

## CPIM 2025/2026 FAQs

### HIGH-LEVEL TIMELINE

- Tuesday, November 4, 2025: Updated CPIM exam content manual (ECM) available
- Monday, February 2, 2026: Final day to purchase current CPIM bundles and Learning Systems
- Tuesday, February 3, 2026: First day to purchase updated CPIM bundles and Learning Systems
- Sunday, May 31, 2026: Final day to sit for current CPIM exam
- Monday, June 1, 2026: First day to sit for updated CPIM exam

### **Q. Why is the CPIM content being updated?**

**A.** APICS certification programs follow industry best practices to update the program content every five years to better coincide with the current state of the job role(s) represented by the certification. In this manner, CPIM candidates are engaging with validated best practices most prevalent in their industry now.

### **Q. What is being changed with the CPIM content and exams?**

**A.** The APICS Certified in Planning and Inventory Management (CPIM) program is being refreshed to reflect today's fast-changing supply chain landscape. Recognized globally, CPIM equips professionals with essential skills in planning, internal and external supply sources, capacity and continuous improvement. The updated version sharpens its focus on planning and scheduling and introduces separate domains for supply planning and execution. These enhancements deliver deeper, more relevant insights for modern supply chain success.

**Q. When will the updated CPIM exam be available?**

**A.** The updated CPIM exam will be available for testing on June 1, 2026. The last day to take the current exam is May 31, 2026. If your authorization to test (ATT) has an expiration date after May 31, 2026, you should schedule your exam for a date corresponding to the version of the exam you wish to take.

Any CPIM candidates with exams scheduled on or before May 31, 2026, will be administered the current exam. Any CPIM candidates with exams scheduled on or after June 1, 2026, will be administered the updated CPIM exam.

ASCM strongly encourages any CPIM candidate studying for the current version of the exam to consider scheduling well in advance of the final test date of May 31, 2026, if you wish to sit for the current exam. This will help avoid any test center or exam administration issues, or in case the test needs to be retaken.

**Q. How does the CPIM exam content update affect me?**

**A.** If you have already begun your CPIM journey, we strongly encourage you to become familiar with your exam timeframe. We highly recommend that you carefully evaluate all factors that may affect your testing schedule, such as the time available for exam preparation, the potential need for retaking the exam, and other relevant considerations, before committing to a specific exam version and test-taking timeframe.

The last day to sit for the current CPIM exam is May 31, 2026. On June 1, 2026, the updated CPIM exam will be live for all candidates. At no time will both exams be live and available to select between. The exam taken will depend solely on the date you schedule to take your exam.

If you have not begun your journey to earn your CPIM, we strongly encourage you to consider the timelines when evaluating which version of the program to pursue.

**Q. What impact will the update have on my CPIM Authorization to Test (ATT)?**

**A.** ASCM is launching an updated version of the CPIM exam, on June 1, 2026. The last day to take the current version of the exam is May 31, 2026. If your authorization to test (ATT) has an expiration date after May 31, 2026, you will want to schedule your exam for a date corresponding to the version of the exam you wish to take. **Any CPIM candidates with exams scheduled on or after June 1, 2026, will be administered the new version of the exam, no exceptions.**

**Q. Can I request an exception to take the current version of the CPIM exam after May 31, 2026?**

**A.** While ASCM understands that technical, health, or weather-related issues can impact a candidate's scheduled exam, no exceptions can be made to take the current CPIM exam after May 31, 2026. Any CPIM candidate studying for the current version of the exam are advised to be aware of their testing timeframe and to prepare for their exam accordingly. When scheduling, candidates should account for the possibility of a retake and the mandatory 14-day waiting period before being allowed to retake their exam.

**Q. What happens if I miss the current CPIM exam for a reason covered by the Emergencies Policy in the APICS Exam and Testing Policies Handbook?**

**A.** If you miss your scheduled exam appointment for any of the reasons covered by the Emergencies Policy section found in the [APICS Exam Handbook](#), you must contact Pearson VUE customer service within 10 business days of the exam date. Candidates must request to have an incident report opened to document the emergency. The call center representative will provide an incident number and a fax number to send in the required documentation. Candidates must submit written documentation, in English, to have their request reviewed. ASCM cannot accept any documentation, all documentation must be submitted to Pearson VUE.

If you qualify for a free 2<sup>nd</sup> chance exam or discounted retake exam—whether through a bundle or as a retake—the version of the CPIM exam you take will depend on your rescheduled exam date.

