *BABOK® Guide v2.0*. Do this for each of the six Knowledge Areas. You can select a task when you have either performed the task yourself or coached/mentored another business analyst in performing the task. For each Knowledge Area, indicate the percentage of the Total BA Hours you spent on the tasks you selected. The percentages across all of the Knowledge Areas must total 100 within a project.
  - **Note:** Any tasks you select that are not aligned with the *BABOK® Guide v2.0* will be removed and the corresponding hours will be deducted from your Total BA Hours. This could result in your Total BA Hours falling below the minimum 7500 hours required and/or the minimum 900 hours required in four out of the six Knowledge Areas. If either occurs, your application will be declined.
2. During the assessment process, the hours deducted for work experience the applicant selects that is not aligned with the *BABOK® Guide* are calculated as follows:
- a) We take the percentage entered for a Knowledge Area (KA) and multiply it by the number of Total BA Hours entered for the project to determine the number of BA Hours for that KA.
  - b) We then subtract the percentage of invalid experience that is selected (i.e., experience not aligned with the *BABOK® Guide*) to total experience selected for that KA to come up with the valid BA Hours for that KA.
  - c) We do the same for all KAs.
  - d) Then we add up the valid Total BA Hours for KAs across all projects to ensure the applicant meets the 900 minimum hours requirement in four of the six KAs (see below for this requirement).
  - e) Finally, we add up the valid Total BA Hours across all projects to ensure the applicant meets the 7500 minimum hours requirement.

## 5.2 Knowledge Area Requirement

Demonstrated experience and expertise (i.e., a minimum of 900 hours) of business analysis work experience engaged in tasks specifically aligned with the *BABOK® Guide* in at least four of the six knowledge areas.

Note: This minimum of 900 hours in four out of the six Knowledge Areas are included in the minimum 7500 hours required for the Work Experience requirement above. This requirement ensures there is a breadth of work experience across the Knowledge Areas.

## 5.3 Education Requirement

High school or equivalent education. This is the minimum educational requirement.

Note: There will be no reduction in work experience for post secondary education

## 5.4 Professional Development Requirement

A minimum of 21 hours of professional development in the last four years. The professional development must be completed by the application submitted date and it must meet the following criteria to qualify:

1. It must be moderated/facilitated similar to a formal course (i.e., there must be a moderator for the session, or a facilitator/instructor who leads the group/individual through the material).
2. There must be a measurable learning objective (or set of objectives), and those must be directly applicable to the role of the business analyst (i.e., in terms of either changing behaviour or improving skills).
3. It cannot simply be a presentation on a specific topic:
  - a. There must be the opportunity for students to interact with the material (e.g., be able to ask questions, make the learning meaningful) AND
  - b. An opportunity to practice the task or objective being presented and, be assessed by the facilitator/moderator.
4. The subject matter must be directly related to business analysis or its underlying competencies as per the *BABOK® Guide*.

Note: IIBA endorsed courses as per the Endorsed Education Provider (EEP™) program automatically qualify towards the 21 hours of Professional Development for initial certification because they have already been assessed to ensure they meet the above criteria.

One hour of classroom/contact time is equal to one hour of Professional Development. Fractions of Professional Development hours may be reported in quarter ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ) hour increments after one full hour. If the Professional Development is less than one hour, it does not qualify for any credit.

## 5.5 Reference Requirement

Two references from a career manager, client (internal or external) or CBAP® recipient are required.

In addition:

- Include one current contact.
- All references must have known the applicant for at least six months.
- A career manager is defined by IIBA as the person who is responsible for providing and preparing the applicant's annual performance review.
- Project managers cannot be references unless they are also the applicant's career manager. The reference form must clearly indicate they fill both roles or the reference will not qualify.
- Only two references will be assessed during the application assessment process.
- It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure the reference submits their form (either online or paper-based) in time to be considered for the exam date of interest and to do any necessary follow-up with their references.

