



GIAC Overview

About GIAC Certifications

We provide more than 35 skill-specific certifications that are directly aligned with critical InfoSec job duties; all GIAC certifications align with a SANS training course.

GIAC is an **ACCREDITED (ANSI)** certification entity

- ❖ This allows SANS and GIAC to sell directly to federal employees, military, and other organizations that require professionals to meet federal standards.

GIAC exams validate **real-world** competency and focus on **hands-on** concepts. We provide skill-specific certifications that are directly aligned with critical InfoSec job duties, so you know your newly validated knowledge will be applicable right away at work.

What GIAC Does

GIAC provides more than 35 skill-specific certifications that are directly aligned with critical InfoSec job duties; all GIAC certifications align with a SANS training course.

- ❖ GIAC certification exams are all proctored. Some exams are all multiple choice, and some are multiple choice with practical lab-based questions. Certifications must be renewed every four years.
- ❖ SANS training, regardless of modality, can help a candidate pass their GIAC exam.
- ❖ Government, federal, and military markets follow policy and protocol that makes GIAC especially important to SANS (DoDD 8570/8140, NICE, Presidential EO, etc.)

| Why Certify?

For **Career Development**

- Certifying has the potential to increase salary
- Increases promotion mobility
- Gives you prestige, confidence, and demonstrated ability

For **Industry Recognition**

- Confirms that individuals have specific, critical technical skills
- Stronger networking potential and community bonds

For **Validation**

- Certifications are valuable as a management tool to help with hiring, employee skills assessments, and self-auditing

| Why Certify with GIAC?

Job-Specific, Specialized Focus

We know that professionals need specialized skills and knowledge to meet today's threats, so GIAC offers more than 35 certifications focused on specific job skills

Deep, Real-World Knowledge

Deep, technical, real-world knowledge is the only reliable way to reduce security risk – and GIAC exams are designed with this principle in mind

Most Trusted Certification Design

GIAC exam content and question design are developed through a rigorous process – led by our on-staff psychometrician and reviewed by technical experts

“GIAC has opened doors for me in my cybersecurity career. The security of your cyber-assets depends directly on the skills and knowledge of your security team that GIAC exams validate.”

-Trey Blalock, GWAPT, GCFA, GPEN

Cyber Defense	ICS	Pen Testing	Digital Forensics & Incident Response	Management & Leadership	Developer
GISF	GICSP	GCIH*	GCFE	GISP	GWEB
GSEC*	GRID	GPEN	GCFA	GSLC	GCSA
GCED	GCIP	GWAPT	GNFA	GSTRT	
GCIA*		GPYC	GCTI	GCPM	
GCWN*		GMOB	GASF	GLEG	
GCUX*		GAWN	GREM	GSNA	
GMON		GXPN	GBFA		
GDSA		GEVA			
GCDA					
GCCC					
GDAT					
GDSA					
GOSI					



- Requires five prerequisites to be eligible to take a lab-based entrance exam
- If passed, then the candidate can sit for the two day in-person proctored lab-based exam.
- GSE is the current capstone for the SANS Technology Institute

Bolded = Features CyberLive / * = GSE Pre-req.

New Certifications



Curriculum – **Cloud Security, SANS SEC540**
Available to public on April 17, 2020



Curriculum – **Cyber Defense, SANS SEC487**
Available to public on August 1, 2020



Curriculum – **Digital Forensics, SANS FOR498**
Available to public on August 1, 2020

CYBERLIVE

GIAC
CERTIFICATIONS



**HANDS-ON REAL-WORLD SCENARIOS
FOR ADVANCED CYBER PRACTITIONERS**

[GIAC.ORG/FINDOUTMORE/CYBERLIVE](https://giac.org/findoutmore/cyberlive)

What is CyberLive?

It's where cyber practitioners prove their skills, understanding and abilities in a real-world, virtual machine environment that takes select GIAC certifications beyond traditional knowledge-based testing.

Why?

The need for advanced cyber skills has never been more critical. The complexity of the cyber threat landscape has never been greater. By requiring candidates to respond to real-world-like events in a virtual machine environment, GIAC is leading the wave of future cyber security certification.

Certs with CyberLive testing

GXPN: Exploit Researcher and Advanced Penetration Tester (SEC660)

GCIA: Intrusion Analyst (SEC503)

GCIH: Incident Handler (SEC504)

GPEN: Penetration Tester (SEC560)

GCFA: Forensic Analyst (FOR508)

[GIAC.ORG/FINDOUTMORE/CYBERLIVE](https://giac.org/findoutmore/cyberlive)

Helps Candidate:

- Affirms that they can do what they say they can do
 - Job Security
 - Job Promotion
 - Job Pay
- Bragging rights

Helps hiring managers:

- identify qualified, advanced cyber professionals
 - Internally and externally
- gauge the real-world abilities of prospective employees who have little or no previous job experience, such as newly graduated students

Public Space:

- Hands-on requirements carries 'clout' in the market
- Increasingly so with influx of competitors coming on the market

What's the Exam Like?

