

Tips for Taking The CISSP Exam

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Topics

- Studying for the exam
- Preparing for the exam
- Taking the exam
- Obtaining the CISSP certification

Studying for the exam

- It is just an exam...
 - *Power of Positive Thinking*
 - The exam does not define your knowledge or expertise.
- Stay with it...
 - Don't stop. Keep the momentum going.
 - Go ahead and register. Let the commitment be the driver.
- Study, but don't over-study...
 - One or two references are plenty.
 - Give yourself no more than a month after this course.
 - Two to three domain per week. It must be continuous.
 - Go to: <http://www.cccure.org> to take the online tests (15 min. per day.)
- Register for the exam...
 - Go to: <http://www.isc2.org/certification-register-now.aspx> to register
 - Go to: <https://webportal.isc2.org/Custom/ExamsSearch.aspx> to search for exam schedule

Preparing for the exam

- Set up a schedule...
 - Four weeks before the exam...
 - Form a study group.
 - Meet one hour/day, every weekdays during lunch.
 - Use MITRE MeetingPlace.
 - A week before the exam...
 - Use the slide set as “flash cards”. Don’t save them, use them, mark them up.
 - Do a weekend drive to the test site. (Know where to park and where to stay.)
 - Night before the exam...
 - Don’t study. (You’re not going to learn anymore.)
 - No distraction or stress. Be prepared.
 - Go to bed early.

Taking the exam ... (1/2)

- Arrive early...
 - One hour, if you can. (Exam starts at 0900 hour)
 - Bring your registration paperwork, government issued ID: Driver's License.
 - Bring your snacks and drink (in covered container), No. 2 pencils and a good eraser.
 - Take your restroom break before you sign-in
- Listen and follow instructions...
 - Carefully fill-out your registration information and test booklet ID.
 - Open your test booklet only after the proctor has instructed you to do so.

Taking the exam ...(2/2)

- Take your time, but not too much time...
 - 1 min. per question, but no more than 2.
 - Mark the questions that you're not sure on and move on.
- Do take a break...
 - Take at least one break. Take a break after you've answered 75 to 100 questions.
 - Proctor will likely only allow one person to get up at a time.
- Review your answers...
 1. Review the questions that you don't have an answer first.
 2. Review rest of your answers.
 - Your first answer likely be the right answer.
- Ignore your surroundings...
 - You'll have a mix cohort (ISSEP, ISSMP, ISSAP, and SSCP are 3 hour exams.)

Obtaining the certification

- Notification...
 - (ISC)² will e-mail you the results in 2 to 3 weeks.
 - The hyperlink will take you to the endorsement form.
- Endorsement
 - Complete the application and form
 - Your resume/C.V. needs to illustrate 5 years of professional experience in at least two to three security domains
 - Have a CISSP to endorse you. Provide he/she...
 - Completed endorsement form
 - Your resume
 - Exam ID
- Your certificate...
 - (ISC)² will notify you in e-mail.
 - It will arrive 4-6 weeks in an 9x12 envelope
 - The package will contain your certificate and membership login information.