



Six Sigma Lean Professional (SSLP)[™] Course of Study

Introduction

A lean company is disciplined and dedicated to achieving optimum performance with the lowest or least amount of effort and energy. Lean is generally referred to as a manufacturing or production improvement methodology. As a term in business, it has a broad-based customer focus that concentrates on providing more to the customer. It does this by supplying the product that is just what the customer needs, when needed, in just the right amounts and for the right price, using the minimum materials, equipment, workspace, labor resource and time.

The goal of the Management and Strategy Institute is to teach you the key competencies required to function in the role of a Six Sigma Lean Professional. As you go through the training material you will learn the competencies listed below.

The SSLP exam is a timed, online exam. It has a required passing score of 70%.

Competencies

This course of study covers the following competencies:

History of Six Sigma

- Why is Six Sigma used in business, and where did it come from.
 - Learning Outcome: The Student will be able to define Six Sigma

$y = f(x)$

- It all begins with a simple equation. Although Six Sigma talks a lot about statistical analysis and measurements and various other mathematical applications, at the core of the process is one simple equation.
 - Learning Outcome: Understand the basic function of $y=f(x)$

Process Variances

- Identify where variances are occurring in a function
 - Learning Outcome: Basic understanding of Identifying where variances are occurring in a function.

TQM & others

- Discuss other process improvement methodologies
 - Learning Outcome: Have an understanding of the other process improvement methodologies and how they differ from Six Sigma.

Recognizing opportunities

- Fundamentally, the training and use of Six Sigma philosophies and principles will allow employees and project teams to understand how systems interrelate and how to use the application of quality improvement methodologies which complement Six Sigma, such as Lean.
 - Learning Outcome: Understand Six Sigma philosophies and how to recognize opportunity.

Managing Quality

- Quality is not about what you produce being accurate as you see it, but rather as the customer sees it.
 - Learning Outcome: Understand how to frame quality into what is important to the customer.

Deciding to start a Six Sigma project

- Six Sigma is a top-down methodology – that means that the decision to implement comes from the top – whether that is the top of the business, your division of the business, or some other production unit.
 - Learning Outcome: The student understands the "how and why" regarding a company launching a quality improvement initiative like Six Sigma.

Organizational Roles and Responsibilities

- How Six Sigma team are organized and understanding the role of each "belt"
 - Learning Outcome: Understand how team are formed and the role of each belt level within the Six Sigma project.

The DMAIC Method

- Every Six Sigma project will follow the same process in a systematic and uniform method known as DMAIC, an acronym made up from the first letters of each element – Define, Measure, Analyze, Improve, Control.
 - Learning Outcome: Understand and define DMAIC

Why is DMAIC used

- DMAIC is a formalized problem-solving method which is designed to improve the effectiveness and ultimate efficiency of the organization.
 - Learning Outcome: Understand why the DMAIC process is utilized.

DMADV variation

- DMADV is an acronym for Define, Measure, Analyze, Design and Verify.
 - Learning Outcome: Understand the basis of DMADV when you do not have an existing system or process to improve upon.

Project Communication

- Maintaining regular communications throughout the process from the outset of the project.
 - Learning Outcome: Understand why continual communication is critical to the success of the project.

Supporting Delivery

- The role of the Yellow Belt.

Learning Outcome: Understand the critical role that a Yellow Belt, or "Subject Matter Expert" plays within the Six Sigma team.

The Basics of Lean

- This module is designed to provide a general background regarding Lean methodology.
 - Learning Outcome: The content includes basic information on its development and creation as a process improvement vehicle and some of the concepts upon which it is built. We will also cover some of the frequent Lean terms and discuss the reasons for applying Lean in the workplace.

Lean in Action

- This module discusses some of the analysis and procedural activities of undertaking a Lean review.
 - Learning Outcome: We will discuss what they are and give appropriate examples where possible. The module is the core for understanding the actions of a Lean review of a production process.

The Impact of Lean

- This module looks at how to manage within a Lean environment and what considerations need to be taken account of when making management decisions.
 - Learning Outcome: We will look at the impact of Lean across several industry sectors and conclude by looking at the way Lean and Six Sigma have become closely integrated.

Learning Resources

Recommended:

Material included with your purchase is required reading.

- Free online training material provided by MSI. The material includes everything you will need to learn to pass the exam. This material is included for free with the purchase of your exam. It is in digital form, and available immediately after payment.

Optional:

This material is not required, however it will assist you in becoming a Six Sigma Lean Professional.

- George, Michael L. (Apr 25, 2002), Lean Six Sigma, ISBN-13: 978-0071385213
- Jay, Arthur (Dec 9, 2010), Lean Six Sigma Demystified, Second Edition, ISBN-13: 978-0071749091

Preparing for Success

In order to successfully complete the SSLP exam, you will need to make sure you have the appropriate resources to support your learning.

- A quiet location, free from distraction.
- Internet access.
- Current (newest) version of Internet Explorer, Firefox, or Chrome browser.
- Take study notes while going through the training.
- When you are ready to take the exam, you should allot 2-hours of time.

Frequently Asked Questions

What happens if I fail the exam?

- You are given two additional attempts to pass the exam at no additional cost.

Will I receive Professional Competency Units (PCU's)?

- Yes, the Six Sigma Lean Professional (SSLP) exam awards 20 PCU's upon passing of the exam.