



Global AI
Certification Council



ISO/IEC 42001

SENIOR LEAD IMPLEMENTER

Examination Content Outline
October 2025

Global AI Certification Council
(GAICC)

Examination Content Outline

GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer · October 2025

Standard: ISO/IEC 42001:2023 — Artificial Intelligence Management Systems
Developed in alignment with ISO/IEC 17024

The Credential at a Glance

80 questions

120 minutes · Examination

40 hours

Structured SLI training

60 CPDs

Every 3 years · Renewal

Credential	GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer (SLI)
Issued by	Global AI Certification Council (GAICC)
Standard	ISO/IEC 42001:2023 — Artificial Intelligence Management Systems (AIMS)
Examination	80 questions (75 scored + 5 pre-test) 120 minutes 70% pass mark
Focus	Advanced design, implementation and continual improvement of an AIMS
Validity	3 years 60 CPD hours per cycle
Contact	support@gaicc.org www.gaicc.org

Published by: Global AI Certification Council (GAICC)

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1 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 (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 recognised best practices for professional credentialing, including those defined in 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 programmes across diverse industries and jurisdictions.

This Examination Content Outline (ECO) defines:

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

The SLI examination 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 this ECO and referenced to at least two authoritative sources, including ISO/IEC 42001 itself and supporting GAICC guidance.

2 Exam Content Outline

The GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer (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** — the key responsibilities of the professional — and **enablers** — illustrative examples that demonstrate how these responsibilities are carried out in practice.

Domains and Weightings

Domain	Description	Weight
I. Governance and Leadership in AI Management Systems	Establishing AI policy, governance structures, roles, and accountability mechanisms to align AI use with organisational strategy and ethical principles.	20%
II. Implementation and Operational Control of the AIMS	Planning and executing the AIMS implementation process including risk assessment, AI system impact assessment (AI-SIA), data governance, and lifecycle control operations.	30%
III. Performance, Audit Readiness and Continual Improvement	Monitoring and measuring AIMS performance, conducting internal audits, addressing non-conformities, and driving continuous improvement for certification readiness.	25%
IV. Ethics, Transparency and External Engagement	Applying responsible AI principles, ensuring transparency, explainability, and stakeholder communication throughout the AI lifecycle and supply chain.	15%
V. Emerging Risks and Advanced Assurance Techniques	Identifying emerging AI risks (e.g. bias drift, quantum security, autonomous decision-making) and integrating advanced audit and assurance techniques into the AIMS.	10%
Total		100%

3 Domains, Tasks and Enablers

In the 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 comprises **tasks** — the measurable responsibilities of the professional — and **enablers**, examples of tangible evidence, behaviours, or actions that demonstrate these competencies in practice.

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

Domains I and II

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.

Domains III and IV

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

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 GAICC Lead Implementer examination tests three cognitive levels across all domains, reflecting the skills required to design, implement, operate, and maintain an AIMS in accordance with ISO/IEC 42001.

Cognitive Level	What is assessed
Understanding	Comprehension of ISO/IEC 42001 principles and terminology.
Application	Practical use of controls, templates, and governance processes in real-world contexts.
Analysis and Evaluation	Critical assessment of complex AI governance scenarios requiring judgement and ethical reasoning.

Each examination item maps to one or more of these levels to ensure a balanced measurement of theoretical knowledge, practical auditing ability, and critical reasoning.

4 Application & Payment

Eligibility Requirements

To qualify for the GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer (SLI) certification, candidates must demonstrate appropriate education, professional experience, and structured training aligned with the competencies required to implement and maintain an AIMS. All relevant AIMS or AI-governance experience must have been gained within the last eight (8) consecutive years before submitting the application.

