Certification Exam Guide

SALESFORCE CERTIFIED PLATFORM DEVELOPER I

Winter '18

CONTENTS

ABOUT THE SALESFORCE CERTIFIED PLATFORM DEVELOPER I PROGRAM

The Salesforce Certified Platform Developer I credential is intended for individuals who have knowledge, skills, and experience building custom applications on the Force.com platform.

This credential encompasses the fundamental programmatic capabilities of the Force.com platform to develop custom business logic and interfaces to extend Salesforce using Apex and Visualforce. To achieve this credential, a candidate must successfully pass the Salesforce Certified Platform Developer I exam. This exam is also a prerequisite to the Salesforce Certified Platform Developer II Multiple Choice exam.

This exam guide provides information about the Salesforce Certified Platform Developer I exam.

SECTION 1. PURPOSE OF THIS EXAM GUIDE

This exam guide is designed to help you evaluate if you are ready to successfully complete the Salesforce Certified Platform Developer I exam. This guide provides information about the target audience for the certification exam, recommended training and documentation, and a complete list of exam objectives–all with the intent of helping you achieve a passing score. Salesforce highly recommends a combination of on-the-job experience, course attendance, and self-study to maximize your chances of passing the exam.

SECTION 2. AUDIENCE DESCRIPTION: SALESFORCE CERTIFIED PLATFORM DEVELOPER I

The Salesforce Certified Platform Developer I exam is intended for an individual who has experience developing and deploying basic business logic and user interfaces using the programmatic capabilities of the Force.com platform, including practical application of the skills and concepts noted in the exam objectives below.

The Salesforce Certified Platform Developer I generally has one to two years of experience as a developer and at least six months of experience on the Force.com platform.

The Salesforce Certified Platform Developer I candidate has the experience, skills, and knowledge outlined below:

- Can use the fundamental programmatic capabilities of the Force.com platform to develop custom interfaces to extend Salesforce capabilities and develop custom business logic.
- Can extend the Force.com platform using Apex, Visualforce, and Lightning Components.
- Is familiar with, and able to leverage relevant declarative capabilities of the platform, where appropriate.
- Knows when to use declarative vs. programmatic methods.
- Is familiar with the development lifecycle from development to testing, and has knowledge of the available environments.
- Is familiar with the Salesforce Mobile app capabilities and the basics of the Lightning framework.
- Knows when to use the Lightning Process Builder vs. an Apex trigger.
- Has experience with object-oriented languages such as Java, JavaScript, C#, and Ruby.
- Has experience with data-driven applications and relational databases.
- Has experience with Model View Controller (MVC) architecture and component-based architecture.
- Has invested time in studying the resources listed in this exam guide and the additional required study materials provided by Salesforce.

A candidate for this exam is not expected to administer any standard Salesforce applications, develop mobile apps, develop and publish managed products on the App Exchange, perform tuning or design integrations such as callouts, APIs, and email services.

SECTION 3. ABOUT THE EXAM

The Salesforce Certified Platform Developer I exam has the following characteristics:

- Content: 60 multiple-choice/multiple-select questions* (5 unscored items will be added)

- Time allotted to complete the exam: 110 minutes* (time allows for unscored questions)

- Passing Score: 65%

- Registration fee: USD 200, plus applicable taxes as required per local law

- Retake fee: USD 100, plus applicable taxes as required per local law

- Delivery options: Proctored exam delivered onsite at a testing center or in an online proctored environment. Click here for information on scheduling an exam.

- References: No hard-copy or online materials may be referenced during the exam.

- Prerequisite: None required; course attendance highly recommended.

*Please note that as of November 16, 2017, all Salesforce certification exams will contain five additional, randomly placed, unscored questions to gather data on question performance. The duration of each exam has been evaluated and adjusted to accommodate the inclusion of the unscored questions. These five questions are in addition to the 60 scored questions on your exam, and will have no impact whatsoever on your score.

SECTION 4. RECOMMENDED TRAINING AND REFERENCES

As preparation for this exam, Salesforce recommends a combination of: hands-on experience, training course completion, Trailhead trails, and self-study in the areas listed in the Exam Outline section of this exam guide.

To access the most comprehensive training list, download a copy of our Salesforce Guide to Certification available here.

To enroll in instructor-led courses and launch online training from your Salesforce application, click the **Help & Training** link in the upper right corner of the screen (requires login) and search for the desired courses. Non-Salesforce customers can register for instructor-led courses here.

Instructor-Led Training recommended for this exam:

- Instructor-led course: Programmatic Development Using Apex and Visualforce (DEV450)

To review online Documentation, Tip Sheets, and User Guides – search for the topics listed in the Exam Outline section of the exam guide and study the information related to those topics. Documentation, Tip Sheets, and User Guides can also be accessed through **Help & Training**.

Trailhead trails can be accessed here.

Check out the official Certification Trailmix for this credential. We have included essential Trailhead learning specifically with you in mind.

SECTION 5. EXAM OUTLINE

The Salesforce Certified Platform Developer I exam measures a candidate's knowledge and skills related to the following objectives. A candidate should have hands-on experience developing custom applications on the Force.com platform and have demonstrated the application of each of the features/functions below.
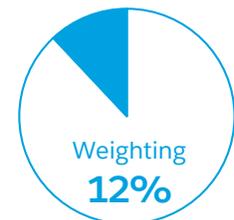
SALESFORCE FUNDAMENTALS

- Describe the considerations when developing in a multi-tenant environment.
- Describe how the Salesforce platform features map to the MVC pattern.
- Describe the capabilities of the core CRM objects in the Salesforce schema.
- Identify the common scenarios for extending an application's capabilities using the AppExchange.
- Identify common use cases for declarative customization and features of the Heroku Platform.
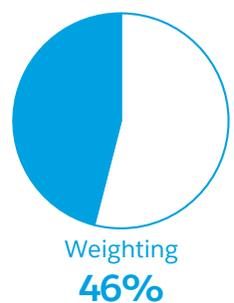
Weighting
10%

DATA MODELING AND MANAGEMENT

- Given a set of requirements, determine the appropriate data model.
- Describe the capabilities of the various relationship types and the implications of each on record access, user interface (UI), and object-oriented programming.
- Describe the impact of schema design and modifications on Apex Development.
- Describe how to visualize and create entity relationships.
- Describe the options for and considerations when importing and exporting data into development environments.

