



TPN Assessor Qualification and Renewal Criteria

Version 1.6
October 20, 2022

Document History:

Version	Date	Description	Author	Approver(s)
1.4	June 15, 2022	Initial Public Release	Varuna Gunasekera	Terri Davies, Crystal Pham
1.5	August 15, 2022	Updated M&E qualification criteria with courses, updated renewal section, updated Appendix A, added Appendix B	Varuna Gunasekera	Terri Davies, Crystal Pham
1.6	October 20, 2022	Updated logo, Introduction, and Appendix A added BSI Cloud Security Certification	Varuna Gunasekera	Terri Davies, Crystal Pham

1. Introduction and Objective

The Trusted Partner Network (TPN) is launching application and cloud assessments in February 2023 which will include a new TPN platform and membership for all Service Providers and Content Owners. As part of this initiative, TPN has also updated their Assessor accreditation and renewal process. The new Assessor accreditation and renewal process, detailed below, will go into effect on October 24th, 2022.

All new candidates interested in applying to be a TPN Assessor, must first submit an application for the Assessor type(s) listed below if they wish to apply. The application process includes a non-refundable, one-time \$150 application fee. If the candidate qualifies, a \$500 membership fee would also be paid, which applies to the following Assessor types listed below.

- 1) Site Security Assessor
- 2) Cloud Security Assessor
- 3) Hybrid Security Assessor (combination of both Site and Cloud)

Site Security Assessors conduct site assessments of traditional creative services facilities, which conduct workflows at physical premises and would include WFH (Work from Home) scenarios.

Cloud Security Assessors conduct cloud security assessments of application and creative services that are operating solely within a cloud infrastructure.

Hybrid Security Assessors conduct both onsite security assessments and cloud security assessments.

The matrix below provides a summary of the requirements for each Assessor type.

No	Qualification Criteria	Site Security Assessor	Cloud Security Assessor	Hybrid Assessor
1	A minimum of one year of experience working in the Media and Entertainment industry in supply chain, operations, or technology. This criteria can also be replaced with a course covering a Media and Entertainment (M&E) subject. See Appendix B for a sample list of courses.	X	X	X
2	A minimum of one valid Information Security, Cyber Security, and/or IT audit certification	X		X
3	A minimum of two years' experience conducting IT audits covering Content Security, Cyber Security, Information Security, and/or Information Systems	X		X
4	A minimum of one valid Cloud Audit, Cloud Security, Cloud Engineering, or Architect certification		X	X
5	A minimum of one year of experience conducting cloud security assessments and/or audits. *		X	X

*In the future, the period of time related to this requirement may increase as cloud assessments become more prevalent.

The remainder of this document provides the qualification and renewal criteria for Assessors intending to join or renew as Trusted Partner Network (TPN) site, cloud, or hybrid security Assessors. The qualification criteria are based on proficiency standards to perform an audit and/or assessment as defined in the ISACA IT Audit Framework (ITAF) 4th Edition, General Standard 1006: Proficiency and General Standard 2006: Proficiency.

The ISACA IT Audit Framework (ITAF) standards are as follows:

1006.2: IT audit and assurance practitioners shall possess adequate knowledge of the subject matter to perform their roles in IT audit and assurance engagements.

2006.2.1: Professional competence denotes possession of skills, knowledge and expertise, through an adequate level of education and experience, to appropriately perform an audit engagement.

2006.2.5: Practitioners should provide reasonable assurance that they possess the required level of professional competence. They should acquire the professional and technical skills and knowledge required to carry out any assignment they agree to perform.

2006.2.7: Skills and knowledge include proficiency in the identification and assessment of risk and controls, as well as in the application and use of audit tools and techniques. Practitioners should possess analytical and technical knowledge together with interviewing, interpersonal and presentation skills.

Additional guidance was also obtained from ISO/IEC 17024:2012 *Conformity assessment – General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons* and ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 *Conformity assessment –Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems – Part 1: Requirements*.