Educational Background	Recommended Professional Experience	Formal Training Requirement
Secondary qualification (high school diploma, associate degree, or global equivalent)	Minimum five years / 60 months of unique, non-overlapping professional experience implementing or managing AI systems, digital governance, or ISO-based management frameworks.	Completion of at least 40 contact hours of structured ISO/IEC 42001 implementation training delivered by GAICC-authorized providers or equivalent recognised institutions. Students can also fulfil this requirement by completing GAICC self-paced courses.
Bachelor's degree (or global equivalent)	Minimum three years / 36 months of unique, non-overlapping experience in AI governance, technology risk, data governance, or management-system implementation.	Completion of at least 40 contact hours of structured ISO/IEC 42001 implementation training delivered by GAICC-authorized providers or equivalent recognised institutions. Students can also fulfil this requirement by completing GAICC self-paced courses.

Additional Notes

- Experience must 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 must be earned through GAICC-authorized providers or equivalent recognised institutions offering courses mapped to ISO/IEC 42001 competencies.
- Individuals holding the GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Lead Implementer certification automatically meet the 40-hour requirement and are eligible to attempt the Senior Lead Implementer examination directly.

How to Record Your Experience and Education on the Application

Use the experience-verification section of the GAICC online application to document your professional experience in implementing, managing, or improving an AIMS. The experience does not have to be salaried employment, but it must have occurred in a professional or organisational setting where accountability, measurable outcomes, and governance responsibilities were evident. Describe each engagement separately, identifying:

- The organisation or client.
- The AIMS or AI-governance initiative.
- Your specific role and responsibilities (e.g. policy design, AI-SIA coordination, risk treatment, audit preparation).
- The start and end months of active participation.

Academic coursework, research theses, or personal experiments with AI tools, while valuable, do not qualify as professional implementation experience for this certification.

Recording the Duration of Experience

Experience is tracked in months, not by number of projects. If two activities overlap, the shared months are counted only once — work from January–April on one implementation (4 months) and May–June on another (2 months) equals six months total. Applicants should describe each engagement separately and ensure accuracy of dates and responsibilities.

Recording Formal Training (40 Contact Hours)

Verify completion of at least 40 contact hours of structured instruction addressing the learning outcomes of ISO/IEC 42001 implementation. All training hours must be completed before submitting the application, but may have been earned at any time during your career. Acceptable training content includes:

- AI governance frameworks and ISO/IEC 42001 clauses 4–10.
- AI risk and impact assessment methods (AI-SIA).
- Ethical and transparent AI operations.
- Continual improvement, audit readiness, and performance evaluation.
- Data-governance and lifecycle controls for AI systems.

Recognised Education Providers

- 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 (self-study, reading, or conference attendance without an assessment component) cannot be counted toward the 40-hour requirement.

Application Processing

- GAICC strives to process applications promptly and transparently.
- Average processing time for complete online submissions is five (5) calendar days.
- Applications selected for audit or verification may require additional time to confirm training and experience documentation.
- Candidates will be notified by email once the application is approved or if further information is required.

5 Examination Information

The GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer (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).

The examination is offered as 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.

Exam Structure

Component	Description
Total Questions	60 questions (55 scored + 5 unscored pre-test items).
Format	Multiple-choice and scenario-based questions delivered through the GAICC Online Testing Platform.
Allotted Time	90 minutes (1.5 hours).
Pre-Exam Tutorial & Post-Exam Survey	A brief 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 online AI-proctored testing. All questions are randomly presented and candidates cannot return to earlier sections once submitted. The platform includes a built-in timer, navigation panel, and flag-for-review feature.

Scoring and Results

- Each scored question is worth one (1) mark.
- Results are reported immediately upon completion of the exam.
- Performance feedback is provided by domain (Governance, Implementation, Performance, Ethics, Emerging Risks).
- A minimum scaled score of 70% is required to pass.
- Scores are verified through GAICC's psychometric calibration process to maintain fairness and comparability across testing sessions.

Retake Policy

Every candidate is entitled to one (1) complimentary retake within the one-year eligibility period if they do not pass on the first attempt. Additional retakes beyond the free attempt may be scheduled at a discounted re-examination rate.

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 examination within this timeframe, the application expires and a new application must be submitted.

Additional Information

GAICC regularly performs psychometric reviews of the examination to ensure validity, reliability, and fairness. Any exam session affected by confirmed technical errors or system irregularities will entitle the candidate to a free re-examination without penalty.

