Certification Levels

The FAC-P/PM program includes three levels of certification:

♦ Project Manager -- Entry/Apprentice

♦ Program/Project Manager -- Mid/Journeyman

♦ Program Manager -- Senior/Expert

A brief explanation of each level is presented below to help further clarify what part of the FAC-P/PM program applies to your training needs and requirements.

Project Manager -- Entry/Apprentice Level

At this level, project managers should have, through training, experience, and other development activities:

♦ Knowledge and skills to perform as a project team member

♦ Ability to manage low risk and relatively simple projects or to manage more complex projects under direct supervision of a more experienced manager

♦ An overall understanding of project management practices, including performance-based acquisition

♦ Recognition of an agency's requirements development processes

♦ Ability to define and construct various project documents, under supervision

♦ Knowledge of and involvement in the definition, initiation, conceptualization or design of project requirements

Training in project management at this level will help to develop the essential interpersonal and management competencies required of high-performing, successful program and project managers.

Program/Project Manager -- Mid/Journeyman Level

At this level, program and project managers should have, through training, experience, and other development activities:

♦ Knowledge and skills to manage program/project segments of low to moderate risks with little or no supervision

♦ Ability to apply management processes, including requirements development processes and performance-based acquisition principles, to support the agency's mission to develop an acquisition program baseline from schedule requirements, plan technology developments and demonstrations and apply agency policy on interoperability

♦ Ability to identify and track actions to initiate an acquisition program/project using cost/benefit analysis

♦ Ability to identify and apply the process to prepare information for a baseline review, and can assist in development of Total Ownership Cost (TOC) estimates

♦ Ability to manage program/project segments and distinguish between program and project work

Interactive training in the areas described above will help develop the essential interpersonal and management competencies required of high-performing, successful program and project managers such as team building, influencing/negotiating, decisiveness, partnering, and managing diverse workforce.

Program Manager -- Senior/Expert Level

At this level, program managers should have, through training, experience, and other development activities:

♦ Knowledge and skills to manage and evaluate moderate to high-risk programs or projects that require significant acquisition investment and agency knowledge and experience

♦ Ability to manage and evaluate a program and create an environment for program success

♦ Ability to manage and evaluate the requirements development process, overseeing junior level team members in creation, development, and implementation

♦ Ability to use, manage, and evaluate management processes, including performance-based management techniques

♦ Ability to manage and evaluate the use of earned value management as it relates to acquisition investments

Interactive training in these areas described above will help develop the essential interpersonal and management competencies required of high-performing, successful program and project managers such as strategic thinking, vision, and external awareness.