## 6.0 CBAP® Application and Exam Process

Step 1: Applying for and Paying for CBAP® Certification

Step 2: Paying for the Exam

Step 3: Registering for the Exam

Step 4: Preparing for the Exam

Step 5: Taking the Exam

### Summary of Fees

#### Application and Exam

| Fee                              | Member | Non-member |
|----------------------------------|--------|------------|
| Application Fee (non-refundable) | \$125  | \$125      |
| Exam Fee                         | \$325  | \$450      |

#### Other fees

| Fee                                 | Member | Non-member |
|-------------------------------------|--------|------------|
| Exam Cancellation Fee (CBT)*        | \$50   | \$50       |
| Exam Cancellation Fee (Paper-based) | \$55   | \$55       |
| Exam Re-write Fee                   | \$250  | \$375      |
| Exam Re-scoring Fee                 | \$65   | \$65       |

#### Note:

1. All fees are payable in U.S. dollars (USD) plus GST/HST if you are a Canadian resident or a GST/HST registrant.
2. The application fee is not refundable regardless of whether an application is approved or declined.
3. Additional transaction fees may apply (see details in the sections below).
4. Payments can be made by VISA, MasterCard, PayPal, cheque or money order.
5. For payments made by cheque or money order please mail to:

Certification

3605 Sandy Plains Road, Suite 240-193

Marietta, GA 30066 U.S.A.

\*The Exam Cancellation Fee is payable to Castle Worldwide as per the instructions on the Castle Worldwide online registration system.

## Confidentiality of Information

The CBAP® Application Form, exam results and all other CBAP® certification program-related materials are kept private and confidential. This information will not be disclosed to anyone other than the applicant without the applicant's consent.

To request the release of an exam result to a third party, IIBA must be provided with a written request identifying which exam result may be disclosed and the person or organization to which the result should be disclosed. Any violation of the IIBA Confidentiality Policy will be subject to disciplinary action(s) as described in the IIBA Constitution.

Requests should be submitted to the address listed on our website at [www.theiiba.org](http://www.theiiba.org).

**Notwithstanding any other confidentiality obligation owed by the IIBA to the applicant, in the event that the applicant's application fee and/or examination fee has been paid by a third party ("Sponsor"), the applicant hereby irrevocably authorizes and directs the IIBA to release Confidential Results Information to that Sponsor.**

## 6.1 Step 1: Applying for and Paying for CBAP® Certification

To be eligible for the CBAP® designation, the applicant must:

1. Meet the above applicant requirements (see Section 5.0).
2. Complete the CBAP® Application Form online.
3. Determine two professional references that indicate suitability as an applicant for the CBAP® designation. The online application system will automatically send an email to the references requesting them to log in to the system to complete the reference process.
4. Agree to adhere to the CBAP® Code of Ethical Conduct & Professional Standards included in the online application.
5. Print a copy of the online application for recording purposes.
6. Submit the following:
  - a. The completed online application.
  - b. The application fee of **\$125 USD** (plus GST/HST for Canadian residents) for all applicants (IIBA member and non-member) payable online by credit card with the online application, or by cheque or international money order to "International Institute of Business Analysis". This fee is not refundable regardless of whether an application is approved or declined.
7. The system will display a message indicating that the application has been submitted to IIBA.
8. IIBA will assess the application for completeness and fulfillment of the CBAP® certification requirements and will notify the applicant, via email, of the results of this assessment within 21 business days of receiving the application.

9. If the application is approved, the applicant is eligible to write the CBAP® Exam at this time. NOTE – The applicant has a maximum of one (1) year from the date of their application approval and exam eligibility email to successfully pass the exam. **It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure the application does not lapse.**
10. If an application is declined, the applicant is not eligible to write the CBAP® exam at this time. The application assessment results email will include the reason the application was not approved. The exam fee, if submitted with the application package, will be refunded upon request or can be put towards the exam if the applicant intends on reapplying. The applicant may reapply for CBAP® certification after three (3) months of receiving their application assessment results email and after the applicant has remedied the reasons for the application being declined. The applicant may also appeal the Certification Body’s decision to decline the application; the Application Appeal process can be obtained by emailing [certification@theiiba.org](mailto:certification@theiiba.org).