6 Fees

Examination, membership and renewal fees are published in the applicable GAICC Candidate Handbook and on the GAICC website (www.gaicc.org). To maintain a single source of truth, fee amounts are not reproduced in this Examination Content Outline.

7 Certification Maintenance and Renewal

Certification Validity

The GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer (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 CPD hours, distributed across the following categories:

CPD Category	Description	Minimum
1. Professional Learning	Participation in GAICC-recognised training, conferences, webinars, or workshops related to AI management systems, governance, ethics, or data privacy.	20 hours
2. Practical Application	Direct involvement in implementing or auditing AI management systems, conducting AI risk assessments, or leading AI governance projects.	20 hours
3. Contribution & Knowledge Sharing	Publishing articles, mentoring, research, or contributing to AI governance initiatives, policy papers, or standards development.	10 hours
4. Elective Activities	Additional learning or engagement activities supporting continuous professional growth.	10 hours
Total	Minimum required over three years	60 CPDs

Renewal Process

- Submit a Renewal Application through the GAICC Certification Portal before the certification expiry date.
- Provide evidence of 60 verified CPD hours completed within the certification cycle.
- Pay the renewal fee as specified in the current GAICC Fee Schedule.
- Agree to abide by the GAICC Code of Professional Conduct and Ethical AI Implementation Principles.

Lapsed Certifications, Audit and Verification

- 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.
- GAICC conducts periodic CPD audits; candidates selected must submit supporting documentation such as certificates of completion, attendance records, publications, or attestation letters.

8 Code of Conduct and Ethics Statement

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 development, deployment, and governance of AI systems.

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

Principle	Obligation
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.

9 Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer certification?

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

2. Who should apply for this certification?

AI governance and risk-management professionals; compliance managers and internal auditors implementing ISO frameworks; data-science or ethics officers overseeing responsible AI use; and consultants and project leads responsible for enterprise AIMS deployment.

3. What are the eligibility requirements?

Education: secondary, bachelor's, or master's qualification. Experience: 24–60 months of relevant AI-governance or ISO-implementation work, depending on qualification level. Training: at least 40 contact hours of structured ISO/IEC 42001 implementation training delivered by GAICC-authorized providers or equivalent recognised institutions. Students can also fulfil this requirement by completing GAICC self-paced courses.

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

The examination consists of 80 questions (75 scored + 5 pre-test) 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 achieve a passing grade.

6. How often can I take the exam?

Each candidate receives one complimentary retake within a one-year eligibility period if the first attempt is unsuccessful. Additional retakes may be purchased at a discounted rate.

7. What is the certification validity period?

The 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 at least 60 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) hours over a three-year cycle and submit a renewal application with the applicable renewal fee.

9 Frequently Asked Questions (continued)

9. What does the exam cover?

Five domains: Governance and Leadership in AI Management Systems; Implementation and Operational Control of the AIMS; Performance, Audit Readiness and Continual Improvement; Ethics, Transparency and External Engagement; and Emerging Risks and Advanced Assurance Techniques.

10. What is the exam format?

Multiple-choice and scenario-based questions, available as online AI-proctored delivery through the GAICC Examination Portal.

11. How much does the exam cost, and how much is the membership fee?

Current examination and membership fees are published in the applicable GAICC Candidate Handbook and at www.gaicc.org.

12. How long does GAICC take to process an application?

Online applications are typically reviewed within five (5) calendar days, provided all documents and training records are complete. If selected for audit, verification may extend processing time.

13. What happens if I fail to renew my certification?

If renewal requirements are not met by the expiry date, your certification status becomes “Lapsed.” You may reinstate within 12 months by completing all renewal steps; after that period, full re-examination is required.

14. Does GAICC provide digital credentials?

Yes. Upon certification, professionals receive a digital badge and certificate verifying their achievement, which can be shared on LinkedIn, résumés, or employer systems.

15. How can I contact GAICC for support?

Global AI Certification Council (GAICC), Level 3, 21 Putney Way, Manukau, Auckland 2104, New Zealand. Email: support@gaicc.org · Website: www.gaicc.org



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