



Global AI  
Certification Council



# GAICC

## ISO/IEC 42001 SENIOR LEAD IMPLEMENTER CERTIFICATION

Examination Content Outline –  
February 2026

Global AI Certification Council (GAICC)

# Examination Content Outline

February 2026

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# Introduction

The **Global AI Certification Council (GAICC)** offers a professional certification for AI management and governance professionals known as the **GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer Certification (SLI)**.

This credential validates advanced competence in designing, implementing, and continually improving an **Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS)** in accordance with **ISO/IEC 42001:2023** and aligned international standards such as ISO 9001 (Quality Management), ISO/IEC 27001 (Information Security Management), and ISO/IEC 27701 (Privacy Information Management).

GAICC's certification development process follows globally recognized best practices for professional credentialing, including those defined in the **ISO/IEC 17024: Conformity Assessment – General Requirements for Bodies Operating Certification of Persons**.

A key feature of ISO/IEC 17024 compliance is the use of a **competency-based and criterion-referenced** approach to exam development. GAICC conducts **global practice analyses and job-task studies** to ensure the SLI examination reflects real-world roles and responsibilities of professionals leading AI governance implementation programs across diverse industries and jurisdictions.

This **Examination Content Outline (ECO)** defines:

- The **domains of competence** required of a certified Senior Lead Implementer,
- The **tasks** and **enablers** within each domain that demonstrate capability, and
- The **relative weight** of each domain in the overall assessment.

The SLI exam evaluates knowledge, skills, and abilities across the full lifecycle of an AI Management System—covering planning, implementation, monitoring, continual improvement, and audit readiness.

Questions are developed and validated by experienced subject-matter experts drawn from government, academia, and industry to ensure relevance, fairness, and psychometric validity. Each question is mapped to the GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer ECO and referenced to at least two authoritative sources, including ISO/IEC 42001 itself and supporting GAICC guidance.

This document therefore serves as both a **blueprint for the SLI examination** and a **professional development guide** for individuals and organizations seeking to strengthen competence in responsible, transparent, and accountable AI governance.

# Exam Content Outline

The **GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer Certification (SLI)** examination measures the candidate's ability to apply the principles and requirements of **ISO/IEC 42001:2023** across all stages of an Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS)—from initial scoping and policy development to post-implementation continual improvement.

The outline below identifies the **major domains of competence** and the **relative percentage of questions** that appear on the examination. Each domain encompasses a set of **tasks** and **enablers** that reflect how AI management responsibilities are performed in practice.

## Domains and Weightings

Domain	Description	Approximate Weight on Exam
<b>I. Governance and Leadership in AI Management Systems</b>	Establishing AI policy, governance structures, roles, and accountability mechanisms to align AI use with organizational strategy and ethical principles.	20 %
<b>II. Implementation and Operational Control of the AIMS</b>	Planning and executing the AIMS implementation process including risk assessment, AI system impact assessment (AI-SIA), data governance, and lifecycle control operations.	30 %
<b>III. Performance, Audit Readiness and Continual Improvement</b>	Monitoring and measuring AIMS performance, conducting internal audits, addressing non-conformities, and driving continuous improvement for certification readiness.	25 %

<p><b>IV. Ethics, Transparency and External Engagement</b></p>	<p>Applying responsible AI principles, ensuring transparency, explainability, and stakeholder communication throughout the AI lifecycle and supply chain.</p>	<p>15 %</p>
<p><b>V. Emerging Risks and Advanced Assurance Techniques</b></p>	<p>Identifying emerging AI risks (e.g., bias drift, quantum security, autonomous decision-making) and integrating advanced audit and assurance techniques into the AIMS.</p>	<p>10 %</p>
<p><b>Total</b></p>		<p>100%</p>

## Domain, Task and Enablers

In the GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer (SLI) framework, a **domain** represents a major area of professional competence required to design, implement, and sustain an Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS).

Each domain contains a set of **tasks**—the key responsibilities of the professional—and **enablers**—illustrative examples that demonstrate how these responsibilities are carried out in practice.

Enablers are not exhaustive; they simply highlight typical evidence or actions that reflect the expected level of capability.

## Domain I – Governance and Leadership in AI Management Systems (≈ 20 %)

### Purpose:

To establish leadership commitment, governance structures, and policy direction so that the organisation’s use of artificial intelligence aligns with strategic goals and ethical principles.

