



**CERTIFIED  
ASSOCIATE**



PUT THE  
**PROOF** IN YOUR  
STUDENTS'  
**PORTFOLIO**

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Does Adobe offer certification?

Yes, Adobe offers the Adobe Certified Associate (ACA) certification for validating entry-level skills. Learn more at [www.certiport.com/adobe](http://www.certiport.com/adobe).

### Why was the ACA certificate created?

The workplace demand for digital media skills—creating, managing, integrating, and communicating information by using Adobe's video, graphic, web, illustration, or design software—is on the rise. The ACA certification program will help educators effectively teach and validate digital communication skills while providing students with credentials that demonstrate real-world prowess to prospective employers and academic institutions.

### What are the benefits of becoming ACA certified?

When someone becomes ACA certified, it validates their technical abilities and demonstrates proficiency. ACA certifications are based on research about digital communication skills required by industry, government, and education. The scenario-based exams validate the expertise required for success in today's digital world. Industry-recognized certification programs ensure students and teachers are acquiring the knowledge and abilities valued in today's workplace. For institutions seeking to keep curriculum vitalized and relevant, certification plays a critical role in bridging classroom learning to real world application.

### What ACA certifications are available?"

There are seven ACA certifications currently available:

- Web Authoring Using Adobe Dreamweaver
- Multiplatform Animation using Adobe Animate CC
- Video Communication Using Adobe Premiere Pro
- Visual Communication Using Adobe Photoshop
- Graphic Design & Illustration Using Adobe Illustrator
- Print & Digital Media Publication Using Adobe InDesign
- Visual Effects and Motion Graphics Using Adobe After Effects

### How is an ACA certification earned?

To earn an Adobe certification, an individual must pass a rigorous examination administered through a Certiport Authorized Testing Center (CATC). All Adobe exams are created with input from Adobe subject-matter experts and are psychometrically validated. The scenario-based questions provide real-world context for students. Each Adobe certification exam corresponds to a particular Adobe application used for digital media communication and represents a single certification. You can also earn an Adobe Certified Associate Specialist certificate which is awarded when an individual earns three qualifying Adobe Certified Associate certifications in Adobe Creative Cloud or Adobe Creative Suite 6.



Learn more about ACA Certification.  
Visit [www.certiport.com/adobe](http://www.certiport.com/adobe)  
or call today at: 888-999-9830.

## ACA exams validate a test candidate's knowledge and skill using the following question types.

- ACA CC 15 exams or older use scenario-based contexts via two question types:
- Performance-based questions simulate the Adobe application, requiring the student to complete a task or perform a function.
- Linear-based questions use traditional true/false, multiple-choice or matching formats.

## ACA CC 18 exams use the following question types:

- Working live in the Adobe application to complete tasks and answer questions.
- Rich-selected item types including multiple choice, drag and drop, hot spots, and drop downs.

## How can I find out what is on the ACA exams?

Learning objectives for the current ACA exams are listed on Adobe's website:

<http://edex.adobe.com/aca/objectives>.

## How do I register to take an ACA exam?

Contact a CATC and register to take your exam. To locate a CATC contact Certiport at

[www.certiport.com](http://www.certiport.com).

## What is the process for a school or institution to become a CATC?

Schools or institutions can easily become CATC and administer ACA exams onsite. To learn more, contact Certiport at [www.certiport.com/go](http://www.certiport.com/go) or **1-888-999-9830** or email

[adobeinfo@certiport.com](mailto:adobeinfo@certiport.com).

## What happens when I pass an ACA exam?

As soon as you pass an Adobe exam, your name and exam results are given to Adobe by Certiport. Your exam data is then entered into a database. You have access to view and print your official certificate or to download the certification logo highlighting your accomplishment by logging onto [www.certiport.com](http://www.certiport.com).

You can also claim your digital certification badge at [www.youracclaim.com](http://www.youracclaim.com).

## How do I claim my digital Adobe Certified Associate certification badge and use it?

Once you have been issued an Adobe badge from Certiport, you will receive an email notification from Acclaim ([admin@youracclaim.com](mailto:admin@youracclaim.com)). That email will include instructions for claiming your badge. Your badge will be tied to the same email address used for your Certiport portal account. To learn more visit, <http://support.youracclaim.com/>.

You can announce and promote your Adobe certification to your network and potential employers by displaying your badge over LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter and other online destinations.

## Do ACA certifications expire?

Creative Cloud-based ACA certifications become non-current three years after date of issue.

## What is an ACA Site License?

Institutions can purchase an ACA Site License that includes access to ACA certification exams with an upfront, one-time annual cost. The ACA Site License includes access to the ACA certifications using Adobe Animate, Adobe Dreamweaver, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe InDesign, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe After Effects and Adobe Premier Pro in all available versions. The ACA Site License also includes practice test software to prepare your students and staff.

## What is the ACA Specialist certificate?

The ACA Specialist is a certificate awarded to individuals who have earned three qualifying Adobe certifications in Adobe Creative Cloud or Adobe Creative Suite 6 (CS6).

## Is the ACA Specialist an Adobe Certified Associate certification?

No. The ACA Specialist is not a certification. It is a valuable credential that validates one's skills and knowledge in select categories of Adobe digital-media software applications. It does not require an additional exam. When an individual earns three qualifying Adobe certifications, that individual will be awarded an Adobe Certified Associate Specialist certificate for a select digital-media category.

## Can Creative Cloud and CS6 certifications be combined to achieve an ACA Specialist credential?

No. Select Adobe Certified Associate Creative Cloud exams qualify for the Creative Cloud ACA Specialist certificates, and select Adobe Certified Associate CS6 exams qualify for the CS6 ACA Specialist certificate.

## What is the value of the ACA Specialist credential?

Digital-media projects often require cross-platform expertise in more than one Adobe application. For example, a project that requires Adobe Photoshop may also require Adobe Illustrator and Adobe InDesign to bring it to completion. Someone that possesses multiple-areas of expertise has an advantage over their peers that do not.

## Who should consider getting the ACA Specialist certificate?

The ACA Specialist is for anyone with an interest in Adobe digital-media applications. Often, these are students or employees working to advance their Adobe skills and may be looking for an effective way to validate those skills. ACA Specialist is a powerful credential to include on a resume, college or job application or a design portfolio. It is also an excellent professional development opportunity for teachers, instructors and academic administrators.

## What happens when someone earns their third-qualifying ACA Specialist certificate?

When someone earns their third-qualifying ACA Specialist certificate, they will be notified by Certiport of their accomplishment. Their ACA Specialist certificate will be available in their Certiport portal, along with all of their other Adobe certification information. The certificate will show the date of the first exam passed.

## If someone already has three qualifying Adobe certifications will they automatically qualify to receive an ACA Specialist certificate?

Yes. Anyone that has earned three qualifying Adobe certifications prior to the announcement of the ACA Specialist will be eligible to receive an ACA Specialist certificate.

Learn more about ACA Certification. Visit [www.certiport.com/adobe](http://www.certiport.com/adobe)