



GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer

Examination Content Outline – October 2025

Global AI Certification Council (GAICC)

GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer

Examination Content Outline

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1. Introduction

The **Global AI Certification Council (GAICC)** offers a professional certification for AI management and governance professionals known as the **GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer (SLI)**.

This credential validates advanced competence in designing, implementing, and continually improving an **Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS)** in accordance with **ISO/IEC 42001:2023** and aligned international standards such as ISO 9001 (Quality Management), ISO/IEC 27001 (Information Security Management), and ISO/IEC 27701 (Privacy Information Management).

GAICC's certification development process follows globally recognized best practices for professional credentialing, including those defined in the **ISO/IEC 17024: Conformity Assessment – General Requirements for Bodies Operating Certification of Persons**.

A key feature of ISO/IEC 17024 compliance is the use of a **competency-based and criterion-referenced** approach to exam development. GAICC conducts **global practice analyses and job-task studies** to ensure the SLI examination reflects real-world roles and responsibilities of professionals leading AI governance implementation programs across diverse industries and jurisdictions.

This **Examination Content Outline (ECO)** defines:

- The **domains of competence** required of a certified Senior Lead Implementer,
- The **tasks** and **enablers** within each domain that demonstrate capability, and
- The **relative weight** of each domain in the overall assessment.

The SLI exam evaluates knowledge, skills, and abilities across the full lifecycle of an AI Management System—covering planning, implementation, monitoring, continual improvement, and audit readiness.

Questions are developed and validated by experienced subject-matter experts drawn from government, academia, and industry to ensure relevance, fairness, and psychometric validity. Each question is mapped to the GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer ECO and referenced to at least two authoritative sources, including ISO/IEC 42001 itself and supporting GAICC guidance.

This document therefore serves as both a **blueprint for the SLI examination** and a **professional development guide** for individuals and organizations seeking to strengthen competence in responsible, transparent, and accountable AI governance.

2. Exam Content Outline

The GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer (SLI) examination measures the candidate's ability to apply the principles and requirements of **ISO/IEC 42001:2023** across all stages of an Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS)—from initial scoping and policy development to post-implementation continual improvement.

The outline below identifies the **major domains of competence** and the **relative percentage of questions** that appear on the examination. Each domain encompasses a set of **tasks** and **enablers** that reflect how AI management responsibilities are performed in practice.

Domain	Description	Approximate Weight on Exam
I. Governance and Leadership in AI Management Systems	Establishing AI policy, governance structures, roles, and accountability mechanisms to align AI use with organizational strategy and ethical principles.	20 %
II. Implementation and Operational Control of the AIMS	Planning and executing the AIMS implementation process including risk assessment, AI system impact assessment (AI-SIA), data governance, and lifecycle control operations.	30 %
III. Performance, Audit Readiness and Continual Improvement	Monitoring and measuring AIMS performance, conducting internal audits, addressing non-conformities, and driving continuous improvement for certification readiness.	25 %
IV. Ethics, Transparency and External Engagement	Applying responsible AI principles, ensuring transparency, explainability, and stakeholder communication throughout the AI lifecycle and supply chain.	15 %
V. Emerging Risks and Advanced Assurance Techniques	Identifying emerging AI risks (e.g., bias drift, quantum security, autonomous decision-making) and integrating advanced audit and assurance techniques into the AIMS.	10 %
Total:		100 %

3. Domains, Tasks and Enablers

In the GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer (SLI) framework, a **domain** represents a major area of professional competence required to design, implement, and sustain an Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS).

Each domain contains a set of **tasks**—the key responsibilities of the professional—and **enablers**—illustrative examples that demonstrate how these responsibilities are carried out in practice.

Enablers are not exhaustive; they simply highlight typical evidence or actions that reflect the expected level of capability.

Domain I – Governance and Leadership in AI Management Systems (≈ 20 %)

Purpose:

To establish leadership commitment, governance structures, and policy direction so that the organisation's use of artificial intelligence aligns with strategic goals and ethical principles.

Task	Illustrative Enablers / Examples
1. Define the scope and context of the AIMS.	Identify internal and external issues, stakeholder expectations, and AI use cases relevant to the organisation.
2. Develop and approve an AI policy consistent with organisational values, legal obligations, and strategic objectives.	Policy statement incorporating fairness, transparency, oversight, and continual-improvement principles.
3. Establish roles, responsibilities, and decision-making authorities for AI governance.	Governance charters, RACI matrices, appointment records, and escalation paths.
4. Integrate AI objectives into business strategy and monitor their achievement.	Objective registers, measurable KPIs, and periodic performance reviews.
5. Foster a culture of responsible AI use and leadership accountability.	Communication plans, staff awareness programmes, and management-review evidence.

