Product Scheme Brochure
Agile Business Consortium Scrum Master
The APM Group Limited QMS

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Agile Business Consortium Scrum Master

1. Product Summary

Scrum is a framework for developing, delivering and sustaining complex products. According to the Scrum Guide™, Scrum is a framework within which people can address complex adaptive problems, while productively and creatively delivering products of the highest possible value.

Within a Scrum framework, the Scrum team is made up of a Product Owner, the Development Team and a Scrum Master. The Scrum Master is responsible for promoting and supporting Scrum by helping individuals within the Scrum team understand the theory, values, rules and practices of Scrum.

This Agile Business Consortium Scrum Master course has been developed by APMG in partnership with the Agile Business Consortium: www.agilebusiness.org.

2. Available Approvals

The following types of approved organisations and individuals are applicable to this scheme:

- Approved Training Organisation (ATO)
- Approved Facilitator
- Approved Trainer
- Interim approval as an Individual trainer (see appendix A)

3. Available Product Levels

The following examination levels are available for this scheme:

- Agile Business Consortium Scrum Master

4. Core Guidance

The examination is based on *The Scrum Guide™ - The Definitive Guide to Scrum: The Rules of the Game* by Ken Schwaber and Jeff Sutherland. This text is available to download, free of charge, from: https://www.scrumguides.org/.

The examination is also based on the Agile Manifesto: https://agilemanifesto.org/

5. Eligibility Criteria

In addition to the standard AO and Approved Individual eligibility requirements, applicant Agile Business Consortium Scrum Master trainers and facilitators must evidence that they meet the following:

- Pass the Agile Business Consortium Scrum Master exam with the elevated score of 86% or more (43/50 marks).
- Have 2 years' practical experience ideally in a Scrum role or, alternatively, with a different Agile approach (e.g. DSDM/AgilePM®, eXtreme Programming, Disciplined Agile Delivery, Feature Driven Development).

Further to the eligibility requirements above, under standard Z6.1.e of the *Approved Individual – Assessment Report*, all trainers are required to provide a two-page synopsis of their Scrum experience. This will be used to guide an exploration of practical Scrum knowledge as part of the trainer's product knowledge interview. Please see below for further details of the requirements of the synopsis:

Describe how the endeavor you were involved with used Scrum and compare and contrast this real-world application with the Scrum Guide. Consider:

- *The responsibilities actually embraced by nominated Scrum Master, Product Owner and Development Team member roles and the behaviors that they exhibited – compared and contrasted with what the Scrum Guide suggests*
- *The events and artefacts employed, compared and contrasted with what the Scrum Guide suggests, and the extent to which empirical process control (transparency, inspection and adaption of the process) was a reality*
- *The extent to which the Scrum values of commitment, courage, focus, openness and respect were embodied and lived by the Scrum Team*

If your practical experience is with a different Agile approach (e.g. DSDM/AgilePM, eXtreme Programming, Disciplined Agile Delivery, Feature Driven Development) then compare and contrast the real world application of that with the Scrum approach as described in the Scrum Guide.

6. Course Material Availability

AOs can use the following development routes to obtain their course materials in relation to this scheme:

- APMG vanilla materials

- Licence existing APMG approved materials from APMG-accredited ATOs

- Development of own materials

It is recommended that ATOs use the high-quality vanilla course materials. These materials come with full trainer notes, interactive classroom exercises and discussion sessions. ATOs will be required to purchase origami paper for one of the exercises on Day 2 – please see the vanilla training materials in Huddle for further information. There is also a student workbook that ATOs can print and distribute in any format they choose.

AOs are permitted to deliver training through the following delivery methods, subject to submission and approval by APMG:

- Fully classroom based delivery

- Fully online based delivery*

- Blended learning delivery*

*Due to the interactive nature of the course, ATOs will be required to demonstrate to APMG how the learning objectives from the classroom exercises and discussion points will be incorporated via online and blended learning delivery.

7. Product Availability

The product levels within this scheme are available using the following examination delivery methods:

- ATO arranged examination session (training attendance required)

Please refer to your local APMG office or the Marlin booking system for details of the format and languages each level is available in.

8. Process for Extension Applications

If the individual is already accredited by APMG as a trainer, they must:

- demonstrate they meet the eligibility requirements
- provide proof of their existing trainer accreditation with Scrum Alliance, Scrum.org or SCRUMstudy
- complete a trainer application form

The trainer can then be approved as an Agile Business Consortium Scrum Master trainer. No further accreditation activity is required; product knowledge will be picked up at the next surveillance.

