

Overview

This standard is concerned with the skills and knowledge required to develop plans for testing software products. The test plan will define roles and responsibilities, project test schedule, test planning and design activities, test environment preparation, test risks and contingencies. This includes identifying long-lead-time test planning activities, identifying test procedure creation standards and guidelines, specifying the hardware, software, and network required to support test environment, identifying test data requirements.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. Review the software requirements specification and identify test objectives
2. Obtain relevant documentation, including the specification and test procedure creation standards and guidelines
3. Allocate roles and responsibilities for testing activities in line with organisational standards
4. Provide information to the software testing team about the hardware, software and test network required to support the test environment
5. Review the structure of the software system being tested and define the test environment setup
6. Develop the test data requirements to provide meaningful tests in line with organisational standards
7. Develop the test schedule in line with organisational standards
8. Produce the test plan and acceptance processes documentation in line with organisational standards
9. Communicate the test plan to relevant stakeholders
10. Design test recording documentation formats in line with organisational standards

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. The organisational requirements for test planning and recording documentation
2. The need to clearly define roles and responsibilities for software testing activities in the test plan
3. Where to obtain relevant documentation to support the development of the test plan
4. How to review the structure of the software system and the requirements specification to inform test planning
5. How to plan and manage test environment setup activities
6. How to create test schedules
7. The importance of clearly specifying test data requirements
8. How to develop and implement a test plan
9. How to review the test plan against objectives
10. The need to define the defect-tracking procedures and associated tracking tools
11. Identify the more sophisticated test procedures used in detailed test design

Develop detailed test plans

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