Global AI Certification Council

GAICC

AI COST & CONTROL PROFESSIONAL

Examination Content Outline – 1st Edition | 2026

Global AI Certification Council **(GAICC)**

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Contents

About the AICCP

The AI Cost and Control Professional (AICCP) is a vendor-neutral, role-anchored credential issued by the Global AI Certification Council (GAICC). It is designed for experienced cost and project controls professionals who want to lead the responsible adoption of artificial intelligence (AI) within estimating, scheduling, earned value, risk, and forecasting practice.

AICCP holders demonstrate that they can specify, evaluate, deploy, and govern AI-enabled tools across the cost and controls lifecycle — improving accuracy, predictability, and decision quality without compromising data integrity, ethical use, or accountability.

The credential complements established professional designations such as AACE International's Certified Cost Professional (CCP), Planning and Scheduling Professional (PSP), and Earned Value Professional (EVP). It does not retrain experienced practitioners as data scientists; it equips them to make AI work for the cost and controls function.

Who Should Pursue the AICCP

The AICCP is built for the practitioners and leaders who already hold cost and controls accountability and now need a defensible AI literacy and decision frame.

Typical candidates include:

- Cost engineers, estimators, and quantity surveyors
- Planners, schedulers, and forecasting specialists
- Earned value analysts and control account managers
- Project controls leads and PMO controls heads
- Risk managers and contingency analysts on capital projects
- Owners' and contractors' digital project controls leaders

Eligibility

AICCP eligibility combines a hard training requirement with a tiered, recommended-experience model. The 32-CPD AICCP training course is required for every candidate. Professional experience is recommended at the levels indicated below but is not strictly required for examination registration.

Required: AICCP Training

Successful completion of the 32-CPD GAICC AICCP four-day course (eLearning-first; live virtual cohorts available). This is a hard prerequisite for examination registration and is non-waivable.

Recommended Professional Experience

Academic Qualification	Recommended Experience	Status
Master's degree (industry-related: Engineering, Construction, Quantity Surveying, Business, Information Systems, or equivalent)	2 years in cost engineering, project controls, planning, scheduling, estimating, or a closely related discipline	Recommended, not required
Bachelor's degree (industry-related, four-year)	3 years in cost engineering, project controls, planning, scheduling, estimating, or a closely related discipline	Recommended, not required
Associate diploma or two-year industry-related qualification	5 years in cost engineering, project controls, planning, scheduling, estimating, or a closely related discipline	Recommended, not required
Secondary education only	8 years in cost engineering, project controls, planning, scheduling, estimating, or a closely related discipline	Recommended, not required

Foundational AI literacy (e.g., the GAICC AI Foundation course or equivalent) is helpful but not required. Domain 1 of the AICCP curriculum brings every candidate to a working level of AI literacy before progressing into application areas.

What You Will Be Able To Do

Upon successful completion of the AICCP, the credential holder is able to:

- Identify which cost and control problems are well suited to AI and which are better solved with deterministic methods
- Specify the data foundations needed for AI-augmented estimating, scheduling, and earned value analytics
- Select and apply appropriate AI techniques across the estimate continuum, from conceptual through detailed
- Use machine learning and probabilistic methods to improve schedule risk analysis and completion forecasts
- Refine EAC, ETC, and IEAC forecasts beyond simple CPI/SPI projections
- Apply natural language processing and generative AI to risk, contingency, and claims analytics
- Establish governance, documentation, audit trails, and human-in-the-loop controls for AI in cost and controls
- Build a business case, pilot, and adoption roadmap for AI in a cost or controls function
- Communicate AI-derived findings, confidence, and limitations to executive sponsors and contract counterparts

Examination Blueprint

Specification	Detail
Number of items	100 multiple-choice items, single best answer
Duration	2 hours (120 minutes)
Pass mark	70%, anchored via modified-Angoff standard setting
Reference materials	Closed book
Language	English
Delivery	Online proctored
Re-take policy	Up to two re-takes per 12-month period; minimum 30 days between attempts

Domain Weights

The AICCP examination is constructed from eight domains. Domain weights determine the proportion of items per form.