Most exams are **multiple choice** – common exam formats include:

- 75 questions completed in two hours
- 115 questions completed three hours
- 150 questions completed in four hours

All GIAC Exams are taken at Pearson-VUE testing centers

Exams are open book and notes (paper materials only)

NO electronic devices are allowed, and NO internet use of any kind is permitted

NEW for CyberLive: The recently introduced a virtual machine component (CyberLive) is now part of the GXPN, GCIH, GPEN, GSEC, and GCFA exams. Scoring is based on VM performance combined with multiple choice results

Each exam purchase includes **2 complimentary practice tests** (\$338 value)

| Registering for a GIAC Exam

There are two ways to register for a certification exam:

- Purchase a certification attempt through GIAC
- Register for an exam in conjunction with SANS training

The current rate for certification attempts is \$1,999

If you purchase an exam in a bundle with SANS training, the cost is discounted: \$799 if purchased at the time of registration, and \$1,149 if purchased after completion of your training course

You have **four months** from the time of registration to complete your certification

Please visit our website for more information and to register:

<https://www.giac.org/certifications/get-certified/registration>

Why get GIAC certified?

“GIAC’s testing process is much better than their competitors. The material is spot on with what I do at work every day.”

-Jason Pfister, GMON

Preparing for a GIAC Exam

Make sure to thoroughly review and have a clear understanding of exam objectives found on the Certification Overview Webpages

Take the practice tests!

- Two free practice exams are included with your certification attempts

If you took a SANS training course, be sure to reread all slides and notes from course materials, refresh your hands-on skills by revisiting class exercises, and listen to the course audio files

On average, students who pass their GIAC exams study 55+ hours in addition to classroom training

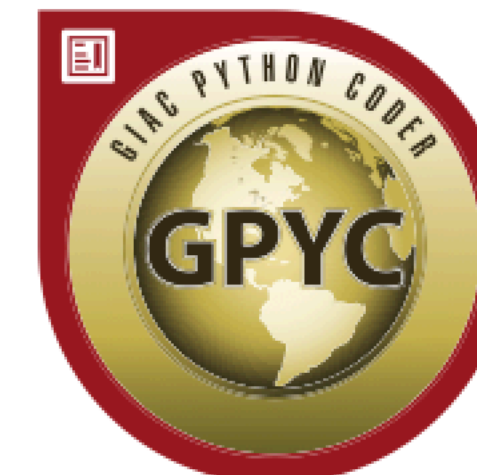
When You Pass Your GIAC Exam

Once you've passed your certification exam, show off your accomplishment with a **digital badge**. This interactive, clickable badge verifies that you have the requisite qualifications.

We encourage you to share your badge on **LinkedIn**, in your digital resume, and in your email signature

Print Recognition: <http://www.giac.org/certified-professionals/business-card-logos>

Digital Recognition: <https://www.giac.org/digitalbadges>



When You Pass Your GIAC Exam with a 90%

Welcome to the Advisory Board

Earn a score of 90% or higher on your certification exam and you'll be invited to join the **GIAC Advisory Board**

- Exists to provide a forum where security professionals can exchange ideas and advice
- Membership involves participation in two advisory board lists, one moderated and one unmoderated, that discuss GIAC exams, SANS training, industry news, technology questions, and job opportunities
- There are currently more than 2,000 active members
- Advisory board members are given priority consideration for involvement with GIAC Certifications and SANS as editors, authors, instructors, volunteers, proctors, and graders

Renewal

Keeping Active in the GIAC Community and Keeping Your Certification Active

- Your GIAC certifications are valid for four years
- The renewal fee of \$429 is due once every four years, which includes current training material from SANS for those interested
- There are multiple renewal options available. Please feel free to choose the method that works best for you:
 - Retake the exam
 - Earn continuing professional experience points (CPE points)
 - Publish a technical paper
- If you have more than one certification up for renewal in the same two-year period, you are eligible for a discounted price after your first renewal purchase – the cost is \$219 on all other certs

For more information on the renewal process, please visit www.giac.org/certification-renewal/

GSE (GIAC Security Expert)

Only the true security elite hold a GIAC Security Expert certification (GSE). In fact, they constitute about .001% of all GIAC certification holders. The GSE is the most prestigious, most demanding certification in the information security industry. The GSE's performance-based, hands-on nature sets it apart from any other certification in cybersecurity. Those who earn the GSE have mastered the wide variety of skills, across multiple domains, required by top security professionals.

GSE holders have demonstrated expertise in applying knowledge in a hands-on environment. They are verified network packet ninjas with world-class incident response capabilities. In addition to superior technical skills, GSE holders must have demonstrated a keen awareness of important business drivers and considerations, an exceptionally rare skill set among technology professionals.

GSE. For the very few, the very best, cybersecurity professionals.

- Prerequisites
- Entrance Exam
- Two Day On-site Practical Lab

www.giac.org/GSE

“It was just what I was expecting...extremely hard”



“Excellent examination of skills. GIAC does a good job of leveraging knowledge and skill ability with IT intuition – an important pairing in a real cybersecurity position.”

-Garrett Brown, GCIH

ANSI Accreditation

In 2007, the GIAC Certifications program was accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI)/ ISO17024, which is a quality standard for organizations granting certifications

The following certifications are accredited:

2007: GSEC and GSLC

2009: GCIH, GCIA, and GCFA

2013: GPEN, GCED, and GSNA

2014: GCFE, GICSP, and GMOB

More Information

GIAC: <http://www.giac.org>

SANS: <http://www.sans.org>

To obtain a copy of this **presentation**:

http://www.giac.org/overview/program_overview.pdf

GIAC FAQ: <http://www.giac.org/FAQ.php>

For **general questions** please email: info@giac.org

For **proctor questions** please email: proctor@giac.org