Weighting
12%

LOGIC AND PROCESS AUTOMATION

- Describe how to programmatically access and utilize the object schema.
- Describe the capabilities and use cases for formula fields.
- Describe the capabilities and use cases for roll-up summary fields.
- Describe the capabilities of the declarative process automation features.
- Describe when to use declarative automation features vs. Apex classes and triggers.
- Describe how to declare variables and constants in Apex and how to assign values using expressions.

Weighting
46%

- Describe the primitive and complex Apex data types and when to use them.

- Describe how to use and apply Apex control flow statements.

- Describe how to write and when to use Apex classes and interfaces.

- Describe how to use basic SOSL, SOQL, and DML statements when working with objects in Apex.

- Describe the basic patterns used in triggers and classes to process data efficiently.

- Describe when to use and how to write triggers.

- Describe the implications of governor limits on Apex transactions.

- Describe the relationship between Apex transactions, the save order of execution, and the potential for recursion and/or cascading.

- Describe how to implement exception handling in Apex.

- Describe how to write Visualforce controllers.

- Describe when and how to use standard Visualforce controllers vs. Apex custom controllers and controller extensions.

- Describe the programmatic techniques to prevent security vulnerabilities in Apex and Visualforce.

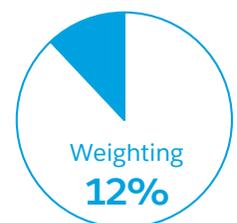- Describe how Apex impacts the ability to make declarative changes.

USER INTERFACE

- Describe how to display Salesforce data using a Visualforce page.

- Describe the types of web content that can be incorporated into Visualforce pages.

- Describe how to incorporate Visualforce pages into Force.com applications.

- Describe the benefits of the Lightning Component framework.

- Describe the resources that can be contained in a Lightning Component.

Weighting
10%

TESTING

- Describe the testing framework and requirements for deployment.

- Describe how to write unit tests for triggers, controllers, and classes.

- Describe when and how to use various sources of test data.

- Describe how to execute one or multiple test classes.

- Describe the differences between invoking Apex in execute anonymous vs. unit tests.

Weighting
12%

DEBUG AND DEPLOYMENT TOOLS

- Describe how to monitor and access various types of debug logs.

- Describe the capabilities and security implications of the Developer Console, Workbench, and Force.com IDE.

- Describe the different processes for deploying metadata and business data.

- Describe how the different environments are used in the development and deployment process.

Weighting
10%

SECTION 6. SAMPLE EXAM QUESTIONS

The following questions are representative of those on the Salesforce Certified Platform Developer I exam. These questions are *not* designed to test your readiness to successfully complete the certification exam, but should be used to become familiar with the types of questions on the exam. The actual exam questions may be more or less difficult than this set of questions.

1. Which three use cases require a partial copy or full sandbox?

    Choose three answers

    A.   Scalability Testing

    B.   Development Testing

    C.   Quality Assurance Testing

    D.   Batch Data Testing

    E.   Integration Testing

2. In the Lightning Component framework, where is client-side controller logic contained?

    Choose one answer

    A.   Apex

    B.   Visualforce

    C.   HTML

    D.   JavaScript

3. A developer creates a method in an Apex class and needs to ensure that errors are handled properly. Which three would the developer use?

    Choose three answers

    A.   ApexPages.addErrorMessage()

    B.   A custom exception

    C.   .addError()

    D.   Database.handleException()

    E.   A try/catch construct

4. Which two are valid in the *where* clause of a SOQL query?

     Choose two answers

    A.   A geolocation field.

    B.   An encrypted field.

    C.   An aggregate function.

    D.   An alias notation.

5. What is the correct way to describe how Model-View-Controller (MVC) architecture is implemented on the Salesforce platform?

    Choose one answer

    A.   **Model**: Standard and Custom Objects; **View**: Visualforce Pages; **Controller**: s-Controls

    B.   **Model**: Schema Builder; **View**: List Views; **Controller**: Setup Console

    C.   **Model**: Standard and Custom Objects; **View**: Visualforce Pages; **Controller**: Apex Code

    D.   **Model**: Apex Code; View: List Views; **Controller**: Setup Console

SECTION 7. ANSWERS TO SAMPLE EXAM QUESTIONS

1. A, D, E
2. D
3. B, C, E
4. A, D
5. C

SECTION 8. MAINTAINING A CERTIFICATION

One of the benefits of holding a Salesforce credential is always being up to date on new product releases. Our release exams are designed to ensure you have the latest information you need to be a successful Salesforce Certified expert.

Click here for information regarding requirements and cost to maintain your Salesforce certification.

If you earned the Salesforce Certified Platform Developer I credential on or before November 15, 2017 you are required to pass the Salesforce Certified Platform Developer I – Winter '18 Release Exam. Click here for details about the release exam objectives, number of questions, recommended preparation, and registration information.

REGISTER FOR SALESFORCE COURSES ONLINE OR SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT:

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Email: educationcoordinator@salesforce.com

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Email: apactraining@salesforce.com

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