



ASC Guidelines for Personnel Certification in Lean Six Sigma

*Accreditation Framework for LSS Certifications – White Belt to Master Black Belt,
Champion & Project Manager*

1. Scope

These guidelines define specific requirements for certification bodies seeking ASC accreditation to certify individuals in **Lean Six Sigma (LSS)** roles. It applies to: - White Belt - Yellow Belt - Green Belt - Black Belt - Master Black Belt - Lean Six Sigma Champion - Lean Six Sigma Project Manager

These guidelines align with ISO/IEC 17024 principles and ASC's personnel certification accreditation framework but focus solely on LSS programs.

2. Certification Scheme Structure

Each certification body must define a scheme for each LSS level, including: - Scope and purpose - Role description and expected responsibilities - Required competencies - Prerequisites and eligibility criteria - Learning outcomes (where linked with training) - Certification and recertification criteria

3. Competency Requirements

White Belt:

- Basic understanding of LSS principles
- Role in process improvement
- Awareness of waste, value, and basic terminology

Yellow Belt:

- Knowledge of basic tools (e.g., SIPOC, fishbone)
- Participates in LSS teams under guidance



Green Belt:

- Leads defined projects under guidance
- Understands DMAIC framework and data collection
- Applies tools like Pareto charts, 5 Why's, FMEA

Black Belt:

- Leads cross-functional process improvement
- Strong understanding of statistical tools (ANOVA, regression, DOE)
- Capable of training and mentoring Green Belts

Master Black Belt:

- Oversees enterprise-level LSS strategy
- Coaches Black Belts and Champions
- Develops advanced training content
- Proficient in program deployment and cultural transformation

Champion:

- Aligns LSS with business strategy
- Prioritizes and sponsors projects
- Ensures resource allocation and removes barriers

Project Manager (LSS Context):

- Coordinates LSS project implementation
 - Applies project planning, communication, and reporting
 - Ensures on-time and within-budget execution
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4. Assessment & Examination

Each level must include: - **Written Exam:** - Objective, scenario-based, or case-study format - Pass/fail criteria

- **Practical Project Requirement** (*Green Belt and above*):
 - Minimum of 1 documented project for Green/Black Belts
 - Portfolio review and oral defense for Master Black Belt
 - **Interviews / Observations** (Optional for Champion or PM roles)
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5. Assessor and Trainer Qualifications

- Trainers must hold a certification at or above the level they teach
- Assessors must be independent from trainers and project mentors



- MBB and Champion assessors must have >5 years of deployment experience
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6. Recertification Requirements

- White/Yellow Belt: Optional recertification
 - Green/Black/Master Black Belt:
 - Valid for 3 years
 - Demonstrate CPD hours, involvement in improvement projects, or exam retake
 - Champions/PMs:
 - Valid for 3 years
 - Show active participation in LSS governance, training, or mentoring
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7. Training Independence

- CBs may offer training **only if** impartiality controls are in place:
 - Independent certification decision committee
 - Separate financial and reporting lines
 - No assessor involved in training delivery
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8. Use of ASC Accreditation Mark

- May be used only for LSS certifications under ASC-accredited schemes
 - Must comply with ASC Logo Usage Guidelines
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9. Noncompliance & Revocation

- Misleading claims, inadequate certification decisions, or missing documentation may result in:
 - Suspension of ASC accreditation
 - Corrective action deadlines (30 days minor / 15 days major)
 - Public delisting if unresolved
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