Specific information from the ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 standards are as follows:

A.2 Competence requirements for management systems auditors

A.2.2 Knowledge of audit principles, practices and techniques

Knowledge of generic management systems audit principles, practices and techniques, as specified in this standard sufficient to conduct certification audits and to evaluate internal audit processes.

A.2.5 Knowledge of client's business sector

Knowledge of the terminology, practices and processes common to a client's business sector sufficient to understand the sector's expectations in the context of the management system standard or other normative document.

These standards and guidance are measured by the criteria for qualifying TPN Assessors detailed below. **Note:** TPN does not provide its own examination, but leverages the certification examination process provided by the certification bodies as are listed below in the TPN qualification criteria.

2. Site Security Assessor Qualification Criteria

The following criteria must be met for any candidate to qualify as a TPN Site Security Assessor:

Item No	Qualification Criteria
1	A minimum of one year of experience working in the Media and Entertainment (M&E) industry in supply chain, operations, or technology. This criteria can also be replaced with a course covering a M&E topic taken at an in-person or online university, college, or learning institute. See Appendix B for a list of acceptable courses and examples
2	A minimum of one valid, current Information Security, Cyber Security, and/or IT audit certification
3	A minimum of two years' experience conducting IT audits covering Content Security, Cyber Security, Information Security, and/or Information Systems

1. The applicant must apply with a non-refundable, one-time \$150 application fee
2. A minimum of one year of experience working in the Media and Entertainment (M&E) industry in supply chain, operations, or technology which will be validated via work references provided by the applicant. Illustrative M&E courses used to replace this are listed in Appendix B, will require proof submitted via transcripts and/or a certificate of completion from the university, college, or learning institute.
3. The Information Security, Cyber Security, and/or IT audit certification must be valid and from a legitimate certification body that conducts an examination and application process including, but not limited to ISACA, SANS, (ISC)2, CompTIA, EC-Council, PECB etc. Some examples are CISA, CISM, CISSP, GIAC Certifications, Security +, CEH, ISO 27001 Certified Auditor. ***See Appendix A for examples**
4. The certification(s) provided will be reviewed and validated
5. The candidate must list their years of IT audit work experience in IT Security, Content Security, Cyber Security, and/or Information Systems along with a description of what type of work was performed. This experience will be validated via work references provided by the applicant
6. The candidate must sign an attestation indicating they have read and understand the latest version of the MPA Best Practices Common Guidelines
7. If the Media and Entertainment work experience, IT audit work experience and certificate(s) are validated, and the attestation is signed, the candidate would have met the criteria for becoming a TPN Site Security Assessor
8. The Assessor pays the \$500 two-year TPN membership fee

3. Cloud Security Assessor Qualification Criteria

The following criteria must all be met for an individual to qualify as a TPN Cloud Security Assessor:

No	Qualification Criteria
1	A minimum of one year of experience working in the Media and Entertainment (M&E) industry in supply chain, operations, or technology. This criteria may also be replaced with a course covering a M&E topic taken at an in-person or online university, college, or learning institute. See Appendix B for a list of acceptable courses and examples.
2	A minimum of one valid, current Cloud Audit, Cloud Security, Cloud Engineering, or Cloud Architect certification
3	A minimum of one year's experience conducting Cloud Security Assessments and/or Audits. *

*In the future, the period of time related to this requirement may increase as cloud assessments become more prevalent.

