

MSP® Foundation & Practitioner - Classroom Training

Officially launched in 1999, “Managing Successful Programmes” (MSP®) is a guide that provides and maintains a strategic view over the set of projects, aligning and co-ordinating them within a programme of business change in support of specific business strategies.

Any organisation or individual seeing the need for a controlled approach to managing its programmes. The event is suitable for programme managers, experienced project managers, programme support team members and senior managers from any discipline.

Course Objectives

The key objectives of this course are to:

- Provide Delegates with an understanding of the benefits and principles underlying a structured approach to programme management.
- Apply the principles of MSP® to a programme within a work environment.
- Operate effectively with colleagues and managers within a structured programme and project management environment.
- Enable delegates to understand the MSP® framework to be prepared to sit the PeopleCert MSP® Foundation and Practitioner exams.
- Success in the Foundation & Practitioner Exams provides candidates with the pre-requisites required to sit the MSP® Advanced Practitioner exam (separate course - please see MSP® Advanced Practitioner course).

Course Content

MSP® Introduction and Overview

What is a programme? What is programme management? MSP® Structure.

MSP® Framework and Concepts

Principles, governance themes, transformational flow, management strategies and plans.

Vision

What is a ‘vision’? What makes a good Vision Statement?

Identifying a Programme

Programme Mandate. Linking to Policy and Strategy. Preparing a Programme Brief. Planning to Define the Programme.

Blueprint Design and Delivery

What is a Blueprint, and what does it contain? Developing a Blueprint from the Vision Statement.

Defining a Programme

Creating a Programme Definition Document (including the Project Dossier, the Programme Plan and the Programme Business Case).

Planning and Control

What is a Programme Plan and how is it developed? The Project Dossier. Resourcing and scheduling.

Benefits Realisation and Management

The key driver for the programme. How benefits realisation links to achieving strategic objectives. Outcome relationship models and Benefit Maps. Planning for benefits realisation.

Organisation and the Programme Office

Organisation and leadership. Organisational structure, the key roles and their responsibilities. What is a Programme Office and what service does it provide?

The Business Case

Developing, managing and reviewing the programme’s Business Case.

Course Content

Leadership and Stakeholder Engagement

Leadership as opposed to management. How 'leaders' actively engage stakeholders. Analysing and engaging with stakeholders. Stakeholder maps and matrices.

Managing the Tranches

Implementing governance arrangements. Establishing tranches. Managing risks and issues.

Delivering the Capability and Realising the Benefits

Co-ordinating and managing projects on the Project Dossier. Starting and closing projects. Maintaining alignment with the programme.

Ensuring that project outputs are fit for purpose and can be integrated into operations, so that benefits can be realised. Pre-transition, transition and post-transition activities.

Quality Management

Critical Success Factors. The scope of programme quality management. Quality processes. Configuration Management. Quality Management Strategy and Plan. Information Management Strategy and Plan.

Risk Management and Issue Resolution

Principles, approach and strategy for managing risks and resolving issues. Managing and controlling changes.

Closing a Programme

Formal confirmation of completion. Finalising programme information. Confirming closure.

Course Approach and Exams

We offer 3-day Foundation and 5-day Practitioner course options. The courses include a mixture of input and practical sessions, delivered by an PeopleCert approved trainer with practical experience of project and programme management.

The pre-course material includes highly acclaimed event preparation materials and the MSP® Manual. Delegates should spend approximately 10 hours studying this pre-course material in order to be well prepared for the course.

What examinations are taken on the MSP® Foundation & Practitioner Course?

MSP® Foundation Exam: 1 hour, closed book exam consisting of 60 multiple-choice questions.

MSP® Practitioner Exam: 2½ hours, open book (MSP® manual only), 8 scenario-based objective test questions.