

DAMA CDMP Pay if you Pass FAQ

Session 1 – Oct 5, 2026 – 20.00-21.00

The graphic features the DAMA NL logo at the top left, with a globe icon. Below it, the text 'CDMP PAY-IF-YOU-PASS' is prominently displayed. To the right, it announces 'ONLINE PREPARATION SESSIONS' on 'Monday evenings' from '5 October – 2 November'. It includes icons for joining sessions and a globe indicating English language sessions. At the bottom right, there is an illustration of an open book labeled 'CDMP' with a network of icons (database, bar chart, document, and a large checkmark) floating above it.

DAMA NL

CDMP
PAY-IF-YOU-PASS

6 NOVEMBER 2026

Hogeschool Utrecht Utrecht

ONLINE PREPARATION SESSIONS
Monday evenings
5 October – 2 November

Join one or more sessions

Sessions may be held in English

CDMP

Answers from the online preparation session held on 5 October 2026. This FAQ covers preparation, registration, exam rules and certification.

Event and registration

1. When and how will the exam take place?

The DAMA NL CDMF Pay-if-you-Pass exam event takes place on 6 November 2026. You must attend in person and take the exam on your own laptop in a supervised classroom. Venue and room details will be provided by email before the event.

2. What does Pay-if-you-Pass mean?

You pay the exam fee only if you pass. If you do not pass, no exam fee is due. If you pass but score below the level you personally hoped to achieve, you must still pay.

3. Can I take more than one exam during the event?

No. You can take one Data Management Fundamentals exam or one specialist exam on 6 November. Any additional exams must be taken on another occasion.

4. How and when do I enroll for the exam?

You will receive an email with a link and instructions for enrolling through the exam portal at an initial price of USD 0. These instructions are expected in the following weeks, subject to confirmation. Enrolment does not immediately unlock the exam or practice questions; access is released separately.

5. How much does the exam cost if I pass?

A fee of USD 311 applies.

6. How do I pay, and are alternatives to a credit card available?

Have a credit card available and follow the payment instructions sent by the organisers.

Preparation sessions and study materials

7. Do the preparation sessions include a full training course?

No. The weekly evening sessions explain the exam process, offer preparation tips and answer questions. You are responsible for studying the material. A separate training course or study group may help if you need more support, please have a look at <https://dama-nl.org/opleidingen/opleiders/> for selected training institutes in The Netherlands.

8. What language will be used?

The preparation sessions and shared materials are in English to accommodate English-speaking candidates and prepare everyone for the English-language exam and study material.

9. Do I need to attend every preparation session?

No. You are welcome to attend the remaining sessions, but some content will be repeated. New questions and updates will be added to the accompanying webpage, so you can also follow developments there: <https://dama-nl.org/piyp-sessions-2026/>

10. Where can I find the presentations and FAQs?

We will share the presentation, existing FAQs and new FAQs from the preparation sessions. The page will be updated weekly: <https://dama-nl.org/piyp-sessions-2026/>

11. Which book should I use?

Use the DAMA Data Management Body of Knowledge, 2nd edition-revised edition. The full handbook is recommended for studying and consulting during the exam.

12. Is the revised edition mandatory?

No. The revised edition is recommended rather than mandatory. It includes substantial changes to Chapter 13 on data quality and corrections elsewhere. Using an older edition may make it harder to answer questions based on the revised content.

13. How much study time should I allow?

Allow several days of focused study, but it depends entirely on your own learning style; the exam requires more than a quick read. Each chapter follows a similar structure, including business drivers, core concepts and technologies. Learning that structure helps you study the chapters and find information more efficiently.

Exam content and certification levels

14. How do the Fundamentals and specialist exams differ?

The Data Management Fundamentals exam covers the breadth of data management. Specialist exams examine a particular knowledge area in more depth and place greater emphasis on applying knowledge and experience. There are seven specialist exams; you can choose the subjects that suit your interests, with no prescribed ranking.

15. How many questions are there, and how long is the exam?

Both the Fundamentals and specialist exams contain 100 questions. The standard duration is 90 minutes. Questions are multiple choice, with five possible answers.

16. Is extra time available if English is not my native language?

Yes. Non-native English speakers receive an additional 20 minutes, making 110 minutes in total. Indicate your language status when enrolling.

17. Can I request an adjustment for dyslexia or another impairment?

Contact the organisers in advance so they can raise your needs with DAMA International. An additional 20 minutes for dyslexia is typically granted. Other impairments that affect your ability to complete the exam can also be raised; arrangements need to be confirmed for your exam.

18. What scores are needed for each certification level?

The session described the following requirements:

Level	Requirements described in the session
Associate	At least 60% in the Data Management Fundamentals exam.
Practitioner	At least 70% in Fundamentals and in each of two specialist exams.
Master	At least 80% in Fundamentals and in each of two specialist exams, plus at least ten years of relevant experience, subject to a CV review by DAMA International.

19. Must I retake Fundamentals when progressing to Practitioner or Master?

Only if your existing score is below the threshold for the level you want. A Fundamentals score of at least 70% can count towards Practitioner, and a score of at least 80% can count towards Master. You must also meet the relevant specialist exam and experience requirements.