Task	Illustrative Enablers / Examples
1. Define the scope and context of the AIMS.	Identify internal and external issues, stakeholder expectations, and AI use cases relevant to the organisation.
2. Develop and approve an AI policy consistent with organisational values, legal obligations, and strategic objectives.	Policy statement incorporating fairness, transparency, oversight, and continual-improvement principles.
3. Establish roles, responsibilities, and decision-making authorities for AI governance.	Governance charters, RACI matrices, appointment records, and escalation paths.
4. Integrate AI objectives into business strategy and monitor their achievement.	Objective registers, measurable KPIs, and periodic performance reviews.
5. Foster a culture of responsible AI use and leadership accountability.	Communication plans, staff awareness programmes, and management-review evidence.

## Domain II – Implementation and Operational Control of the AIMS (≈ 30 %)

### Purpose:

To design, implement, and operate an AIMS that meets ISO/IEC 42001 requirements and embeds effective risk, data-governance, and lifecycle controls.

Task	Illustrative Enablers / Examples
1. Perform AI-risk and impact assessments and plan appropriate controls.	Documented AI System Impact Assessments, risk registers, and change-planning records.
2. Implement technical and organisational controls for data governance and AI lifecycle management.	Procedures covering data acquisition, quality, retention, bias mitigation, and model-change control.
3. Ensure adequate resources, competence, and awareness for AIMS operation.	Competence matrices, training logs, and resource allocation evidence.
4. Maintain documented information and internal communication to support AIMS activities.	Communication matrices, document-control logs, and controlled repositories.
5. Operate AI systems under defined operational controls and monitoring arrangements.	Operational runbooks, incident-response playbooks, and monitoring dashboards.

## Domain III – Performance, Audit Readiness and Continual Improvement (≈ 25 %)

### Purpose:

To evaluate AIMS effectiveness, ensure continual improvement, and demonstrate certification readiness through evidence-based assurance.

Task	Illustrative Enablers / Examples
1. Monitor and measure AI system performance against defined metrics.	Fairness and accuracy dashboards, drift and error reports, and trend analyses.
2. Conduct internal audits and management reviews of AIMS effectiveness.	Approved audit plans, meeting minutes, and action trackers.
3. Address non-conformities and implement corrective and preventive actions.	Root-cause analyses, CAPA logs, and effectiveness-review evidence.
4. Drive continual improvement through data-driven insights.	Improvement registers and performance-trend evaluations.
5. Ensure readiness for external certification or surveillance audits.	Audit-readiness checklists, evidence indices, and updated Statements of Applicability.

## Domain IV – Ethics, Transparency, and External Engagement (≈ 15 %)

### Purpose:

To operationalise responsible-AI principles and sustain public trust through transparency, explainability, and meaningful stakeholder engagement.

Task	Illustrative Enablers / Examples
1. Integrate ethical principles into AI design, deployment, and monitoring.	Ethical-risk control maps, fairness testing, and oversight checkpoints.
2. Provide transparency and accessible explanations for AI-driven decisions.	Plain-language decision notices, reason-code catalogues, and traceability records.
3. Engage stakeholders across the AI ecosystem to promote accountability.	Stakeholder registers, consultation records, and communication reports.
4. Align supplier and partner obligations with AIMS controls and policies.	Supplier-assurance clauses, audit-rights documentation, and compliance attestations.

## Domain V – Emerging Risks and Advanced Assurance Techniques (≈ 10 %)

### Purpose:

To identify emerging AI risks and apply advanced assurance and auditing methods to maintain system resilience amid technological and regulatory change.

Task	Illustrative Enablers / Examples
1. Detect and analyse emerging AI-related risks and trends.	Risk-radar assessments, environmental scanning, and early-warning reports.
2. Integrate continuous-assurance and AI-enabled audit tools into monitoring processes.	Automated anomaly-detection systems, digital audit dashboards, and validation scripts.
3. Develop proactive responses to new regulatory, ethical, and technological challenges.	Scenario plans, policy updates, and management-briefing materials.

## Cognitive Depth and Assessment Approach

The SLI examination evaluates three progressive cognitive levels across all domains:

- **Understanding:** Knowledge of AIMS requirements and ISO/IEC 42001 structure.
- **Application:** Practical use of controls, templates, and governance processes in real-world contexts.
- **Analysis and Evaluation:** Critical assessment of complex scenarios requiring ethical judgement and systemic thinking

# GAIC Application & Payment

## GAICC Eligibility Requirements

To qualify for the **GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer Certification (SLI)** certification, candidates must demonstrate appropriate **education, professional experience, and structured training** aligned with the competencies required to implement and maintain an Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS).

All relevant AIMS or AI governance experience must have been gained **within the last eight (8) consecutive years** before submitting the application.