Domain	Topic	Weight
Domain 1	AI Foundations for Cost and Control Professionals	**10%**
Domain 2	Data Foundations and Cost Information Quality	**12%**

Domain	Topic	Weight
Domain 3	AI-Augmented Cost Estimating and Pricing	**15%**
Domain 4	AI-Augmented Planning, Scheduling and Forecasting	**15%**
Domain 5	AI in Earned Value, Performance Measurement and Predictive Controls	**15%**
Domain 6	AI for Risk, Contingency and Claims Analytics	**12%**
Domain 7	AI Governance, Ethics, Trust and Assurance	**12%**
Domain 8	AI Adoption Strategy, ROI and Change Management	**9%**

Cognitive Level Distribution

Item authors target the following cognitive distribution at the form level (Bloom's Revised Taxonomy):

Cognitive Level	Approximate Share
Remember	10%
Understand	25%
Apply	35%
Analyze	20%
Evaluate	10%

Domain Summaries

The summaries below describe what each domain covers and the key topics that may be assessed. They are written for candidates and employers; the full task and knowledge statement set is maintained in the AICCP item authoring blueprint.

Domain 1 - AI Foundations for Cost and Control Professionals (10%)

Working vocabulary and conceptual literacy in artificial intelligence — including machine learning, generative AI, foundation models, and emerging concepts such as agents and retrieval-augmented generation — framed for cost and project controls practice.

Key topics

- AI categories and where each fits in cost and controls work
- Generative, predictive, and prescriptive AI in plain language
- Capabilities and limits of foundation models and large language models
- Emerging concepts: agents, multimodal models, retrieval-augmented generation

Domain II - Data Foundations and Cost Information Quality (12%)

AI in cost and controls is only as reliable as the underlying data. This domain covers cost and schedule data lifecycle, taxonomies, data quality, integration with ERP, scheduling, EVMS, and BIM systems, and the controls professional as data steward.

Key topics

- Cost and schedule data taxonomy, code of accounts, WBS and OBS alignment
- Data quality dimensions and how to measure them
- Reference frameworks (Uniformat, MasterFormat, ICMS, AACE Recommended Practices)
- Integration patterns: APIs, ETL, data lakes, semantic layers
- Common pitfalls that derail AI in controls

Domain III – AI-Augmented Cost Estimating and Pricing (15%)

Application of AI techniques across the estimate continuum — from Class 5 conceptual estimates through Class 1 detailed estimates — including parametric and machine-learning estimating, generative AI for specifications and bills of quantities, range and probabilistic estimating, and pricing intelligence.

Key topics

- Selecting the right AI technique for each estimate class
- Curating defensible historical data for parametric and ML estimating
- Generative AI for specifications, BoQs, and tender document review
- Validating AI-generated estimates and documenting the basis of estimate
- Communicating estimate confidence and limitations

Domain IV – AI-Augmented Planning, Scheduling and Forecasting (15%)

Applying AI to baseline development, schedule quality, schedule risk analysis, predictive completion forecasting, and what-if scenario analysis — integrated with traditional CPM and PERT methods, not replacing them.

Key topics

- Diagnosing schedule quality with ML-driven heuristics and DCMA-14 style checks
- Predicting task durations with machine learning
- AI-assisted Monte Carlo and probabilistic schedule risk analysis
- Detecting baseline drift, logic anomalies, and progress inconsistencies
- What-if and resource-leveling scenarios with AI support

Domain V – AI in Earned Value, Performance Measurement and Predictive Controls (15%)

Applying AI within Earned Value Management analytics — predictive forecasts of EAC, ETC, and IEAC; productivity and progress analytics; exception-based reporting; computer-vision progress measurement; and integration with control account manager workflows.

Key topics

- Computing and interpreting EVM and Earned Schedule metrics
- Refining IEAC and ETC forecasts with machine learning
- Computer vision and IoT for objective progress measurement
- Exception-based reporting that prioritizes AI-flagged variances
- Documenting AI-derived forecasts in monthly performance reports

Domain VI – AI for Risk, Contingency and Claims Analytics (12%)

Applying natural language processing and machine learning to risk identification, qualitative and quantitative analysis, contingency setting, claims analytics, and contractual language review — including trend analysis on RFIs, change orders, and field correspondence.

Key topics

- Mining RFIs, correspondence, and lessons learned for emerging risk signals
- Fitting risk distributions and calculating contingency with ML
- Detecting early-warning patterns predictive of claims and disputes
- Generative AI for contractual clause review
- Communicating uncertainty to executives and contract counterparts

Domain VII – AI Governance, Ethics, Trust and Assurance (12%)

Establishing organizational and project-level guardrails for the responsible use of AI in cost and controls. Covers use-case approval, model documentation, vendor risk, validation and monitoring, human-in-the-loop, audit trails, and high-level alignment with internationally recognized AI management frameworks.

Key topics

- Common AI risks: bias, hallucination, drift, data leakage, IP exposure
- Use-case classification by risk and impact
- Model documentation: model cards, data sheets, change logs
- Vendor and tool due diligence
- Human-in-the-loop, override, and audit-trail design
- Recognition-level awareness of ISO/IEC 42001 and the NIST AI Risk Management Framework

Domain VIII – AI Adoption Strategy, ROI and Change Management (9%)

Selecting, justifying, piloting, scaling, and sustaining AI use cases within a cost or controls function. Covers business case construction, pilot design, organizational readiness, capability uplift, and the controls professional's role as steward and translator between AI teams and project leadership.