Domain II – Implementation and Operational Control of the AIMS (≈ 30 %)

Purpose:

To design, implement, and operate an AIMS that meets ISO/IEC 42001 requirements and embeds effective risk, data-governance, and lifecycle controls.

Task	Illustrative Enablers / Examples
1. Perform AI-risk and impact assessments and plan appropriate controls.	Documented AI System Impact Assessments, risk registers, and change-planning records.
2. Implement technical and organisational controls for data governance and AI lifecycle management.	Procedures covering data acquisition, quality, retention, bias mitigation, and model-change control.
3. Ensure adequate resources, competence, and awareness for AIMS operation.	Competence matrices, training logs, and resource allocation evidence.
4. Maintain documented information and internal communication to support AIMS activities.	Communication matrices, document-control logs, and controlled repositories.
5. Operate AI systems under defined operational controls and monitoring arrangements.	Operational runbooks, incident-response playbooks, and monitoring dashboards.

Domain III – Performance, Audit Readiness and Continual Improvement (≈ 25 %)

Purpose:

To evaluate AIMS effectiveness, ensure continual improvement, and demonstrate certification readiness through evidence-based assurance.

Task	Illustrative Enablers / Examples
1. Monitor and measure AI system performance against defined metrics.	Fairness and accuracy dashboards, drift and error reports, and trend analyses.
2. Conduct internal audits and management reviews of AIMS effectiveness.	Approved audit plans, meeting minutes, and action trackers.
3. Address non-conformities and implement corrective and preventive actions.	Root-cause analyses, CAPA logs, and effectiveness-review evidence.
4. Drive continual improvement through data-driven insights.	Improvement registers and performance-trend evaluations.
5. Ensure readiness for external certification or surveillance audits.	Audit-readiness checklists, evidence indices, and updated Statements of Applicability.

Domain IV – Ethics, Transparency and External Engagement (≈ 15 %)

Purpose:

To operationalise responsible-AI principles and sustain public trust through transparency, explainability, and meaningful stakeholder engagement.

Task	Illustrative Enablers / Examples
1. Integrate ethical principles into AI design, deployment, and monitoring.	Ethical-risk control maps, fairness testing, and oversight checkpoints.
2. Provide transparency and accessible explanations for AI-driven decisions.	Plain-language decision notices, reason-code catalogues, and traceability records.
3. Engage stakeholders across the AI ecosystem to promote accountability.	Stakeholder registers, consultation records, and communication reports.
4. Align supplier and partner obligations with AIMS controls and policies.	Supplier-assurance clauses, audit-rights documentation, and compliance attestations.

Domain V – Emerging Risks and Advanced Assurance Techniques (≈ 10 %)

Purpose:

To identify emerging AI risks and apply advanced assurance and auditing methods to maintain system resilience amid technological and regulatory change.

Task	Illustrative Enablers / Examples
1. Detect and analyse emerging AI-related risks and trends.	Risk-radar assessments, environmental scanning, and early-warning reports.
2. Integrate continuous-assurance and AI-enabled audit tools into monitoring processes.	Automated anomaly-detection systems, digital audit dashboards, and validation scripts.
3. Develop proactive responses to new regulatory, ethical, and technological challenges.	Scenario plans, policy updates, and management-briefing materials.

Cognitive Depth and Assessment Approach

The SLI examination evaluates three progressive cognitive levels across all domains:

- **Understanding** – comprehension of ISO/IEC 42001 principles and terminology.
- **Application** – practical use of controls, templates, and governance processes in real-world contexts.
- **Analysis and Evaluation** – critical assessment of complex AI governance scenarios requiring judgement and ethical reasoning.

4. GAICC Application & Payment

GAICC Eligibility Requirements

To qualify for the **GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer (SLI)** certification, candidates must demonstrate appropriate **education, professional experience, and structured training** aligned with the competencies required to implement and maintain an Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS).

All relevant AIMS or AI governance experience must have been gained **within the last eight (8) consecutive years** before submitting the application.

