

BCS EXIN FOUNDATION CERTIFICATE IN BLOCKCHAIN

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BCS EXIN Foundation Certificate in Blockchain



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Introduction

The BCS EXIN Foundation Certificate in Blockchain validates a professional's knowledge about Blockchain as a ledger with potential as a worldwide, decentralised record for the registration, inventory, and transfer of assets: finance, property, products and intangible assets, such as votes, software, health data and ideas.

The certification covers the basic concepts of Blockchain, the potential fields of application, the potential value for the organisation and the technology driving Blockchain. BCS EXIN Foundation Certificate in Blockchain validates a professional's knowledge about:

- Blockchain Basics
- Blockchain Challenges
- Applications of a Blockchain
- Blockchain Innovations

Assessment Objectives

Candidate will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the basic concepts of Blockchain in the following areas:

1. Blockchain Basics
2. Blockchain Challenges
3. Applications of a Blockchain
4. Blockchain Innovations

Target Audience

BCS EXIN Foundation Certificate in Blockchain is tailored to professionals in both business and IT who have, or aim to have, a professional role in Blockchain as a cryptographic and smart contract solution.

Eligibility for the Examination

There are no pre-requisites for entry to the examination, although candidates should be prepared to be assessed in line with the objectives listed in the previous section. Candidates can study for the certificate by:

- Using our self-study material (approximately 20 hours)
- Attending our instructor-led BCS accredited training course (3-days)

Duration and Format of the Examination

The format for the examination is a supervised 60-minute multiple choice assessment. The examination is closed book i.e. no materials can be taken into the examination room. The pass mark is 26/40 (65%).

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Additional time for Candidates Requiring Reasonable Adjustments

Candidates may request additional time if they require reasonable adjustments. Please refer to the reasonable adjustments policy for detailed information on how and when to apply.

Additional time for Candidates Whose Native Language is not that of the Examination

If the examination is taken in a language that is not the candidate's native / official language then they are entitled to 25% extra time.

If the examination is taken in a language that is not the candidate's native / official language then they are entitled to use their own paper language dictionary (whose purpose is translation between the examination language and another national language) during the examination. Electronic versions of dictionaries will not be allowed into the examination room.

Syllabus

For each top-level area of the syllabus a percentage and K level is identified. The percentage is the exam coverage of that area, and the K level identifies the maximum level of knowledge that may be examined for that area.

1. Blockchain Basics (37.5%, K2)

- Blockchain Technology:
 - Explain how a Blockchain works
 - Explain what a node is
 - Identify the role of a node in a network
 - Explain what tokens are
 - Differentiate between public, private and hybrid Blockchains
- Additional Blockchain Elements:
 - Explain how cryptography is used in a Blockchain
 - Explain how private and public keys are used in a Blockchain
 - Explain how hashes are used in a Blockchain
 - Explain the purpose ledgers have in a Blockchain
 - Explain the role mining has in a Blockchain
- Structure of a Blockchain Network:
 - Recognise the types of consensus algorithms from a description
 - Identify advantages and disadvantages of different consensus algorithms

2. Blockchain Challenges (17.5%, K2)

- Challenges for a Blockchain:
 - Identify Blockchain vulnerabilities
 - Identify the risks community fractures and feuds pose to a Blockchain
 - Identify the risks fraud and scams pose to a Blockchain
- Blockchain Risk Mitigation:
 - Explain how the additional Blockchain elements can be used to mitigate Blockchain risks
 - Explain the role of the public witness in a Blockchain

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3. Applications of a Blockchain (32.5%, K2)

- Blockchain Use Case:
 - Explain in which scenarios a Blockchain is useful
- Blockchain Technology Supporting Businesses:
 - Explain how cryptocurrencies are used
 - Identify the Blockchain technology used in a scenario
 - Differentiate between Blockchain networks
- Blockchain Technology Supporting People:
 - Explain the use of smart contracts
 - Explain the use of Decentralised Applications (DApps)
 - Explain the role of Decentralised Autonomous Organisations (DAO) and Sophisticated smart contracts
- Expanding Blockchain Applications:
 - Describe possible applications for a Blockchain with regard to identity.
 - Identify the possibilities of combining a Blockchain with Internet of Things (IoT) or Artificial Intelligence (AI)
 - Identify the use of decentralised marketplaces and exchanges facilitated by Blockchain technology
- Blockchain and the World Economy:
 - Describe the role a Blockchain can play in the supply chain
 - Describe the role a Blockchain can play in cross-border money transfers

4. Blockchain Innovations (12.5%, K2)

- Innovations in Blockchain Technology
- Explain what digital fiat currency and disruption in banking and currency are
- Explain how Blockchain technology can change insurance
- Explain the use of Blockchain technology for the protection of intellectual property rights (IP) and providence
- Explain how Blockchain technology may change governments
- Identify applications for Blockchain technology in e-mail and the trust layer for the internet

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Levels of Knowledge / SFIA Levels / Blooms

This course will provide candidates with the levels of difficulty / knowledge skill highlighted within the following table, enabling them to develop the skills to operate at the levels of responsibility indicated. The levels of knowledge and SFIA levels are explained in on the website www.bcs.org/levels. The levels of knowledge above will enable candidates to develop the following levels of skill to be able to operate at the following levels of responsibility (as defined within the SFIA framework) within their workplace:

Levels	Levels of Knowledge	Levels of Skill and Responsibility (SFIA)
K7		Set strategy, inspire and mobilise
K6	Evaluate	Initiate and influence
K5	Synthesise	Ensure and advise
K4	Analyse	Enable
K3	Apply	Apply
K2	Understand	Assist
K1	Remember	Follow

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Question Weighting

Syllabus Area	Target number of questions (weighting)
1 – Blockchain Basics: Blockchain Technology Additional Blockchain Elements Structure of a Blockchain Network	15 (37.5%) 6 (15%) 5 (12%) 4 (10%)
2 – Blockchain Challenges Challenges for Blockchain Blockchain Risk Mitigation	7 (17.5%) 4 (10%) 3 (7.5%)
3 – Applications of a Blockchain Blockchain Use Case Blockchain Technology Supporting Businesses Blockchain Technology Supporting People Expanding Blockchain Applications Blockchain and the World Economy	13 (32.5%) 1 (2.5%) 3 (7.5%) 4 (10%) 3 (7.5%) 2 (5%)
4 – Blockchain Innovations Innovations in Blockchain Technology	5 (12.5%) 5 (12.5%)
Total	40 (100%)

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 - All graphics are professionally designed and suitable for anyone who is colour blind
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