9. Variances from Standard Surveillance or Re-Assessment Cycles

There are no variances to the standard surveillance and re-assessment requirements.

10. Transition Arrangements

A transition process is applicable to individuals who have been approved as a Scrum Master trainer by Scrum Alliance, Scrum.org or SCRUMstudy.

Please see **Appendix A** for full details.

11. IP Regulations

In addition to the APMG IP Guidelines, the following IP requirements shall be observed for this scheme:

Scheme Name: Agile Business Consortium Scrum Master
- In order to differentiate our Scrum Master course and exam from others already in the market, the course should always be referred to as 'ABC SM or 'Agile Business Consortium Scrum Master'.

Scheme logo:

All AOs and affiliates must adhere to the IP guidance stated in the APMG IP guidelines.

Appendix A – Agile Business Consortium Scrum Master Transition Process

1. Introduction

This process documents the transition requirements for trainers who have been approved by Scrum Alliance or Scrum.org, and both ATOs and trainers who have been accredited by SCRUMstudy, to offer the Agile Business Consortium Scrum Master course and certification exam.

The transition period is 12 months from the date of application. During this period the individual can operate as an APMG approved trainer. Within this transition period, the trainer must either have found sponsorship to train for an APMG-accredited Agile Business Consortium Scrum Master ATO or have completed the full application and assessment process to be an APMG ATO. SCRUMstudy-approved organisations can operate as an APMG ATO during their transition period.

2. Application Process for Transition to APMG

Individual Trainers transferring to APMG will be required to:-

- Complete and sign a Trainer Application Form, CV/Resumé and proof of current accreditation via Scrum Alliance or Scrum.org
- Submit a copy of course material to be used for all Agile Business Consortium Scrum Master course delivery.
- Sign the APMG Individual Trainer Agreement for Agile Business Consortium Scrum Master course delivery.

SCRUMstudy ATOs transferring to APMG will be required to:-

- Complete and sign an ATO application form and proof of current ATO accreditation via SCRUMstudy
- Complete and sign a Trainer Application Form, CV/Resumé and proof of current trainer accreditation via SCRUMstudy
- Submit a copy of course material to be used for all Agile Business Consortium Scrum Master course delivery.
- Sign the APMG ATO Agreement for course delivery.

3. Post Application

On receipt of the information above, APMG will check the following details:-

- Application forms are complete and signed
- Eligibility criteria has been met
- Confirmation of previous trainer approval

Following application review, APMG will advise the applicant if their application has been successful. Unsuccessful applicants will be given a reason for this. Successful applicants will receive notification of their transition status. This will include all necessary information including access to the ATO Network Community area on Huddle, access to the APMG ATO QMS subset, contract for signature and information on how to achieve full accreditation.

During the transition period, APMG will honour the prior Scrum Master accreditation. This means those meeting the requirements above can continue to run "business as usual" while seeking accreditation with APMG. During the transition period, Individual Trainers and ATOs will be added to the APMG websites and booking systems once they have met the requirements above.

Note: Anyone that is still in transition and has not yet completed the required assessment process in order to achieve APMG ATO status, will not be able to extend their scope into other APMG products until they are accredited. However, in some circumstances the assessment activities can be undertaken concurrently i.e. to achieve the initial accredited status and the extension of scope.

4. <u>Assessment</u>

4.1 Everyone following the transition process to become an APMG ATO will undergo a full ATO assessment, as outlined below, within 12 months of their application being accepted:

- Quality Management Systems will be reviewed as per APMG's standard assessment process
- Course materials that have been previously approved by Scrum Alliance or SCRUMstudy will require a spot check. Should significant issues be identified then a full assessment may be deemed necessary.
- Trainers who have proof of prior accreditation with Scrum Alliance, Scrum.org or SCRUMstudy will be required to undergo a full trainer assessment (product knowledge interview and a trainer observation). However, they will not need to provide a two page synopsis of their Scrum experience under standard Z6.1.e of the *Approved Individual – Assessment Report*.

In addition, APMG will generate an invoice for the applicable fees and an ATO agreement must also be signed at this time.

All assessments are to be completed for the transition scheme within 12 months of transfer to APMG, unless otherwise agreed in advance with the Head of Accreditation.

4.2 Trainers who do not want to become an ATO must submit a Trainer Transfer of Sponsorship form to be sponsored by an APMG ATO and will be required to undergo a full trainer assessment (product knowledge interview and a trainer observation) within 12 months of their application being submitted.

In addition, APMG will generate an invoice for the applicable trainer assessment fees at this time.