Educational Background	Professional Experience	Formal Training Requirement
Secondary qualification (high school diploma, associate degree, or global equivalent)	Minimum Five years / 60 months of unique, non-overlapping professional experience implementing or managing AI systems, digital governance, or ISO-based management frameworks.	Completion of at least 40 contact hours of structured ISO/IEC 42001 implementation training delivered by GAICC-authorised providers or equivalent recognised institutions. Students can also fulfil this requirement by completing GAICC self-paced courses.
Bachelor's degree (or global equivalent)	Minimum three years / 36 months of unique, non-overlapping experience in AI governance, technology risk, data governance, or management-system implementation.	Completion of at least 40 contact hours of structured ISO/IEC 42001 implementation training delivered by GAICC-authorised providers or equivalent recognised institutions. Students can also fulfil this requirement by completing GAICC self-paced courses.

Additional Notes

- Experience must include **leadership or coordination responsibilities** in areas such as AI governance, ethical-AI frameworks, risk and impact assessment, or continual-improvement programmes under ISO-based standards.
- Training hours must be earned through **GAICC-authorised providers or equivalent recognised institutions** delivering courses mapped to ISO/IEC 42001 competencies.
- Individuals holding the **GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Lead Implementer** certification automatically meet the 40-hour requirement and are eligible to attempt the **Senior Lead Implementer** examination directly.

How to Record Your Experience and Education on the Application

Use the **experience-verification section** of the GAICC online application to document your professional experience in **implementing, managing, or improving an Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS)**.

The experience does **not** have to be salaried employment; however, it must have occurred in a **professional or organisational setting** where accountability, measurable outcomes, and governance responsibilities were evident.

Academic coursework, research theses, or personal experiments with AI tools, while valuable, do **not** qualify as professional implementation experience for this certification.

Recording the Duration of Experience

Experience is tracked in **months**, not by number of projects.

For example, six months of AIMS-related work counts as six months of experience, regardless of how many systems or initiatives were undertaken during that period.

If two activities overlap, the shared months are counted only once.

Thus, work performed from **January – April** on one implementation (4 months) and **May – June** on another (2 months) equals **six months total** toward the eligibility requirement — overlapping time cannot be double-counted.

Applicants should describe each engagement separately, identifying:

- The organisation or client.
 - The AIMS or AI-governance initiative.
 - Your specific role and responsibilities (e.g., policy design, AI-SIA coordination, risk treatment, audit preparation).
 - The start and end months of active participation.
-

Recording Formal Training (40 Contact Hours)

Verify completion of at least **40 contact hours** of structured instruction addressing the **learning outcomes of ISO/IEC 42001 implementation**.

All training hours must be completed **before** submitting the application, but may have been earned at any time during your career.

Acceptable training content includes topics such as:

- AI governance frameworks and ISO/IEC 42001 clauses 4–10.
- AI risk and impact assessment methods (AI-SIA).
- Ethical and transparent AI operations.
- Continual improvement, audit readiness, and performance evaluation.

- Data-governance and lifecycle controls for AI systems.
-

Recognised Education Providers

You may record contact hours from any of the following:

- **GAICC-authorized training partners (ATPs).**
- **Accredited universities or tertiary institutions** offering relevant AI governance or ISO management-system courses.
- **Professional development organisations** or corporate training programmes mapped to GAICC or ISO/IEC 42001 competencies.
- **Approved distance-learning or self-paced online courses** that include assessment and completion verification.

Informal learning (such as self-study, reading, or conference attendance without an assessment component) cannot be counted toward the 40 CPD requirement.

Application Processing

GAICC strives to process all certification applications **promptly and transparently**. For applications submitted through the **GAICC Online Certification Portal**, the normal **processing time is five (5) calendar days** from the date of submission.

This timeline applies to complete applications that include verified experience records, supporting documentation, and proof of training hours.

If an application is **selected for audit or additional verification**, the processing period may be extended while GAICC confirms the authenticity of submitted information (for example, training certificates, employment references, or project attestations). Applicants will be notified directly if their submission enters the audit process and provided with clear guidance on next steps and documentation requirements.

GAICC Certification Fees

Examination, membership and renewal fees are published in the applicable GAICC Candidate Handbook and on the GAICC website (www.gaicc.org). To maintain a single source of truth, fee amounts are not reproduced in this Examination Content Outline.

5. GAICC Examination Information

The **GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer (SLI)** examination is a competency-based assessment designed to measure the candidate's ability to apply the requirements and principles of **ISO/IEC 42001:2023** across all stages of an Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS).

Exam Structure

Component	Description
Total Questions	80 questions in total.
Format	Multiple-choice and scenario-based questions delivered through the GAICC online testing platform.
Allotted Time	120 minutes (2 hours).
Pre-Exam Tutorial & Post-Exam Survey	A short tutorial precedes the exam and an optional survey follows it. Neither counts toward the official exam time.