<b>Educational Background</b>	<b>Recommended Professional Experience</b>	<b>Formal Training Requirement</b>
<b>Secondary qualification</b> (high school diploma, associate degree, or global equivalent)	<b>Five years / 60 months</b> of professional experience implementing or managing AI systems, digital governance, or ISO-based management frameworks.	Completion of at least 40 contact hours (CPDs) of structured GAICC-approved Internal Auditor training OR delivered by GAICC-authorized providers or equivalent recognised institutions
<b>Bachelor's degree</b> (or global equivalent)	<b>three years / 36 months</b> experience in AI governance, technology risk, data governance, or management-system implementation.	Completion of at least 40 contact hours (CPDs) of structured GAICC-approved Internal Auditor training OR delivered by GAICC-authorized providers or equivalent recognised institutions

## Additional Notes

- Experience should include **leadership or coordination responsibilities** in areas such as AI governance, ethical-AI frameworks, risk and impact assessment, or continual-improvement programmes under ISO-based standards.
- Training hours (CPDs) must be earned through **GAICC-authorized training providers** or other recognised institutions delivering courses mapped to ISO/IEC 42001 competencies.
- Individuals holding the **GAICC Lead Implementer Certification based on ISO/IEC 42001** certification automatically meet the 40-hour requirement and are eligible to attempt the **Senior Lead Implementer** examination directly.

## Recognised Education Providers

You may record contact hours from any of the following:

- **GAICC-authorized training partners (ATPs).**
- **Accredited universities or tertiary institutions** offering relevant AI governance or ISO management-system courses.
- **Professional development organisations** or corporate training programmes mapped to GAICC or ISO/IEC 42001 competencies.
- **Approved distance-learning or self-paced online courses** that include assessment and completion verification.

Informal learning (such as self-study, reading, or conference attendance without an assessment component) cannot be counted toward the 40 CPD requirement.

## GAICC Certification Fees

The fees for obtaining the **GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer Certification (SLI)** certification are determined according to **membership status**.

GAICC membership is **not mandatory** for certification, although members receive preferred pricing and access to exclusive professional-development resources.

## Payment and Scheduling

- The **examination fee** becomes payable **after your application has been approved** and before you may schedule your examination session.
- All payments are processed securely through the **GAICC Certification Portal** in cooperation with authorised payment providers.
- Examinations can be scheduled only once full payment has been confirmed.

## Re-examination and Retake Policy

Candidates who do not pass on their first attempt may **retake the examination** within their one-year eligibility period at a **discounted re-examination rate**, subject to the applicable regional and membership fee schedule.

Once an examination has been confirmed and scheduled, candidates may incur **cancellation or no-show charges** if they fail to attend or reschedule outside the permitted window. There is no free retake.

## Manual Review Requests

In exceptional cases where a candidate completes a **paper-based administration**, a **manual scoring review** may be requested.

The administrative fee for a manual re-score is **USD 45** (or regional equivalent).

## Renewal Fees

Renewal of the **Senior Lead Implementer** certification requires payment of the renewal fee as specified in the current GAICC fee schedule.

Certified professionals must also demonstrate continuing professional development (CPD) to maintain active status.

## Currency and Accepted Payment Methods

- GAICC currently accepts payments in **USD**
- Approved payment methods include **credit card** and **international wire transfer**.

## Fee Adjustments

Re-examination or rescheduling fees are **waived** if GAICC invalidates an exam score solely due to **data-forensic evidence** or test-system irregularities verified by GAICC's examination-security team.

# GAICC Examination Information

The **GAICC Lead Implementer Certification based on ISO/IEC 42001 (SLI)** examination is a competency-based assessment designed to measure the candidate's ability to apply the requirements and principles of **ISO/IEC 42001:2023** across all stages of an Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS).

## Exam Structure

Component	Description
<b>Total Questions</b>	80
<b>Format</b>	Multiple-choice and scenario-based questions delivered through the GAICC online testing platform.
<b>Allotted Time</b>	120 minutes (2 hours).
<b>Pre-Exam Tutorial &amp; Post-Exam Survey</b>	A short tutorial precedes the exam and an optional survey follows it. Neither counts toward the official exam time.

## Exam Delivery

The SLI examination is offered as both **online AI proctored** testing.

All questions are randomly presented, and candidates cannot return to earlier sections once submitted.

The exam platform includes a built-in timer, navigation panel, and flag-for-review feature.