1. The applicant must apply with a non-refundable, one-time \$150 application fee
2. A minimum of one year of experience working in the Media and Entertainment industry in supply chain, operations, or technology will be validated via work references provided by the applicant. Illustrative M&E courses used to replace this are listed in Appendix B, will require proof submitted via transcripts and/or a certificate of completion from the university, college, or learning institute
3. The Cloud Audit, Security, Cloud Engineering, or Cloud Architect certification must be from a valid and legitimate certification body for Cloud Security and audit that conducts an examination and application process including but not limited to: CSA, ISACA, GIAC, (ISC)2, CompTIA, EC-Council, PCEB, etc. Some examples are (CCSP, CCSK, CCAK, Lead Cloud Security Manager). ***See Appendix A for examples**
4. The certification(s) provided will be reviewed and validated
5. The candidate must list their years of Cloud Security Assessment and/or Audit experience. This experience will be validated via work references provided by the applicant
6. The candidate must sign an attestation indicating they have read and understand the latest version of the MPA Best Practices Cloud Security Guidelines
7. If the Media and Entertainment work experience, Cloud Security Audit work experience and certificate(s) are validated, and the attestation is signed, the candidate would have met the criteria for becoming a TPN Cloud Security Assessor
8. The Assessor pays the \$500 two-year TPN membership fee

4. Hybrid Security Assessor Qualification Criteria

A Hybrid Security Assessor must meet the qualification criteria for both the Site and Cloud Security described under sections 2 and 3 above in this document.

5. Existing TPN Assessors Transition to New Qualification Criteria

Every pre-existing TPN Site Security Assessor who previously qualified via the TPN Exam will be required to re-apply and meet the new qualification criteria at the expiration of their existing two-year TPN membership.

6. Renewal Criteria for Qualified Site, Cloud, and Hybrid Assessors

Renewals for TPN Assessors will occur every two years from the date the Assessor first became qualified (either site, cloud, or hybrid). The TPN renewal process starts one month before the Assessor 2-year expiration date as a qualified Assessor. The renewal criteria are based on proficiency standards needed to maintain professional experience as are defined in the ISACA IT Audit Framework (ITAF) 4th Edition, General Standard 1006: Proficiency, and General Standard 2006: Proficiency. The standards are as follows:

1006.3 IT audit and assurance practitioners shall maintain professional competence through appropriate continuing professional education and training.

2006.3.1: Practitioners should monitor their skills and knowledge continually to maintain the appropriate level of professional competence. IT audit and assurance management should periodically evaluate professional competence.

2006.5.1: IT audit and assurance practitioners should:

Update professional knowledge continually through educational courses, seminars, conferences, webcasts, and on-the-job training to provide a level of professional service commensurate with the requirements of the IT audit or assurance role.

The following steps must be taken by the Assessor in order to complete their renewal:

1. TPN will determine eligibility based on the Assessor's general performance
2. The Assessor will be notified if they are eligible to renew based on their performance status
3. If the Assessor is eligible to renew, they must complete a renewal application
4. The original certifications provided for qualification must still be valid and active, or a new active certification that meets the criteria for the Assessor qualification may also be provided
5. Evidence of the following must be provided:
 - a. Conducting at least two TPN site, cloud or hybrid security assessments in the last two years

- b. If certification does not fulfil 20 hours of training, then attendance of 20 hours of combined continuing education credits related to IT audit, IT security, and/or cloud security via educational courses, seminars, conferences, webinars
6. Sign an attestation indicating they have read and understand the latest version of the MPA Best Practices and Guidelines for site and cloud security as applicable
7. The Assessor pays the two-year TPN membership renewal fee of \$500

7. Appeals

If the Assessor wishes to contest the results of their application or renewal, they may do so according to TPN's official Appeals Procedures Summary document, a copy of which may be obtained from TPN at assessors@tpn.org. All appeals must be submitted within thirty (30) days of the application or renewal decision to assessors@tpn.org. The Appeals Procedures Summary document sets forth the steps for addressing the aforementioned adverse decisions, including: the various stages of the appeals process; the nature of the proceedings; and the permitted scope of appellate challenges.

TPN's Appeals Procedures are the exclusive remedy for disputes regarding application and renewal decisions. Appeals undertaken by an Assessor, are undertaken at the discretion and cost of the Assessor.

