

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1: Do the classes meet at a specific time during the week?

A1: No, this CiPM course is completely online. NIBM Digital campus courses are fully online so you could complete the lessons at the most convenient time for you!

Q2: How long does it take to complete this course?

A2: It all depends on your commitment. Some online courses are just a few hours long, while others last a few months. However, as a guide courses in the NIBM Digital campus would need around 3 months to complete if you could spend around 10 hours per week. However, if you could commit more, the time to be squeezed more.

Q3: Can I receive the certificate on completion of this course?

A3: NIBM Digital campus awards certificates on satisfactory completion. CiPM candidates need to score 50% at the end of all lessons and answer all Questions. You will be issued the same certificate as the other offline students at NIBM. This certificate would carry out your aggregate marks for the course. It's not an e-certificate, it's a physical accredited certificate issued by NIBM.

Q4: How much do the courses cost and Can I pay online or by bank transfer?

A4: The course will cost Rs 25,000.00. It needs to be paid in full at enrolment. Yes, you can pay it online or through a bank transfer, whichever is convenient. Each course description includes a registration link once you have made the payment, then the login details will be emailed to you.

Q5. What is the specialty of this course over other online courses available on the web?

A5: Online courses mounted on the NIBM Digital campus carry the legacy of 55 years. The National Institute of Business Management is affiliated with the Ministry of Education, Sri Lanka and fully owned by the Government of Sri Lanka. Any candidate could join the NIBM Digital campus virtually from any part of the world, follow courses digitally, and get qualifications like our normal in-house students. These courses at NIBM come through a well-structured accreditation system of ISO that enables students to get novel experiences in online education.

Q6: Whom should I contact if I have questions about a course?

A6: Any questions about the courses on the Digital campus can be referred to our helpdesk. But any customized questions on the Certificate in Project Management (CiPM) can be addressed to the instructor directly. Contact details of the instructor are available on the introductory page.

Q7: There are hundreds of online courses on project management. Why should I choose CiPM?

A7: Most online courses available on the web are varied in quality and very difficult to ascertain the accreditation of the bodies they offer. Further, the details of the instructors are not verifiable too. Further, there is no way to contact the instructor before or during the course. If the contents are analyzed closely, you would find that most online courses have process-based content with traditional methodologies. Otherwise, they are purely on Agile methodologies focusing on IT project management content. However, the CiPM course addresses Tailoring techniques and discusses system thinking deeply. They are two novel concepts covered in all global certifications as PRINCE2, APM, and PMBOK7 and you should know deeply about them.

Q8: When it comes to project management, the PMP is the dream of all candidates. Does this course address that objective?

A8: PMP from PMI is the buzzword of most of those who follow project management. The instructor of this course is a PMP holder himself with Above average marks. The PMP Examination Content Outline (ECO) revised in 2022, and any PMP examination held afterward will have more weightage on hybrid methodologies as reflected on PMBOK7. The instructor is fully conversant with the process, and he is a PMP holder too.

Q9: The introductory page says this course is a global certification platform. Is it helpful for most examinations such as CAPM, PMP, APM, and PRINCE2?

A9: As said earlier the PMP offered by PMI is the most popular project management credential accepted worldwide. Further, the CAPM can be studied at the entry level then you could build up credentials toward your PMP. However, on the other hand, PRINCE2 and APM (UK) both are methodology-based approaches, and their contributions to the profession cannot be discounted easily. CiPM discusses all the concepts in considerable depth. Some definitions in PMBOK are explained better in the other two guides so cross-learning is beneficial.

Q10: Do the candidates have opportunities to cross-learn from different global bodies?

A10: We do not trap candidates into a silo mentality, instead, we do encourage learning good practices from others. Even Waterfall and Agile have blended and come up with the Hybrid method similarly who knows what global bodies do in the future, all depend on research and outcomes. Even in a global context, the PMP and PRINC2 practitioner exams complement each other not compete. As an example, the PMBOK7 has *system thinking and tailoring techniques* as two out of 12 principals. But these two concepts were explained in APM and PRINCE 2 editions years ago with more elaboration. Hence concepts can be understood better when making references beyond boundaries.

Q11: Which one is good for me, PMP, PRINCE2, APM qualifications, could you elaborate more, please?

A11: PRINCE2 is a well-structured methodology that has Principals, Themes, and Processes to guide you through projects. It is probably the most sought-after qualification in Europe and in a few Commonwealth countries. On the other hand, the APM (UK) even though the global membership is small in numbers, it's very popular among those in the infrastructure industry pursuing careers in project management. PMP, which is more standard and well-structured, we all know is the most popular sought-after certification in this part of the world.

Q12: Do we get the opportunity to learn and practice exam papers from all three bodies?

A12: The course of CiPM has all the contents from all three certifications and very much covered the primary contents of them. Further a few sample Questions are included in lesson 6. Additional three mock papers of all examinations as CAPM/PMP. PRINCE2, APM has given students additional materials to practice.

Q13: All global bodies have covered Agile methodologies in their contents of modern project management. Does CiPM cover the concepts adequately?

A13: NIBM offers many qualifications across many sectors. Project management is taught across many disciplines in depth and students undertake projects too, so the contents are updated quite regularly. Traditionally the Process-oriented output-based methods were taught under project management. However, that notion has transformed into Outcome based methods where the Agile mindset becomes key in project delivery. CiPM considers all these contents and included an agile mindset with the latest trends to a greater depth.

Q14: What is the next step after this certificate in Project management from NIBM?

A14: This certification gives proper knowledge and understanding of modern concepts of project management. This is an ideal platform to be a next-generation project manager. However, if you need to acquire a global certification upon this qualification you could add this credential when you make the application for global certifications such as CAPM/PMP from PMI or PRINCE2/APM from the UK bodies, along with your other academic credentials and experience requirements.

Q15: Do candidates get any opportunity to go for any post-graduate studies with this certificate?

A15: As the tutor is already academically qualified with a master's in project management and professionally qualified with PMP he could guide and counsel you on the career path you need to undertake in the future. However, CiPM does not guarantee any entry to post-graduate studies as this credential adds value to your application, most post-graduate studies demand a bachelor's degree; this is not comparable to a degree.