Exam Delivery

The SLI examination is offered as both **online AI proctored** testing.

All questions are randomly presented, and candidates cannot return to earlier sections once submitted.

The exam platform includes a built-in timer, navigation panel, and flag-for-review feature.

Scoring and Results

- Each scored question is worth one mark.
- Results are reported immediately upon completion.
- Performance feedback is provided by domain (Governance, Implementation, Performance, Ethics, Emerging Risks).

A **minimum scaled score of 70 %** is required to achieve a passing grade.

Retake Policy

GAICC supports a fair and learner-centred retake policy.

- Every candidate is entitled to **one (1) complimentary retake** within the **one-year eligibility period** if they do not pass on the first attempt.
- Additional retakes (beyond the free attempt) may be scheduled at a discounted re-examination rate.

This policy maintains examination integrity while supporting continuous professional growth.

Eligibility Period and Re-application

The eligibility period begins on the date of **application approval** and remains valid for **twelve (12) months**.

If the candidate does not pass or does not attempt the exam within this period, the application expires and a new application must be submitted.

Additional Information

The GAICC examination system undergoes regular psychometric review to ensure fairness, consistency, and validity.

Any score invalidated due to system error or verified technical issue will entitle the candidate to a **free re-examination** without penalty.

6. GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer – Fees

Examination, membership and renewal fees are published in the applicable GAICC Candidate Handbook and on the GAICC website (www.gaicc.org). To maintain a single source of truth, fee amounts are not reproduced in this Examination Content Outline.

7. GAICC Certification Maintenance and Renewal Requirements

Certification Validity

The **GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer (SLI)** certification is valid for a period of **three (3) years** from the date of initial certification.

To maintain active status, certified professionals must demonstrate ongoing learning and practical engagement in the fields of **AI governance, risk management, and ISO/IEC 42001 implementation**.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Requirements

During each three-year certification cycle, candidates must earn and record a minimum of **60 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) hours**, distributed across the following categories:

CPD Category	Description	Minimum Hours
1. Professional Learning	Participation in GAICC-recognised training, conferences, webinars, or workshops related to AI management systems, governance, ethics, or data privacy.	20
2. Practical Application	Direct involvement in implementing or auditing AI management systems, conducting AI risk assessments, or leading AI governance projects.	20
3. Contribution & Knowledge Sharing	Activities such as publishing articles, mentoring, research, or contributing to AI governance initiatives, policy papers, or standards development.	10
4. Elective Activities	Additional learning or engagement activities supporting continuous professional growth.	10

Total Minimum Required: 60 CPDs over three years.

Renewal Process

To renew the SLI certification, candidates must:

1. Submit a **Renewal Application** through the GAICC Certification Portal before the expiry date.
 2. Provide evidence of **60 verified CPD hours** completed within the certification cycle.
 3. Pay the applicable **renewal fee** based on the current GAICC fee schedule.
 4. Agree to abide by the **GAICC Code of Professional Conduct** and **Ethical AI Implementation Principles**.
-

Lapsed Certifications

- If renewal requirements are **not met by the expiry date**, the certification status will change to **“Lapsed.”**
 - Lapsed professionals may reinstate their certification by completing all renewal steps within **12 months** of expiry.
 - After 12 months, re-certification will require retaking the full examination.
-

Audit and Verification

GAICC conducts periodic **CPD audits** to ensure the accuracy of reported activities. Candidates selected for audit must provide supporting documentation such as certificates, attendance records, publications, or official project attestations.

8. GAICC Code of Conduct and Ethics Statement

Purpose

The Global AI Certification Council (GAICC) upholds the highest standards of **integrity, accountability, and professional behaviour** in the certification and practice of Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS) professionals.

All GAICC-certified individuals must demonstrate ethical leadership and responsible stewardship in the development, deployment, and governance of AI systems.

Commitment to Ethical Practice

By applying for and maintaining GAICC certification, candidates agree to:

1. **Act with Integrity and Fairness** – Conduct all professional activities honestly, without bias, conflict of interest, or misrepresentation of competence or credentials.
 2. **Protect Human Rights and Wellbeing** – Ensure that AI systems under their influence respect human dignity, fairness, privacy, and non-discrimination.
 3. **Ensure Transparency and Accountability** – Promote explainable and auditable AI outcomes; disclose limitations, risks, and decision criteria in plain language.
 4. **Safeguard Data and Information** – Uphold confidentiality and data-protection principles consistent with ISO/IEC 42001, ISO/IEC 27701, and applicable laws.
 5. **Exercise Professional Competence** – Maintain up-to-date knowledge through continual learning, professional development, and adherence to recognised standards and best practices.
 6. **Report and Mitigate Misuse** – Take appropriate action when encountering unethical AI practices or violations of applicable regulations or standards.
 7. **Respect Intellectual Property and Diversity of Perspectives** – Value collaboration, cultural sensitivity, and inclusiveness across disciplines and communities.
-

Disciplinary and Enforcement Process

Violations of this Code may result in disciplinary action, including suspension or revocation of GAICC certification.

