

PRINCE2[®] and PMP[®] Certification Comparison

Project management personnel should be certified in both PRINCE2[®] and PMP[®] – to benefit from the depth and breadth that both would collectively provide.

While PMP[®] is better known in the APAC region, PRINCE2[®], like PMP[®], has very strong benefits to offer individuals and organizations. Both are under the charge of well-established entities – PMP by the non-profit based PMI (Project Management Institute), and PRINCE2[®] by the governmental UK OGC[®] (Office of Government Commerce).

The table below will provide you a better comparative understanding of the two.

	Projects In a Controlled Environment (PRINCE2 [®])	Project Management Professional (PMP [®])
Approach	Closer towards a methodology with practicable <u>prescriptive</u> of 'things-to-follow'. In a sense PRINCE2 [®] provides depth.	Not a methodology, but a descriptive of good practices in a range of knowledge areas. In a sense PMP [®] provides breadth.
Issued by	The Office of Government Commerce (OGC) [®] – <u>governmental</u> (UK)	Project Management Institute (PMI) [®] – <u>non-profit organization</u> based in USA
Coverage	PRINCE2 [®] (based on the <i>PRINCE2[®] Manual</i>) is focused and prescriptive of the practices required of projects within a controlled environment, via: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 7 Principles ✓ 7 Themes ✓ 7 Inter-related Processes ✓ 4 Levels of Management ✓ 26 Document Descriptions & Formats ✓ 9 Defined Roles and Responsibilities ✓ 1 Technique specific to PRINCE2[®] 	PMP [®] (based on <i>PMBOK[®] Guide</i> – Project Management Body of Knowledge) describes good practices in a range of knowledge areas and describes numerous tools via: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 5 Process Groups ✓ 9 Knowledge Areas ✓ 42 Processes ✓ and a host of tools – most broadly descriptive with a few more in-depth (e.g. earned value, network diagram)
Applicability	PRINCE2 [®] provides a <u>structured approach</u> with detailed template and role definitions – in this respect it allows for ready application and tailoring into the project environment, especially with controlled phase-driven projects. Mandatory elements are also specifically stated in PRINCE2 [®] . If appropriately tailored, it could enable a suitably regulated project environment – otherwise, it could lead to an overly rigid and document-heavy approach. PRINCE2 [®] also does not cover the breadth of specialist tools.	PMP [®] is <u>comprehensive</u> in its coverage of processes and provides participants with a wide range of knowledge, including broad ranging specialist tools in a variety of areas. Participants typically find <i>PMBOK[®] Guide</i> sufficiently comprehensive of project management knowledge, but lack ready templates and role definitions – hence, in real-life project environments sufficient foresight, thought and ramp-up time and tailoring effort are required to bring it to practicable fruition.
Exams	There are <u>no tedious pre-requisites</u> and registration process. All participants taking the course <u>WILL take the exam during the 5-day training</u> . Both PRINCE2 [®] Foundation and Practitioner Exams are taken within the 5 training days. Candidates <u>could pass upon the course finishing</u> , with no tedious follow-up processes.	There are <u>specific pre-requisites</u> candidates must first fulfill, followed by a <u>post-course exam registration process</u> which need to be completed online. Some may be audited which could lead to further delays. Participants must have the focus to complete the above. Some do end-up delaying their exams, some indefinitely.
Recognition	PRINCE2 [®] is highly recognized as the <u>de-facto project management methodology</u> required by the UK government, as well as other MNCs and governments. PRINCE2 [®] is a proven and thorough methodology applicable in numerous project environments.	PMP [®] has a strong engagement with the PM community and has established an impressive imprint across the globe. In many countries it has become familiar to businesses due to its strong community-based marketing.

More information at: www.prince-officialsite.com and www.pmi.org