## Scoring and Results

- Each scored question is worth one mark.
- Examination results are reported immediately upon completion.
- Feedback is provided by domain (Governance, Implementation, Performance, Ethics, Emerging Risks).
- A **minimum scaled score of 70 %** is required to pass.

All scores are verified through GAICC's **psychometric calibration process** to maintain fairness and comparability across testing sessions and delivery modes.

## Retake Policy

GAICC upholds a fair, learner-centred retake approach:

- All retakes may be scheduled at a **discounted re-examination fee**.
- All retakes must occur within the original eligibility window.

This policy balances exam security with professional-development support. There is no free retake.

## Eligibility Period and Re-application

The eligibility period begins on the date of **application approval** and remains valid for **twelve (12) months**.

If a candidate does not attempt or pass the exam within this timeframe, the application expires and a **new application** must be submitted.

## Additional Information

GAICC conducts regular **psychometric reviews** to preserve exam validity, reliability, and global relevance.

If an exam session is affected by confirmed **technical issues or system irregularities**, the candidate will be offered a **free re-examination** without penalty.

# GAICC Lead Implementer Certification based on ISO/IEC 42001 – Fees

## Membership Fees

Membership fee is 99 USD.

## Examination Fees

Exam Fee – Member (USD)	Exam Fee – Non-Member (USD)
199	299

### Notes:

- All fees are quoted in USD and may be subject to local taxes or payment-processing charges.
- **Membership is optional**, but it provides discounted exam fees and access to GAICC learning resources.
- Payments may be made via **credit card** or **international bank transfer** through the GAICC Certification Portal.

# GAICC Certification Maintenance and Renewal Requirements

## Certification Validity

The **GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Auditor Certification (SLI)** certification is valid for a period of **three (3) years** from the date of initial certification.

To maintain active status, certified professionals must demonstrate ongoing learning and practical engagement in the fields of **AI governance, risk management, and ISO/IEC 42001 implementation**.

## Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Requirements

During each three-year certification cycle, candidates must earn and record a minimum of **60 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) hours**, distributed across the following categories:

CPD Category	Description	Minimum Hours
<b>1. Professional Learning</b>	Participation in GAICC-recognised training, conferences, webinars, or workshops related to AI management systems, governance, ethics, or data privacy.	20
<b>2. Practical Application</b>	Direct involvement in implementing or auditing AI management systems, conducting AI risk assessments, or leading AI governance projects.	20
<b>3. Contribution &amp; Knowledge Sharing</b>	Activities such as publishing articles, mentoring, research, or contributing to AI governance initiatives, policy papers, or standards development.	10

<b>4. Elective Activities</b>	Additional learning or engagement activities supporting continuous professional growth.	10
	<b>Total Minimum Required:</b>	<b>60 CPDs over three years</b>

## Renewal Process

To renew the SLI certification, candidates must:

1. Submit a **Renewal Application** through the GAICC Certification Portal before the expiry date.
2. Provide evidence of **60 verified CPD hours** completed within the certification cycle.
3. Pay the applicable **renewal fee** based on the current GAICC fee schedule.
4. Agree to abide by the **GAICC Code of Professional Conduct** and **Ethical AI Implementation Principles**.

## Lapsed Certifications

- If renewal requirements are **not met by the expiry date**, the certification status changes to “**Lapsed**.”
- Lapsed professionals may reinstate their certification by completing all renewal steps within **12 months** of expiry.
- After 12 months, re-certification requires retaking the full examination.

## Audit and Verification

GAICC conducts periodic **CPD audits** to verify the accuracy of reported learning activities.

Candidates selected for audit must submit supporting documentation, such as certificates of completion, attendance records, publications, or attestation letters.

# GAICC Code of Conduct and Ethics Statement

## Purpose

The **Global AI Certification Council (GAICC)** upholds the highest standards of **integrity, accountability, and professional behaviour** in the certification and practice of **Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS)** professionals.

All GAICC-certified individuals must demonstrate **ethical leadership and responsible stewardship** in the **evaluation, assurance, and governance** of AI systems, consistent with the values of **ISO/IEC 42001** and the ethical principles defined in **ISO 19011**.

