

LEAN SIX SIGMA MASTER BLACK BELT CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

Based on online review of programs

Abbreviations: LSS = Lean Six Sigma, MBB = Master Black Belt, BB = Black Belt

	MoreSteam-OSU	BMGI	Villanova	ASQ
	Training Requirements for Certification Candidates			
Title	Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt	Master Black Belt	Advanced Master Certificate in Lean Six Sigma	Certified Master Black Belt (CMBB)
Pre-requisites, proof of BB certification	Must submit proof of previous certification from reputable source.	Must submit proof of previous certification.	Must have Black Belt training.	Candidate must hold a current ASQ Certified Six Sigma Black Belt certification & have either: 1) At least 5 years of experience in the role of a SSBB or MBB or 2) Completion of 10 Six Sigma Black Belt projects.
Course Requirements	3 online courses and 5 classroom courses (combined over two weeks)	4 courses of the MBB development classes (may substitute up to five days worth of tools-based courses for one advanced course)	3 courses (LSS Master Black Belt and 2 electives)	None
Format of Course	Blended learning (online study and classroom sessions)	Instructor-led at various locations	Online through a video-based e-learning platform with instructor-led streaming video lectures and interactive sessions	NA
Length of Training	2 weeks instructor-led and 72 hours online training	Minimum of 20 days instructor-led (no classes online)	12-week session	NA
University Affiliation	The Ohio State University (OSU) Fisher College of Business (partnership with MoreSteam)	None	Villanova University (partnership through University Alliance, an online training provider)	None
Data Analysis Software required	Minitab	Minitab	Minitab	None
Course Cost	\$11,000	\$15,000	\$6,995 package	NA – MBB training not offered

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	Course Topics for Certification Candidates			
Course Requirements	Must take all courses in program	Must select four electives in program	Must take one required course priced at \$3,495 (includes multiple topics) and two electives. Prices for electives start at \$2,495.	ASQ does not require specific training to be taken, but does require the candidate to prove knowledge in specific areas
Project Management	Mandatory	Not offered	Elective (multiple courses)	Knowledge required
Coaching and Communication	Mandatory	Not offered	Mandatory	Knowledge required
Leadership and Negotiation	Mandatory	Elective	Mandatory and Elective (multiple courses)	Knowledge required
Financial Analysis	Mandatory	Not offered	Elective (multiple courses)	Knowledge required
Advanced Lean Tools	Mandatory	Elective (multiple courses)	Mandatory	Knowledge not required
Advanced Statistical Tools	Mandatory	Elective	Mandatory	Knowledge required
Design for Six Sigma	Mandatory	Elective	Mandatory	Knowledge required
Innovation	Mandatory	Elective	Not mentioned	Knowledge required
Process Modeling	Mandatory	Not offered	Not mentioned	Knowledge not required
Transactional Tools	Mandatory	Elective (multiple courses)	Not mentioned	Knowledge not required
Contract Management	Not offered	Not offered	Elective (multiple courses)	Knowledge not required

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Software Testing	Not offered	Not offered	Elective	Knowledge not required
Exam Requirements for Certification Candidates				
Examination	2 online, multiple choice MBB exams aligned with the classroom sessions	4 Black Belt exams	None	A five-hour examination that has two assessment components: a 100-item multiple choice test; and a performance-based assessment including situation-specific materials that candidates will evaluate and to which they will respond.
When can you take the exam(s)?	Any time after completion of the applicable MBB coursework	Any time	NA	After review panel approves portfolio of work; offered at designated testing sites (ASQ publishes the exam schedule online).
Passing Score for Exams	80%	90%	NA	Complex scoring (based on multiple choice results and a performance based assessment).
Teaching and Project Requirements for Certification Candidates				
Number of Original Projects Required	5 or more projects led	3 (2 BB Level and 1 MBB Level)	0*	0 ⁺
Project Type	Real-world projects selected by individual	Real-world projects selected by individual	*4 Simulated projects deployed throughout training.	⁺ There is an initial portfolio review of the candidate's body of SS BB or MBB work

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Co-Teaching Requirement	Coaching on 10 projects	4-20 hours, experience dependent	None	NA
Presentation Submission	Presentation or publication in an external venue	Submit Six Sigma case study to periodical or at a conference	None	None
Nomination	None required	Submit three letters of nomination from supervisor, peer, and a belt mentored by the candidate.	None required	None required
Final Oral Review	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

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	Final Costs and Summary			
Receive Certification By Successfully Completing the Following Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate 5 years of process improvement experience, including 3 years as a Black Belt. • Completion of MoreSteam-OSU Master Black Belt training. • Compile a portfolio of project work, which must include at least 5 projects. • Submit evidence of coaching/mentoring experience on 10 projects. • Submit evidence of a presentation or publication in an external venue, either in person (such as a conference presentation), or a written work (such as iSixSigma Magazine or the like). • Achieve a passing score on the Master Black Belt exams (80%). • Pass an oral review. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete a minimum of 20-days of advanced coursework. • Complete three Black Belt or MBB-level Six Sigma projects. • Submit a paper to a periodical or deliver it publicly. • Achieve a 90% or higher exam grade on BMGI's Black Belt Exams. • Nomination by a team representing your organization. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the Villanova LSS Master Black Belt course. • Complete 2 elective courses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must hold a current ASQ Certified Six Sigma Black Belt (CSSBB) certification. • Must have either of the following experience levels: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) At least 5 years of experience in the role of a SSBB or MBB. OR <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2) Completion of 10 Six Sigma Black Belt projects. • Pass a review of candidate's portfolio of work experience (showing evidence of: Teaching, Coaching, Mentoring, Occupational Experience & Responsibility, Technical Experience, and Innovation). • Pass the MBB examination.
Basic Course Cost	\$11,000	\$15,000	\$7,685	NA
Travel & Expenses	For two weeks (if not based in Columbus, OH)	Minimum of 20 days (if not based near instruction site)	\$0	Travel for test (if not based near test site location)
Assessment, Review Process	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$650 ASQ Member: \$495
Exam Fee	\$0	\$0	NA	\$2,150 ASQ Member: \$1,995

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Total Cost for Certification	\$11,000	\$15,000	\$7,685	\$2,800 ASQ Member: \$2,490
Is there a Recertification Period?	No	No	No	Yes; 3 years
Summary of Certification Program	Training is a flexible combination of 2-weeks classroom and 72-hours online training. The candidate must submit evidence of 5 projects, 10 coaching projects, and public presentation experience. The candidate must pass 2 exams and an oral review. The cost of certification includes the course, exams and assessment.	Training consists of at least four weeks of classroom-based courses. The candidate must complete 3 projects, pass the Black Belt examinations, and demonstrate coaching and public presentation experience. The candidate must also submit 3 letters of nomination. The cost of certification includes the courses, exams and assessment.	Only program offered completely online. Training conducted via weekly online lectures (recordings are archived and remain accessible). Consists only of three courses: no original projects required, no evidence of coaching needed, no comprehensive exam, and no oral interview given (or required).	ASQ's CMBB is certification only. Training and project experience must be obtained by the candidate <i>prior</i> to applying for certification. The candidate must be a member of ASQ and have a current ASQ SSBB certification. ASQ certification requirements include: compiling an extensive portfolio of work (reviewed by panel) and passing a lengthy examination. It is the least expensive certification option because no training is included as part of the certification process.