20. Can frameworks and models discussed in the book appear in the exam?

Yes. The session explained that **all content** in the handbook can be examined, including frameworks and models drawn from other sources. Treat them as part of the study material. Understand relationships between knowledge areas as well as the individual topics, especially for specialist exams.

21. Which topics should I prioritise when studying?

The suggested starting points were data governance, data modelling, data quality, metadata management, master and reference data management, and data warehousing. These were described as heavily represented in Fundamentals. Study the other areas too, because every correct answer contributes to your score. You do not have to read the chapters in a fixed order.

Practice exams and exam technique**22. Are practice exams available for all subjects?**

Practice questions are available for Data Management Fundamentals. Practice exams are not available for the specialist subjects.

23. When will I receive access to the practice exam?

Access was expected approximately ten days, or one and a half weeks, before the exam. The timing is managed by DAMA International and was not yet confirmed. You will receive instructions; registering for the event does not give immediate access.

24. What is the format of the Fundamentals practice exam?

The practice exam has 40 questions and a time limit of 36 minutes. It helps you become familiar with the question style, the exam interface and the pace required. Feedback can help you identify what to study next.

25. How should I use the practice exam?

We suggest study the handbook first, then complete a practice exam. Review the feedback, revisit weaker topics and practise again. Two or three serious attempts are generally useful for preparation.

26. Will my practice score predict my final result?

No. Practice results are an indication of readiness, not a guarantee. The questions evolve, the difficulty may differ and the real exam adds time pressure.

27. What approach should I take to answering questions?

Read the wording carefully, particularly words such as “not”. Eliminate clearly incorrect options, then select the best remaining answer. Consider the business purpose of data management where relevant. Answer every question, even if you are uncertain. The session mentioned possible answer patterns, but these are not reliable rules; do not select an answer solely because it is longer or sounds more business-oriented.

What to bring and exam rules

28. What should I bring to the classroom exam?

- A valid identity document, such as a passport or driving licence.
- Your own laptop and its power adapter.
- Your printed handbook or a properly licensed PDF copy.
- A separate suitable device if you plan to use the PDF.
- A credit card for payment if you pass.

We will provide instructions for connecting to the venue Wi-Fi and accessing the exam.

29. What reference material may I use during the exam?

Under the rules explained in the session, you may use a printed handbook or a PDF copy. Separate notebooks, loose notes and additional collections of reference material are not allowed. Bringing a (pdf)-handbook is strongly recommended, although it is not mandatory.

30. May I use a borrowed book or someone else's PDF?

A physical book may be borrowed. A PDF must be licensed to you or covered by an appropriate enterprise licence for your organisation. The organisers will check PDF ownership.

31. May I write notes in the book or add tabs?

Yes. Annotations within the printed book or PDF are allowed, as are tabs or sticky notes used to navigate the book. This does not permit a separate notebook or a collection of loose notes.

32. Can I open the PDF on my exam laptop or phone?

No. The PDF must be on a separate device, such as a tablet or an e-reader capable of displaying it. A mobile phone is not allowed for this purpose. An e-reader with annotations in the licensed PDF is acceptable.

33. May I use translation tools, dictionaries or internet searches?

Browser translation and online dictionaries for non-native English speakers are allowed. General internet searches, including searching for answers to exam questions, are not allowed. Translation can take valuable time, so become familiar with the English terminology beforehand. The proctors will actively make sure you are complying with exam rules.

34. May I photograph or copy exam questions?

No. Do not photograph, copy, save or share exam questions. This includes copying questions into a note-taking application. The organisers will monitor compliance with the exam rules.

35. Do I need remote proctoring software for this event?

Additional remote proctoring setup used for an individual exam at home is not needed for this supervised classroom event. Follow the technical instructions sent by the organisers for your own laptop.

36. How can I find information in the book quickly?

Practise navigating the handbook before the exam. Tabs can help you open a relevant chapter quickly. If using a PDF, practise searching on the device you will bring; broad terms may return too many results. Avoid relying on looking up every answer, because time is limited.

Results and follow up

37. When will I see my result, and what should I do when I finish?

Your result normally appears within a few minutes of submitting the exam or the time expiring. Stay seated and quiet while others finish, even if you are pleased with your result. If you pass, follow the instructions for paying the exam fee.

38. What proof of certification will I receive?

The session described a certificate and a digital badge issued that can be added to a professional profile. You will also be asked whether you want your certification details to be publicly visible.

39. What happens if I do not pass?

You do not pay for the unsuccessful attempt under Pay-if-you-Pass. To try again, you can arrange an individual exam through DAMA International, use a training provider offering exams, or wait for a future DAMA NL Pay-if-you-Pass event.

40. Can I retake an exam to achieve a higher score?

Yes. If you pass but need a higher score for Practitioner or Master, you must arrange a retake separately.

41. Where can I ask further questions or find more information?

Email secretary@dama-nl.org with questions or requests for clarification. New answers will be shared through the preparation sessions and the accompanying webpage.