Key topics

- Use-case discovery and prioritization
- Building a defensible business case for AI in cost and controls
- Designing pilots with clear success criteria and exit conditions
- Capability uplift and operating models
- Communicating roadmap and ROI to executive sponsors

How to Earn the AICCP

The summaries below describe what each domain covers and the key topics that may be assessed. They are written for candidates and employers; the full task and knowledge statement set is maintained in the AICCP item authoring blueprint.

Step	What you do
1	Confirm eligibility against the experience criteria above.
2	Enroll in the GAICC AICCP four-day course (32 CPDs), delivered eLearning-first with live virtual or face to face options.
3	Pass the AICCP examination (100 MCQs, 2 hours, online proctored).
4	Agree to the GAICC Code of Ethics and complete credential registration.
5	Use the AICCP designation. Maintain it through 16 CPDs every 24 months, including at least 6 in AI Governance, Ethics, or Risk.

Recertification

AICCP holders are recertified every 24 months by completing 16 CPDs, of which at least 6 must address AI Governance, Ethics, or AI Risk content. Acceptable activities include GAICC eLearning, accredited conference attendance, peer-reviewed publication, formal training, mentoring of AICCP candidates, and item-bank authoring contributions.

Full recertification rules and CPD claim procedures are published in the AICCP Recertification Policy on the GAICC website.

Fees and Pricing

All fees are quoted in US dollars. GAICC offers Member and Non-Member pricing, with bundled options that include the four-day AICCP course, the examination, and (for Members) twelve months of GAICC professional membership. Course-only and exam-only registrations are available where the candidate has alternative arrangements.

Membership

Item	Fee (USD)	Period
GAICC Annual Membership	**$99**	12 months

Course + Exam Bundles

Bundled pricing is the recommended path: it includes the 32-CPD AICCP course, the official exam-prep eLearning and exam simulator, and one examination attempt.

Bundle	Fee (USD)	Includes
Course + Exam + Membership (Members)	**$849**	AICCP four-day course (32 CPDs) · Exam-prep eLearning · Exam simulator · One exam attempt · One free retake · 12 months GAICC membership
Course + Exam (Non-Members)	**$1,095**	AICCP four-day course (32 CPDs) · Exam-prep eLearning · Exam simulator · One exam attempt · One free retake

Exam-Only Options

Available for candidates who have completed the AICCP training course separately (e.g., through an Authorized Training Partner) and need only the examination.

Item	Fee (USD)	Includes
Exam Only (Members)	**$449**	One exam attempt · One free retake · 12 months GAICC membership · Excludes eLearning & simulator
Exam Only (Non-Members)	**$595**	One exam attempt · One free retake · Excludes eLearning, simulator, and membership

Retakes and Renewals

Volume and corporate licensing is available for organizations enrolling cohorts of five or more candidates. Contact support@gaicc.org for a corporate quotation. All fees are non-refundable once examination access has been issued; transfer and rescheduling rules are published in the AICCP Candidate Handbook.

Item	Members (USD)	Non-Members (USD)
Exam Re-take (within 12 months of first attempt)	**$99**	**$199**
Certification Renewal (per recertification cycle)	**$99**	**$199**

Standards and Frameworks Informing the AICCP

The AICCP is informed by, and remains compatible with, the following bodies of practice. Candidates are not required to memorize specific clauses; recognition-level awareness is sufficient where indicated.

Cost and Project Controls

- AACE International — Total Cost Management (TCM) Framework
- AACE International — Recommended Practice 17R-97: Cost Estimate Classification System
- AACE International — Skills and Knowledge of Cost Engineering
- Project Management Institute — Practice Standard for Earned Value Management

AI Governance and Risk (Recognition-Level)

- ISO/IEC 42001:2023 — Information technology — Artificial intelligence — Management system
- ISO/IEC 23894:2023 — Artificial intelligence — Guidance on risk management
- NIST AI Risk Management Framework (AI RMF 1.0)

About GAICC

The Global AI Certification Council (GAICC) is an independent professional certification body focused on the responsible adoption of artificial intelligence within established professional disciplines. GAICC develops vendor-neutral credentials that complement existing professional designations and equip practitioners to lead AI adoption with integrity.

Get in touch

For information on cohort schedules, corporate enrolment, exam centres, or to nominate a subject-matter expert for AICCP item development, visit the GAICC website or contact the AICCP programme office.
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