Complaints or ethics concerns may be submitted confidentially to the **GAICC Ethics and Compliance Committee**, which oversees investigations, recommendations, and fair resolution procedures.

Acknowledgment

All GAICC-certified professionals are required to confirm their acceptance of the **Code of Conduct and Ethics** during application, renewal, or recertification.

Adherence to this Code reinforces global confidence in GAICC-certified practitioners and the responsible governance of Artificial Intelligence technologies.

9. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer (SLI) Examination Content Outline – October 2025 Global AI Certification Council (GAICC)

1. What is the GAICC ISO/IEC 42001 Senior Lead Implementer certification?

It is an advanced, internationally recognised credential that validates the competence of professionals who design, implement, and continually improve an Artificial Intelligence Management System (AIMS) in accordance with **ISO/IEC 42001:2023**.

The certification confirms mastery of responsible AI governance, lifecycle management, and audit readiness.

2. Who should apply for this certification?

This certification is ideal for:

- AI governance and risk-management professionals.
 - Compliance managers and internal auditors implementing ISO frameworks.
 - Data-science or ethics-officers overseeing responsible AI use.
 - Consultants and project leads responsible for enterprise AIMS deployment.
-

3. What are the eligibility requirements?

Applicants must meet education, professional-experience, and formal-training (CPD) criteria:

- **Education:** Secondary, bachelor's, or master's qualification.
 - **Experience:** 24 – 60 months of relevant AI-governance or ISO-implementation work (depending on qualification level).
 - **Training:** at least 40 contact hours of structured ISO/IEC 42001 implementation training delivered by GAICC-authorised providers or equivalent recognised institutions. Students can also fulfil this requirement by completing GAICC self-paced courses.
-

4. How many questions are in the exam and how long does it take?

The examination consists of **80 questions** (75 scored + 5 pre-test) delivered online. Candidates have **120 minutes (2 hours)** to complete the exam.

5. What is the passing score?

A minimum **scaled score of 70 %** is required to achieve a passing grade.

6. How often can I take the exam?

Each candidate receives **one complimentary retake** within a **one-year eligibility period** if the first attempt is unsuccessful. Additional retakes may be purchased at a discounted rate.

7. What is the certification validity period?

The certification is valid for **three (3) years** from the date of issue.

8. How do I maintain or renew my certification?

Certified professionals must complete at least **60 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) hours** over a three-year cycle and submit a renewal application with the applicable renewal fee.

9. What does the exam cover?

The exam assesses competence across five domains:

1. Governance and Leadership in AI Management Systems
 2. Implementation and Operational Control of the AIMS
 3. Performance, Audit Readiness and Continual Improvement
 4. Ethics, Transparency and External Engagement
 5. Emerging Risks and Advanced Assurance Techniques
-

10. What is the exam format?

The exam uses **multiple-choice** and **scenario-based** questions.
It is available as **online AI-proctored** delivery through the GAICC Examination Portal.

11. How much does the exam cost?

Current examination and membership fees are published in the applicable GAICC Candidate Handbook and at www.gaicc.org.

12. How much is the membership fee?

Current examination and membership fees are published in the applicable GAICC Candidate Handbook and at www.gaicc.org.

13. How long does GAICC take to process an application?

Online applications are typically reviewed within **five (5) calendar days**, provided all documents and training records are complete.
If selected for audit, verification may extend processing time.

14. What happens if I fail to renew my certification?

If renewal requirements are not met by the expiry date, your certification status becomes **Lapsed**.
You may reinstate within **12 months** by completing all renewal steps; after that period, full re-examination is required.

15. Does GAICC provide digital credentials?

Yes. Upon certification, professionals receive a **digital badge** and certificate verifying their achievement.
These can be shared on LinkedIn, résumés, or employer systems.

16. How can I contact GAICC for support?

Global AI Certification Council (GAICC)

Level 3, 21 Putney Way, Manukau, Auckland 2104, New Zealand

✉ Email: support@gaicc.org

🌐 Website: www.gaicc.org