## 6.2 Step 2: Paying for the Exam

The exam fee is **\$325.00 USD (for IIBA members)** or **\$450 USD (for non-members)** (plus GST/HST for Canadian residents). If paying the IIBA member fee, the applicant must be a member at the time of submitting their exam fee; otherwise, they must pay the non-member fee. The fee pays for the initial exam sitting. If the applicant does not pass the exam, they will not be reimbursed the exam fee.

A modification to the IIBA exam administration procedure may be requested due to disability, handicap or other condition that may affect the ability to sit for the exam. Special exam accommodation requests should be reasonable and not compromise the validity and reliability of the exam. If special accommodations are required to take the exam, please complete the relevant section of the exam registration and payment form. In addition, you may wish to provide further advance notice to IIBA such that more time is available to meet such accommodations.

Payment of the exam fee can be made:

1. By cheque or money order made payable to “IIBA” and mailed to the IIBA address found on page 11. Please include the Exam Fee Form when mailing in your payment. Any exam fee refund requested as a result of an application being declined will be made by cheque.
2. By PayPal - a transaction fee of 3.5% of the total amount owing will apply.
  - a. For example: An exam fee paid via PayPal will cost an additional 3.5% (an additional \$11.38USD for members and \$15.75USD for non-members), plus Canadian GST/HST, if applicable.
  - b. If you would like to choose the PayPal payment option, please email [certification@theiiba.org](mailto:certification@theiiba.org) for further instructions.
  - c. There is no need to complete and mail in the Exam Fee Form if paying by PayPal.
  - d. If the exam fee payment is made via PayPal, any refund of the exam fee requested as a result of an application being declined will be via PayPal.

*IIBA is a Canadian Corporation. Please note that IIBA does not levy any additional service charges or fees. However, additional fees may be applied to this purchase if you reside outside of Canada. These fees are initiated, collected and kept by your credit card provider and are not refundable by IIBA. Fees are charged in United States currency (USD) and your credit card provider will convert your purchase to your home currency on your credit card.*

## 6.3 Step 3: Registering for the Exam

Once the exam fee has been processed by IIBA, there are two options to register for the exam:

**a. Computer-based testing (CBT) of the exam at a dedicated test center.**

The list of test centers is located at [www.theiiba.org](http://www.theiiba.org). Within a month of receiving their approval email, the applicant will receive, via email from Castle Worldwide, an admission letter (i.e., Notice to Schedule CBAP<sup>®</sup> Examination) which includes a User ID and Password to register online for the test center and test date of their choice.

There will be a selection of monthly dates and times to choose from at most dedicated test centers. For test center locations in North America, up to seven days notice from registration is required to take the exam. For all other locations, up to 60 days notice from registration may be required to take the exam. If a location in or near your area is not listed on our website, email [certification@theiiba.org](mailto:certification@theiiba.org) to inquire about other options available.

After registering online for the exam, the applicant will receive, almost immediately, a confirmation email (i.e., IIBA – Scheduling Confirmation Notice) from Castle Worldwide. This email is the applicant's admission letter and includes the exam logistics.

**b. Hosted scheduled exams.**

The hosted exam schedule is located at [www.theiiba.org](http://www.theiiba.org). If space is available at the exam sitting requested, the approved applicant will be registered and notified of their registration by IIBA via email. Approximately two weeks prior to the exam date, the applicant will receive, via email from Castle Worldwide, an admission letter that includes the exam logistics.

## 6.4 Step 4: Preparing for the Exam

The following are recommendations from IIBA on how to prepare for the CBAP<sup>®</sup> exam. Note that following these recommendations does not guarantee passing the exam.

