



## **Data Center Energy Practitioner (DCEP)**

### **Summary Program Description**

November 15, 2024

#### **Introduction**

This summary provides information about the US Department of Energy’s (DOE) DCEP certificate training program. The target audience is those interested in participating in the Program.

#### **Main Objective of the Program**

The main objective of the DCEP Program is to raise the standards of those involved in data center energy assessments to accelerate energy savings. The Program is driven by the fact that significant knowledge, training, and skills are required to perform accurate energy assessments in data centers. The Program will raise the confidence level in energy assessments.

The program will recognize those who pass the exam(s) by issuing certificates as Data Center Energy Practitioners (DCEPs), but it will not endorse any individual. The Program is for individuals only; the designation and the acronym “DCEP” may not be used for organizations, companies, or firms.

#### **Program Tracks**

There are two alternative Program tracks: the Training track (training only) and the Certificate track (training + exam). Table 1 lists the required and recommended pre-qualifications.

#### **Program Levels**

The program has two levels. The Level 1 Practitioners (“**Generalists**”) will be expected to have a good understanding of three data center disciplines (HVAC, IT equipment, and Electrical) to provide broad recommendations based on the high-level DC Pro simulation tool. The Level 2 Practitioners (“**HVAC Specialists,**” “**IT Specialists,**” and “**Electrical Specialists**”) address energy opportunities using the in-depth Air Management Tool, the IT Equipment Tool, and the Electrical Tool, respectively.

#### **Data Center Profiler (DC Pro) Tool and System Tools**

DOE has developed energy software for data centers to evaluate major data center systems. These tools are an integral part of the DCEP Program. The system tools include the Air Management Tool, the IT Equipment Tool, and the Electrical Tool.

Level	Pre-qualifications (Both Tracks)	Training (Both Tracks)	Exam/Test (Certificate Track)
<p><b>1: Generalist</b></p> <p>High-level knowledge in HVAC, Electrical, and IT Equipment</p>	<p><u>One</u> of the following is <b>recommended</b>:</p> <p>2-year technical degree with 2 yrs Data Center design/operation experience</p> <p>2-year degree with 4 yrs Data Center design/operation experience</p> <p>5 yrs Data Center design/operation experience or related IT, Network, and/or Telecom experience</p>	<p>1-day training including the Data Center Profiler (DC Pro) Tool</p>	<p>Exam/test</p>
<p><b>2a: HVAC Specialist</b></p> <p>In-depth knowledge in HVAC</p> <p><b>2b: IT Specialist</b></p> <p>In-depth knowledge in IT</p> <p><b>2c: Electrical Specialist</b></p> <p>In-depth knowledge in Electrical</p>	<p>Level 1 training is <b>required</b></p> <p>Plus <u>one</u> of the following is <b>recommended</b>:</p> <p>4-year technical degree with 3 yrs Data Center design/operation experience</p> <p>2-year technical degree with 6 yrs Data Center design/operation experience</p> <p>10 yrs Data Center design/operation experience</p>	<p>2-day training including the Air Management Assessment Tool (HVAC Specialist)</p> <p>1-day training including the IT Equipment Tool (IT Specialist)</p> <p>1-day training including the Electrical Tool (Electrical Specialist)</p>	<p>Exam/test (HVAC Specialist)</p> <p>Exam/test (IT Specialist)</p> <p>Exam/test (Electrical Specialist)</p>

**Table 1: DCEP Program pre-qualifications.**

**Exam/Test**

All Certificate Track candidates must complete one, two, three, or four exams (depending on course selections) with multiple-choice questions and a mix of problem-solving and knowledge questions. The result is either Pass or Fail. The passing score is 75%. There is a waiting period of 30 days to retake the exam(s). Participants who pass the exam(s) will be designated DCEP at either Level 1 or Level 2 and receive a Certificate. If a student receives a passing score on the Level 2 exam but fails the Level 1 exam, he/she will not receive a certificate for either Level until he/she has received a passing score on the Level 1 exam. Participants of the Training Track will receive a Certificate of Participation.

**How to Participate**

To participate in a particular DCEP training, a candidate must submit an application and a training fee (see below) to the training organization.

**Training Fees**

- Generalist \$1,300
- HVAC Specialist \$2,400
- IT Specialist \$1,400
- Electrical Specialist \$1,500

**Discounts**

- Groups between 10 and 19 participants: 15%
- Groups larger than 19 participants: 20%
- Organizations with less than 20 employees: 15%
- Non-affiliated individuals: 20%
- Federal employees: 15%
- Multiple courses (2, 3, or 4): 15%
- Discounts cannot be combined.

Questions? Please contact:

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