

RQAP

Demystifying RQAP

SQA COUNCIL ON PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION (CPR)

RQAP

Are you looking for a way to advance professionally?

Become a Registered Quality Assurance Professional (RQAP) in Good Laboratory Practices (GLP) or Good Clinical Practices (GCP)



Is RQAP For You?

Why take an RQAP exam?

- Registration is a recognized standard of experience and knowledge for the industry
- Increases your chances for success when applying for jobs or asking for a promotion
- Recognition throughout the industry, both domestically and internationally

Earning the RQAP demonstrates:

- Proof of knowledge of the regulations/guidelines and their application
- Personal professional growth and achievement
- Commitment to a high quality standard in the QA industry



Exam Development

From the Job Analysis, the Detailed Content Outline was generated. The content outline defined the scope and priorities of activities performed by QA professionals.

Development of the content outline included:

- Defining the scope of the QA profession
- Identifying tasks, knowledge elements, skills, and abilities
- Describing test specifications (how many questions, question format, grading, etc.)
- Determining how to encompass the entire QA profession, not just GLPs / GCPs

Goals of the exam include:

- Providing evidence that the tests measure what they are intended to measure
- Measuring competencies required for effective job performance
- Distinguishing between candidates who do and do not possess these competencies

The sole purpose of a registration examination:

- To identify persons who possess the knowledge and experience necessary to perform tasks on the job competently and at the level determined by the registration body.

What You Need

Requirements:

- You must have either
 - 2 (or more) years of full-time QA experience (GLP/GCP) and a Bachelor's degree
 - OR -
 - 4 years of full-time QA experience (GLP/GCP)
- Complete the application
 - A link to the application is on the SQA website
 - Professional Registration (RQAP) page
 - A Manager or SQA member signature is required on the application
 - Attach your CV and fees
 - Submit to SQA before the deadline
 - *Don't forget to sign the application!*
- To avoid late fees, apply early!!
- Fluency in English is recommended
- There are no future plans to translate the RQAP exams due to the prohibitive cost



http://www.sqa.org/professional_registration/

Exam Preparation

Read the RQAP Detailed Content Outlines Found on the SQA website – Professional Registration (RQAP) page – RQAP (GLP/GCP) Exam – RQAP Exam Candidate Handbook

- Exams are designed to test the application of quality assurance principles to practical situations
- Exams require more than simply knowing the subject matter contained in the reference materials
- Studying the regulations without Quality Assurance experience will most likely not enable a candidate to pass the examinations
- Review courses may be useful for reference material review, examples of applications, and reference material knowledge assessment BUT will not guarantee success
- The exam has three cognitive levels of questions: recall, application, or analysis
- Only recall questions rely on remembering specific areas, standards, regulations or issues
- Application items require evaluating where the references may apply in a described situation
- Analysis items require a thorough understanding of the presented problem and how to implement the references in the specific case.

Test Specifics:

- The test is 165 questions, it lasts 3.5 hours, and it is given twice per year (over a 3 week period)
- Scaled score of 75 required to pass
- Cost is located in the SQA website – CPR page
- SQA members receive a discount

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

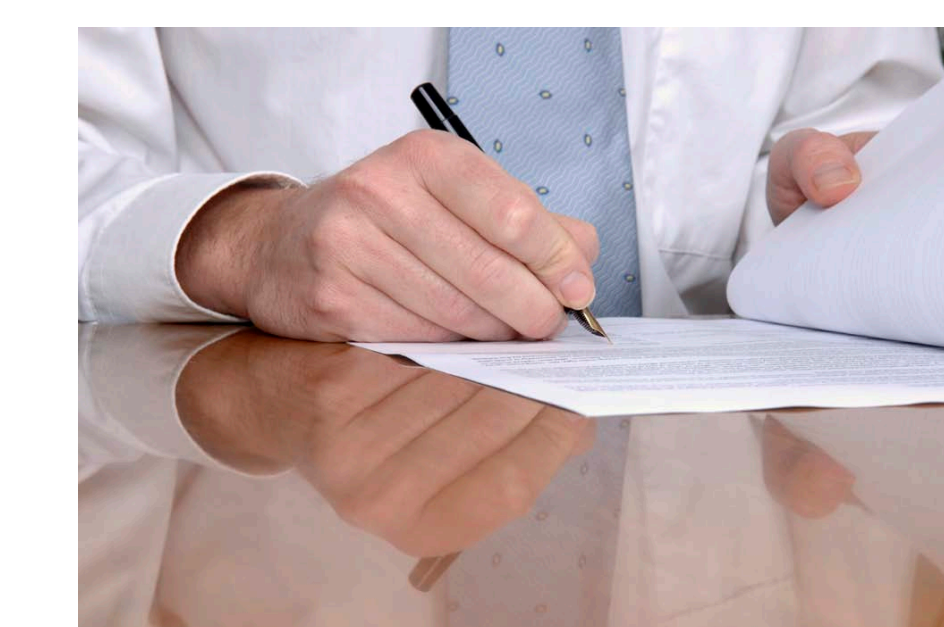
Want to Write Questions for the RQAP Exam???

You must:

- Be RQAP-registered
- Attend a training

Then:

- Specific items are assigned to you to design and write.
- The items must meet required criteria.
- Re-registration points are awarded upon completion.



to those who have passed the RQAP-GLP and RQAP-GCP exams!!

Re-registration

Why re-register? To encourage and recognize continued participation in the field of regulatory quality assurance and registrants who remain informed and knowledgeable in their profession

When? Every 3 years

What to submit? Send the application form, documentation, and fee to SQA. CPR will review the application and send you a notification.

What are the requirements? Complete **12 units within 3 years**, 6 must be discipline-specific and the remaining 6 units may be relevant professional activities

- Is there automatic renewal? **No**
- Do I have to retake the test? **No**
- Does my job count towards units? **No**
- Can one professional meeting count as both discipline-specific and other relevant activities? **No**
- Do I have to attend SQA Annual Meetings? **No**

Earning Re-registration Units:

- Attendance at conferences, webinars, training sessions
1 hour of attendance = 0.25 unit
- Instructing/Teaching = 1 unit
- Primary author for a Poster session = 1 unit
- Membership in SQA, Chapter, other relevant professional organizations, or elected committee, or Chair/Vice Chair of volunteer committees or special interest groups
= 0.25 unit each/year (max of 3 units/year in this category)
- RQAP Exam Item writing
- Mentoring Partnership – SQA and other relevant organizations
- Published work (articles, chapters, books) = 1 unit
- University courses = 1 unit/course unit

Myths

- Cost and requirements for re-registration are too great
- Attendance to SQA Annual Meetings is necessary to maintain registration, and this is too expensive
- Questions only rote memorization
- RQAP program is just a source of revenue for SQA

Mysteries

- Companies who do not value the exam send a negative message regarding personal achievement
- Many QA professionals do not recognize the technical complexity of the exam design and development and the defensibility of the credentialing industry
- Critics could become valuable contributors if they became item writers