- Review the IIBA *BABOK<sup>®</sup> Guide*.
- Review the *BABOK<sup>®</sup> Learning Guide* found in the Online Library on the Community Network.
- Review Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on the IIBA website.
- Review recommended resources on the IIBA website.
- Attend training, as needed.
- Find opportunities in day-to-day work to practice tasks by following the *BABOK<sup>®</sup> Guide*.
- Find a business analysis mentor.
- Join a study group.
- Network on the IIBA forum and/or attend local IIBA Chapter meetings.
- Review available study guide(s).

The CBAP<sup>®</sup> exam is 3.5 hours long and consists of 150 multiple choice questions with four possible answers to select from. Some questions are based on "comprehension" (e.g., definition, recall, etc.) and others are based on "situational analysis" (e.g., given a scenario, which is the best course of action) where the applicant must do a bit of analysis to arrive at the answer. It is neither all of one type or the other but covers a range of [Bloom's Taxonomy](#).

The current exam blueprint based on v2.0 of the *BABOK® Guide* is as follows:

| Knowledge Area                            | Percent of Questions |
|---|----------------------|
| Business Analysis Planning and Monitoring | 19.33%               |
| Elicitation                               | 14%                  |
| Requirements Management and Communication | 16%                  |
| Enterprise Analysis                       | 15.33%               |
| Requirements Analysis                     | 19.33%               |
| Solution Assessment and Validation        | 16%                  |

Please note that due to rounding error, the percentages above do not quite add up to 100% without rounding up.

## 6.5 Step 5: Taking the Exam

The final step in the Certification process is for the applicant to write and pass a comprehensive final examination, based on the *BABOK® Guide* that is designed to objectively assess and measure business analysis knowledge.

### Exam Day Process

- Arrive on time for the exam.
- For CBT exams, the reporting time is indicated in the Scheduling Confirmation Notice.
- For paper-based scheduled exams, registration begins 30 minutes prior to the exam start time. Please arrive at least 30 minutes early.
- Provide the following when arriving at the exam:
  - Admission letter or Scheduling Confirmation Notice if taking the exam by CBT.
  - Current photo identification with signature (i.e., Driver's license, Immigration card, Passport, State ID card, etc.) **The candidate will NOT be admitted without proper identification.**
  - Two sharp #2 pencils with erasers if taking a paper-based scheduled exam.

### Notification of Exam Results

For CBT exams, immediate scoring is available so the candidate will see their results on the screen within minutes of submitting the exam.

For paper-based exams, results are calculated and finalized within 30 days of the exam date. Notification will be received by email shortly after this 30 day period, at the latest, indicating pass or fail status.

Applicants who do not successfully pass the exam will be provided some guidance as to the Knowledge Areas that require attention in their results screen. In this case, the applicant is allowed to retake the exam one time within the one-year period from the date of application approval results email. However, the applicant must wait three months from the date of their last exam before retaking the exam.

If the exam is passed, the applicant is granted certification and may use the designation of “Certified Business Analysis Professional™ (CBAP®)”.

### **Exam Cancellation Policy**

If it is necessary to reschedule an exam, the following is the exam cancellation policy:

1. For CBT exams:
  - All cancellations regardless of notice provided are subject to a cancellation fee of \$50 USD payable to Castle Worldwide as per their CBT cancellation policy.
  - If cancellation is done fewer than five business days in advance of the registered exam date or, the cancellation fee is not paid to Castle Worldwide, the exam fee paid (i.e., \$325 USD or \$450 USD) will be forfeited and the full exam fee will be owing to IIBA in order to reschedule.
  - Exceptions to the cancellation/reschedule policy may be made in the event of a substantiated emergency. Please contact Castle Worldwide directly at (919) 572-6880 for assistance.
2. For paper-based hosted exams, IIBA must be notified (email [certification@theiiba.org](mailto:certification@theiiba.org)) as soon as possible. If notification is provided to IIBA less than 30 days prior to the exam date, an administration fee of \$55 USD (plus GST/HST for Canadian residents) will be charged to the applicant and must be received by IIBA in order to reschedule.

