

IMS System Programming Mastery Program



Role Description: The IMS System Programming Mastery is for an IMS Systems Programmer. This individual is knowledgeable about the system programming of IMS through either hands-on experience or formal and informal education. An IMS System Programming Mastery requires an in-depth knowledge of the intermediate to advanced tasks required in generating and installing an IMS system, tailoring it for performance and service level maintenance, and generally supporting the daily operations and administration of IMS

Mastery Requirements: Passing the IMS System Programming test earns you an IMS System Programming Mastery. It also shows that you have the basic requisite information to install and support an IMS System.

Test Objectives: The IMS System Programming test requires knowledge of the IMS components that are required for your system, an understanding of the tools that are available with the product, and the ability to understand the authorities and privileges required to access data. Further, you must have knowledge of the basic DL/I, to work with IMS DB data as well as knowledge of the control blocks required to work with the basic IMS DB Data. Finally you must understand isolation levels, locking methods and database concurrence. The IMS System Programming test contains 40-60 questions. Candidates are required to score 70% or better to pass the test.

Test: The test covers the following areas:

Install/Generation

- system performance including all startup parms and pools

- System Generation (Sysgen) and Online Change (OLC)

- Extended Terminal Option (ETO)

- DBRC

- Migration/Fallback

- MSC/ISC

- BPE

- External Subsystem (ESS) Interface

Maintenance/debug

- debug skills and first failure data capture

- dump/trace including DFSDDLTO, call trace and other traces

- Monitoring

Services

- Scheduling - program load, preload and optimization

- Basic understanding of MVS interfaces (SVCs, cleanup, priorities, storage use and allocation)

- logging - all log DSs, archiving

- Operations/commands

- IMS User Exits

- security - SMU and RACF (or equivalent product)

- DB Integrity and DBRC

Connectivity

- SNA/VTAM

- APPC

- OTMA configuration

- Basic TCP/IP

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Transaction and network characteristics
CICS/DBCTL and DRA
ODBA setup
Basic J2EE Resource Adapter Configuration
user exits

Test Preparation: There are a number of ways to obtain the knowledge and skills necessary. Below is a list of specific resources to help prepare for this exam:

Education Courses offered:

IMS System Programming: DBCTL
IMS Database Recovery and Sharing Control (DBRC)
Implementing IMS Security
IMS Fast Path Implementation
IMS DB Performance and Tuning
IMS V7 Product Enhancements
IMS V7 Install Workshop
IMS V8 Install Workshop
IMS V8 Product Enhancements

Publications available:

IMS Administration Guide: Database Manager
IMS Administration Guide: System
IMS Administration Guide: Transaction Manager
IMS Application Programming: Database Manager
IMS Application Programming: Design Guide
IMS Application Programming: EXEC DLI Commands for CICS and IMS
IMS Application Programming: Transaction Manager
IMS Base Primitive Environment Guide and Reference
IMS Command Reference
IMS Common Service Layer Guide and Reference
IMS Customization Guide
IMS Database Recovery Control (DBRC) Guide and Reference
Diagnosis Guide and Reference
Failure Analysis Structure Tables (FAST) for Dump Analysis
IMS Installation Volume 1: Installation and Verification
IMS Installation Volume 2: System Definition and Tailoring
IMS Java User's Guide
IMS Licensed Programming Specifications
IMS Master Index and Glossary
IMS Messages and Codes, Volume 1
IMS Messages and Codes, Volume 2
IMS Open Transaction Manager Access Guide
IMS Operations Guide
IMS Program Directory
IMS Release Planning Guide

IMS System Programming Mastery Program

IMS Summary of Operator Commands

IMS Utilities Reference: Database and Transaction Manager

IMS Utilities Reference: System

Presentations available:

IMS Exploitation of z/OS Resource Recovery Service (RRS)

High Availability IMS Using TCP/IP

New News in IMS HALDB Tooling

IMS V8 Installation Considerations

General IMS Maintenance Recommendations

Using IPCS with IMS

IMS Debugging in a 64-bit World

How to Setup and Gather Documentation for IMS Problems

OTMA Security Considerations

Converting from IMS SMU to RACF Security

IMS V8 Common Service Layer

IMS V8 Resource Manager/Coordinated Online Change

IMS Library Integrity Utilities

IMS V8 Operations Management

IMS Transaction Manager Performance Considerations

Using IMS Tools for IMS Performance Analysis and Problem Investigation

IMS Database Recovery: What's on the Way

IMS Disaster Recovery Techniques for IMS

Redbooks available:

IMS Version 7 Performance Monitoring and Tuning Update

Using IMS Data Management Tools for Fast Path Databases

IMS Installation and Maintenance Processes

Ensuring IMS Database Integrity using IMS Tools

IMS e-business Connectors: A Guide to IMS Connectivity

IMS/ESA Database Tools Volume II: System Extension and Other Tools

IMS Version 8 Implementation Guide A technical Overview of the New Features

Using VTAM Generic Resources with IMS

IMS Version 7 Release Guide

IMS/ESA Multiple Systems Coupling in a Parallel Sysplex

IMS RECON Maintenance

SMP/E HOLDERROR Processing

Introduction to the IBM Problem Determination Tools