



Knowledge Management (KM) Certification Standards

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Who Sets the Standards for KM Certification?

Knowledge Management (KM) Certification, like any other form of professional certification, is “earned from a Professional society” [1] which is defined as a “professional association (also called a professional body, professional organization, or professional society) that is a non-profit organization seeking to further a particular profession, the interests of individuals engaged in that profession, and the public interest.” [2] And a non-profit organization is one which “does not distribute its surplus funds to owners or shareholders.” [3]

Why KMPro?

KMPro [4] was founded in 2001 as a “non-profit” [5] “professional association” [6] serving the international Knowledge Management Community. [7] As the world’s largest organization for Knowledge Management professionals, we have a global reputation as a Knowledge Management “Centre of Excellence.”

KMPro is the only international, non-profit, Professional Society in the field of Knowledge Management [5][6][7] and as such, KMPro sets the standards for certification within the KM professional community. KMPro operates its Knowledge Management Certification Board (KMCB)® as its Knowledge Management “international standards body” to develop, interpret and maintain standards that “address the interests of a wide base of users outside the standard-developing organization.” [8] The KMPro CKM certification workshop is provided by the owner of the training program - Hudson Associates Consulting, Inc., who originated KM certification in 1995. That workshop content has been reviewed by KMPro and its Knowledge Management Certification Board (KMCB)® and has been validated as meeting KMPro’s standards for KM certification.“

A de facto standard is a custom, convention, product, or system that has achieved a dominant position by public acceptance or market forces (such as early entrance to the market)” [9] and “is a standard (formal or informal) that has achieved a dominant position, by tradition, enforcement, or market dominance.” [10] As KMPro is the only international non-profit professional society and was established long before any other existing societies, and as KMPro's CKM training provider has conducted KM certification and training programs since 1995 for more than 5,000 participants in hundreds and hundreds of organizations -- more KM training to more individuals and organizations than anywhere else - - KMPro is clearly the “a de facto standard” for the KM training community. [11]

The KMPro CKM certification is the internationally recognized “de facto standard” for the KM community.

KMPro views certification as a continuation of our mission to promote the Knowledge Management profession. The KMPro CKM certification is intended to ensure that an individual gains a baseline level of knowledge with regard to knowledge management, and that they are able to understand how to apply Strategic Knowledge Management concepts

to ensure successful KM implementation that sustains organizational performance.

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Why KM Certification Standards?

Certification is granted under the authority of a professional society and its certification board. A KM certification granted by that professional society signifies that the individual is certified to meet certain standards or competencies as prescribed by the professional society related to successful implementation of Knowledge Management.

Research has shown that a significant percentage of KM implementation efforts fail due to a lack of an effective KM strategy and a lack of an implementation process which adheres to Strategic Management concepts and the application of a Strategic Knowledge Management framework.

KMPro requires that all training approved by its KMCB utilize a Strategic Knowledge Management approach to Knowledge Management implementation, and that it must be based on application of a Strategic Management framework to ensure that those certified understand the concepts, principles, processes and actions necessary to successfully implement a strategy-based approach to Knowledge Management. KMPro believes that adherence to these standards will result in improvements to the implementation of KM for organizations, will also increase the expertise levels of those practicing Knowledge Management within the profession, and will serve as an indication that a KM professional has obtained minimum qualifications.

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References:

1. [Professional Certification](#)
2. [Professional Society](#)
3. [Non-Profit Organization](#)
4. [KMPro](#)
5. [Non-Profit Listings](#)
6. [Professional Association Listings](#)
7. [Knowledge Management Societies & Associations](#)
8. [Standards Organization](#)
9. [De Facto Standards](#)
10. [De Facto Standards](#)
11. [KMPro CKM Client Listing](#)

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