8. Lapsed Assessor Membership

Assessors who do not renew their TPN membership within 30 days of the expiration date of membership will no longer be eligible to conduct assessments on behalf of TPN. If a membership lapses, the Assessor will have up to one year following the expiration date of their TPN membership to request a renewal. After one year, the Assessor will need to reapply as a new candidate.

9. Appendix A: Example Certifications for Site, Cloud, and Hybrid Qualifications

All certifications must be from a valid and legitimate certification body that conducts an examination and application process.

No	Certification Organization	Site Security Certifications	Cloud Security Certifications
1	AWS		AWS Certified Solutions Architect Associate, AWS Certified Solutions Architect Professional, AWS Certified DevOps Engineer Professional, AWS Certified Security Specialty
2	Azure		Microsoft Certified Security Operations Analyst, Microsoft Certified: Cybersecurity Architect Expert, Microsoft Security Operations Analyst, Microsoft Certified: Azure Security Engineer Associate
3	BSI		Certified CSA Star Auditor
4	CompTIA	Security+, CASP+, PenTest+	Cloud+
5	CSA		CCSK, CCAK
6	EC-Council	CEH	C CSE (Certified Cloud Security Engineer)
7	GCP		Professional Certifications: 1) Cloud Architect 2) Cloud Developer 3) Cloud Dev/Ops Engineer 4) Cloud Security Engineer 5) Cloud Network Engineer
8	GIAC	GSEC, GISF, GWAPT, GISP, GIAC	GCLD, GWEB, GCSA, GPCS, GCPN
9	ISACA	CISA, CISM, CRISC, CGEIT, CDPSE, CSX-P	
10	ISC2	CISSP	CCSP
11	PECB	ISO 27001 Certified Auditor	Lead Cloud Security Manager

10. Appendix B: Example Courses for Substitution of the one year Media and Entertainment (M&E) Experience

A minimum of 1 year M&E experience can be replaced with a course from an in-person or online university, college, or other learning institute which covers any M&E topic including but limited to: 1) Script Writing, 2) Movie Making 3) Sound Recording 4) Production 5) Post-Production 6) VFX etc. The course may be technical or non-technical in nature and may also cover software, or tools used in movie production, post-production, etc.

Courses may be taken anywhere in the world and applicants may submit courses for review and approval by TPN, prior to attending the course to ensure they meet the qualification criteria. Evidence of course completion must be submitted to TPN via transcripts and/ or a certificate of completion from the learning institute.

Sample courses that would meet the criteria are provided below:

No	University, College, or Learning Institute	Topic	Delivery Method (In-Person/Online)	Course Name	Web Link
1	UCLA Extension	The Business of Entertainment	In-Person or Online	MGMT X 403.31 The Business of Entertainment	https://www.uclaextension.edu/entertainment/film-tv/course/business-entertainment-mgmt-x-40331
2	Moor Park College	Production For Film or Television	In-person	FTMA M138 Beginning Motion Picture Production	https://catalog.vcccd.edu/search/?search=FTMA&caturl=%2Fmoorpark
3	NYU/Yellow Brick	All Areas of the Film and Television Industry	Online	FILM AND TV INDUSTRY ESSENTIALS	https://www.yellowbrick.co/film
4	Coursera	Final Cut	Online	Mastering Final Cut Pro	https://www.coursera.org/learn/mastering-final-cut-pro
5	Udemy	Film Making	Online	Filmmaking: Write, Direct and Distribute Your Feature Film	https://www.udemy.com/course/indiefilmmaking/

11. References

1. ISACA. *IT Audit Framework (ITAF™): A Professional Practices Framework for IT Audit*. 4th ed., ISACA, 2020.
2. *Conformity assessment – General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons*. ISO/IEC 17024:2012(E), ISO/IEC, 2012.
3. *Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems – Part 1: Requirements*. ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015(E), ISO/IEC, 2015.