- **If your new exam is scheduled on or after June 1, 2026, you will take the updated CPIM exam.**
- **If your new exam is scheduled on or before May 31, 2026, you will take the current version.**

Missed exam appointments—even if covered by the Emergencies Policy section found in the [APICS Exam Handbook](#)—will not allow candidates to test on the current version of the exam after May 31, 2026.

**Q. Can I use the current CPIM study materials to sit for the updated version of the CPIM exam?**

**A.** We recommend using the updated CPIM Learning System to study for the corresponding exam. For those candidates who already have the current CPIM Learning System, a change document detailing the differences between the content for each version of the exam will be available in January 2026.

**Q. Will both versions of the exams be available concurrently?**

**A.** No. The last day to sit for the current version of the exam is May 31, 2026. On June 1, 2026, the updated exam will be available for testing.

Only one version of the CPIM exam will be available on any given date. The version of the exam that will be available to the candidate will solely depend on what date CPIM candidates schedule to take their exam.

ASCM is providing all candidates with ample time to prepare for the new exam. As mentioned above, a change document detailing the differences between the content for each version of the exam will be available in January 2026. Candidates can use that document to assist in their decision for which version of the exam to study and sit for.

**Q. What do I do if I fail the current version of the exam and do not have time to retake it before the updated exam is released?**

**A.** The current CPIM exam will no longer be available as of June 1, 2026. Therefore, it is important that candidates are aware of the timeline and plan accordingly. Any candidate that fails the current CPIM exam will be eligible for discounted retake pricing for the new exam.

**Q. When is the new CPIM bundle available and what is included?**

**A.** The updated CPIM bundle will be available for purchase beginning Tuesday, February 3, 2026. The CPIM bundle includes the CPIM Learning System, an authorization to test (ATT) (valid for 12 months), and a 2nd Chance Exam (conditions apply). The learning system includes digital and printed books (accessible for one year from the date of purchase), online study tools featuring quizzes, practice exams, learning activities, and a resource center (instructor support not included). Additionally, the CPIM Exam Content Manual (ECM) will be available exclusively at <https://www.ascm.org/> starting Tuesday, November 4, 2025.

**Q. I have already purchased a learning system separately; can I exchange it for a bundle?**

**A.** No. We are not able to exchange your purchase. Please note, bundles are non-transferable and non-refundable as per the [APICS Exam and Testing Policies](#).

**Q. I have purchased the CPIM exam and learning system separately, do I qualify for a 2<sup>nd</sup> chance exam?**

**A.** The CPIM 2<sup>nd</sup> chance exam is only given to candidates who purchase a bundle or were assigned a bundle from an ASCM Authorized Training Partner (conditions apply). If you signed up for a class through an ASCM Authorized Training Partner and want to inquire about the type of product you received, we encourage you to reach out to the partner directly to inquire about your 2nd chance exam.

**Q. How long is my CPIM learning system valid for?**

**A.** Your access to the online learning system is valid for one year from the date of purchase.

**Q. How long do I have to schedule and sit for my test if I purchase a CPIM bundle/exam?**

**A.** Upon purchasing a bundle, you will receive an authorization to test (ATT) that must be used to schedule and sit for your CPIM exam within twelve months. Time to sit for your exam may vary for exams not purchased as part of a bundle. Please refer to the expiration date listed in your confirmation email and listed on your ASCM My Account.

**Q. If my ATT expires, can I still use it or request to have it extended?**

**A.** Once an authorization to test (ATT) expires, all fees are forfeited and cannot be extended. ASCM makes every reasonable effort to send courtesy reminders to candidates, reminding them to schedule and sit for their exams. However, candidates are responsible for using their ATT before it expires.

**Q. How do I keep my CPIM certification in good standing?**

**A.** Candidates who earn a CPIM certification must maintain their CPIM certification every five years to continue being recognized as certified. For more information about certification maintenance, please refer to the [APICS Certification Maintenance Handbook](#).

**Q. How do I access my CPIM digital badge?**

**A.** If you pass your CPIM exam and earn the CPIM certification, you will receive an email from Association for Supply Chain Management (ASCM) <admin@credly.com> prompting you to log into your account and accept your digital badge. Digital badges can be shared in your email signature line and social media sites. For more information on digital badging, visit the Digital Badging section of our Frequently Asked Questions ([FAQ](#)) [page](#).

**Q. Can I exchange my current CPIM learning system for the updated CPIM learning system?**

**A.** Candidates with the current version of the CPIM learning system can request a free updated digital version of the CPIM learning system if their exam is scheduled after June 1, 2026. Candidates will be required to provide their confirmation email from Pearson Vue of their scheduled exam appointment to support@ascm.org.