## **7.0 Granting CBAP® Certification**

If the CBAP® exam is passed, the applicant is granted Certification and may use the designation of “Certified Business Analysis Professional™ (CBAP®)”. In addition:

- Another email will be provided after the results have been communicated with the CBAP® logo and letterhead, and the standards guide for using them.
- The email will indicate when the CBAP® recipient can expect to receive their Certification kit including the certificate and wallet card. These are printed and mailed out on a quarterly basis.
- A listing of all CBAP® recipients with their first and last name, city, province/state/territory and certification date will be posted on the IIBA website.

## **8.0 Re-writing the CBAP® Exam**

If the applicant does not pass the CBAP® exam, he or she is allowed to retake the exam once within the one year period from the date of their application approval and exam eligibility email. However, they must wait three months from the date of their last exam before retaking the exam. In addition:

- The fee to retake the exam is \$250 USD (for IIBA members) or \$375 (for non-members) (plus GST/HST for Canadian residents). The applicant must complete the CBAP® Exam Re-Write

Registration Form (located at [www.theiiba.org](http://www.theiiba.org)) and mail it with their fee to the address indicated above. Seating at the exam is limited and is filled on a first come first serve basis. Exam registration is not done until IIBA receives the exam fee.

- If the applicant does not write and pass the exam within the one-year period, they must reapply (and pay full application and exam fees).

## 9.0 Maintaining CBAP<sup>®</sup> Certification and Recertification

All CBAP<sup>®</sup> recipients are required to meet continuing proficiency requirements in order to maintain their designation. Continuing proficiency is one of the important benchmarks of a quality certification program. The IIBA certification needs to be renewed every three years.

The CBAP<sup>®</sup> Recertification Handbook and related forms are posted on the IIBA website.

### Updating Your Contact Information

It is the responsibility of each CBAP<sup>®</sup> applicant to advise of changes to their contact information (i.e., email address), by emailing [certification@theiiba.org](mailto:certification@theiiba.org). Failure to provide updated contact information to the Certification team may result in missed communications.

Note: Email communications from IIBA may inadvertently be blocked or forwarded to bulk mail folders by some spam filters. CBAP<sup>®</sup> recipients should, therefore, add [certification@theiiba.org](mailto:certification@theiiba.org) to their personal address book in their email program to help ensure important certification program messages from IIBA, specifically those from the Certification team, are received.

### 9.1 Suspending or Withdrawing CBAP<sup>®</sup> Certification

The IIBA Certification Body reserves the right to revoke an IIBA CBAP<sup>®</sup> certification at any time after review of a reported professional misconduct or for a misuse of the CBAP<sup>®</sup> logo. The Certification Body also reserves the right to conduct random post-certification audits. All fees paid shall be forfeited in the event of a revoked or suspended certification. Those CBAP<sup>®</sup> recipients whose certification has been revoked will not be allowed to reapply for the CBAP<sup>®</sup> Certification for a period of time.

## 10.0 Audit of Candidate and CBAP<sup>®</sup> Information

Applicants and CBAP<sup>®</sup> recipients may receive a request from the IIBA Certification Body to validate any information on their application form. It is the applicant's or CBAP<sup>®</sup> recipient's responsibility to obtain and provide verification of any statements made within an application.

## 11.0 Resolution of Appeals & Complaints

CBAP<sup>®</sup> recipients and applicants for CBAP<sup>®</sup> certification may request a review of an adverse IIBA Certification Body action, decision, or determination. IIBA will investigate the appeal or complaint and provide notification of their resolution. Please contact [certification@theiiba.org](mailto:certification@theiiba.org) for information.

Requests to rescore an exam requires prepayment of the \$65.00 US (plus GST/HST for Canadian residents) rescoring fee before the rescoring can be completed.