



Data Center Energy Practitioner (DCEP)

Summary Program Description

June 23, 2026

Introduction

This summary provides information about the US Department of Energy's (DOE) DCEP certificate live, online training program. The target audience for this summary is individuals interested in participating in the program.

Main Objective of Program

The primary objective of the DCEP Program is to enhance the standards for those involved in data center energy assessments, thereby accelerating energy savings. The Program is driven by the need for significant knowledge, training, and skills to perform accurate energy assessments in data centers. The Program will increase confidence in energy assessments.

For those who pass the exam(s), the Program will recognize them as Data Center Energy Practitioners (DCEPs) by listing their names and contact information on <http://datacenters.lbl.gov/DCEP> and issuing certificates; however, it will not endorse any individual. The Program is intended only for individuals; the designation and acronym "DCEP" may not be used by organizations, companies, or firms.

Program Tracks

There are two alternative Program tracks: the Training track (training only) and the Certificate track (training + exam). The Certificate track requires that a candidate meet both prequalification and training requirements and pass the exam. For eligibility requirements and the exams, see Table 1.

Program Levels

The program has two levels. Level 1 Practitioners ("Generalists") are expected to have a solid understanding of three data center disciplines (HVAC, IT equipment, and Electrical) to provide broad recommendations based on the high-level DC Pro simulation tool. Level 2 Practitioners ("HVAC Specialists," "IT Specialists," and "Electrical Specialists") address energy opportunities using the in-depth Air Management Tool, the IT Equipment Tool, and the Electrical Tool, respectively.

Data Center Profiler (DC Pro) Tool and System Tools

DOE has developed energy software for data centers to evaluate the performance of major data center systems. These tools are integral to the DCEP Program. The system tools include the Air Management Tool, the IT Equipment Tool, and the Electrical Tool.

Level	Pre-qualifications (Certificate Track)	Training (Both Tracks)	Exam/Test (Certificate Track)
<p>1: Generalist</p> <p>High-level knowledge of HVAC, Electrical, and IT Equipment</p>	<p><u>One</u> of the following:</p> <p>2-year technical degree with 2 yrs verifiable Data Center design/operation experience</p> <p>2-year degree with 4 yrs verifiable Data Center design/operation experience</p> <p>5 yrs verifiable Data Center design/operation experience or related IT, Network, and/or Telecom experience</p>	<p>1-day training including the Data Center Profiler (DC Pro) Tool</p>	<p>Exam/test</p>
<p>2a: HVAC Specialist</p> <p>In-depth knowledge of HVAC</p> <p>2b: IT Specialist</p> <p>In-depth knowledge of IT</p> <p>2c: Electrical Specialist</p> <p>In-depth knowledge of Electrical</p>	<p>Level 1 training</p> <p>Plus <u>one</u> of the following:</p> <p>4-year technical degree with 3 yrs verifiable Data Center design/operation experience</p> <p>2-year technical degree with 6 yrs verifiable Data Center design/operation experience</p> <p>10 yrs verifiable Data Center design/operation experience</p>	<p>2-day training including the Air Management Assessment Tool (HVAC Specialist)</p> <p>1-day training including the IT Equipment Tool (IT Specialist)</p> <p>1-day training including the Electrical Tool (Electrical Specialist)</p>	<p>Exam/test (HVAC Specialist)</p> <p>Exam/test (IT Specialist)</p> <p>Exam/test (Electrical Specialist)</p>

Table 1: DCEP Program Pre-Qualifications.

Exam/Test

All Certificate Track candidates must complete one, two, three, or four exams (depending on course selections), consisting of multiple-choice questions and a mix of problem-solving and knowledge questions. Exams are administered immediately after each course. Results are either Pass or Fail. The passing score is 80%. There is a 30-day waiting period before you can retake the exam(s).

Participants who pass the exam(s) will be designated DCEP at either Level 1 or Level 2 and will receive a Certificate. If a participant receives a passing score on the Level 2 exam but fails the Level 1 exam, they will not receive a certificate for either Level until they pass the Level 1 exam. Participants in the Training Track will receive a Certificate of Participation.

How to Participate

To participate in a DCEP training, a candidate must submit an application and a training fee (see below) to the training organization. Contact information is available at <http://datacenters.lbl.gov/DCEP>. The training organization provides the application form for the applicant to complete and return.

Training Fees

- Generalist \$1,300
- HVAC Specialist \$2,400
- IT Specialist \$1,400
- Electrical Specialist \$1,500

Discounts

- Groups between 10 and 19 participants: 15%
- Groups larger than 19 participants: 20%
- Organizations with less than 20 employees: 15%
- Non-affiliated individuals: 20%
- Federal employees: 15%
- Multiple courses (2, 3, or 4): 15%
- Discounts cannot be combined.

Questions? Please contact:

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