## Commitment to Ethical Practice

By applying for and maintaining GAICC certification, candidates agree to:

1. **Act with Integrity and Fairness** – Conduct all professional activities honestly, without bias, conflict of interest, or misrepresentation of competence or credentials.
2. **Protect Human Rights and Wellbeing** – Ensure that AI systems under their influence respect human dignity, fairness, privacy, and non-discrimination.
3. **Ensure Transparency and Accountability** – Promote explainable and auditable AI outcomes; disclose limitations, risks, and decision criteria in plain language.
4. **Safeguard Data and Information** – Uphold confidentiality and data-protection principles consistent with ISO/IEC 42001, ISO/IEC 27701, and applicable laws.
5. **Exercise Professional Competence** – Maintain up-to-date knowledge through continual learning, professional development, and adherence to recognised standards and best practices.
6. **Report and Mitigate Misuse** – Take appropriate action when encountering unethical AI practices or violations of applicable regulations or standards.
7. **Respect Intellectual Property and Diversity of Perspectives** – Value collaboration, cultural sensitivity, and inclusiveness across disciplines and communities.

## Disciplinary and Enforcement Process

Violations of this Code may result in disciplinary action, including **suspension or revocation** of GAICC certification.

Complaints or ethics concerns may be submitted confidentially to the **GAICC Ethics and Compliance Committee**, which oversees investigations, recommendations, and fair resolution procedures.

## Acknowledgment

All GAICC-certified professionals are required to confirm their acceptance of the **Code of Conduct and Ethics** during application, renewal, or recertification. Adherence to this Code reinforces global confidence in GAICC-certified practitioners and the responsible governance of Artificial Intelligence technologies.

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

## GAICC Lead Implementer Certification based on ISO/IEC 42001 (SLI) Examination Content Outline – February 2026 Global AI Certification Council (GAICC)

### 1. What is the GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Auditor Certification?

It is an advanced, internationally recognised credential that validates the competence of professionals who design, implement, and continually improve an Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS) in accordance with **ISO/IEC 42001:2023**.

The certification confirms mastery of responsible AI governance, lifecycle management, and audit readiness.

### 2. Who should apply for this certification?

This certification is ideal for:

- AI governance and risk-management professionals.
- Compliance managers and internal auditors implementing ISO frameworks.
- Data-science or ethics-officers overseeing responsible AI use.
- Consultants and project leads responsible for enterprise AIMS deployment.

### 3. What are the eligibility requirements?

Applicants must meet education, professional-experience, and formal-training (CPD) criteria:

- **Education:** Secondary, bachelor's, or master's qualification.
- **Recommended Experience:** 24 – 60 months of relevant AI-governance or ISO-implementation work (depending on qualification level).
- **Training:** Minimum 40 contact hours (CPDs) in ISO/IEC 42001 or equivalent GAICC-approved training.

### 4. How many questions are in the exam and how long does it take?

The examination consists of **80 questions** delivered online. Candidates have **120 minutes (2 hours)** to complete the exam.

### 5. What is the passing score?

A minimum scaled **score of 70%** is required to pass.

## 6. How often can I take the exam?

Each candidate can retake the exam multiple times within their eligibility period, but must pay a discounted re-examination fee for each attempt, as there are **no free retakes**.

## 7. What is the certification validity period?

The Foundation certification is valid for **three (3) years** from the date of issue.

## 8. How do I maintain or renew my certification?

Certified professionals must complete a minimum of **60 Continuing Professional Development (CPD)** hours within each three-year cycle and submit a renewal application with the required fee.

## 9. What does the exam cover?

The exam assesses competence across five domains:

1. Governance and Leadership in AI Management Systems
2. Implementation and Operational Control of the AIMS
3. Performance, Audit Readiness and Continual Improvement
4. Ethics, Transparency and External Engagement
5. Emerging Risks and Advanced Assurance Techniques

## 10. What is the exam format?

The exam includes multiple-choice and scenario-based questions.

It is delivered through the GAICC Online AI-Proctored Testing Platform, ensuring secure and flexible access worldwide.

## 11. How much does the exam cost?

Exam fee is 199 USD for Members and 299 USD for non members.

Membership is optional but provides discounted exam fees and access to GAICC learning resources.

## 12. How much is the membership fee?

Membership is optional but provides discounted exam fees and access to GAICC learning resources.

Standard (USD)	Student (USD)
99	39

## 13. How long does GAICC take to process an application?

Online applications are reviewed **within five (5) calendar days**, provided all training documents are complete.

If selected for audit, additional verification may extend processing time.

## 14. What happens if I fail to renew my certification?

If renewal requirements are not met by the expiry date, your status becomes **“Lapsed.”**

You may reinstate within **12 months** by completing renewal steps; after that period, full re-examination is required.

## 15. Does GAICC provide digital credentials?

Yes. Upon certification, you receive a **digital badge and certificate** that can be shared on LinkedIn, résumés, and professional profiles.

## 16. How can I contact GAICC for support?

### **Global AI Certification Council (GAICC)**

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