

# CAST Certified Key User (CKU)

Demonstrate your expertise and your commitment...  
... become a CAST Certified Key User!

*Becoming a Certified Key User (CKU) gives you a clear and focused way to tell the world about your expertise and communicate your proficiency in leading products from CAST*

## Certified Key User (CKU)

The audience for CKU certification program is **CAST Key Users**: software architects, application developer managers, application SMEs, and software veterans ready to help drive application quality improvement and get more out of CAST Application Intelligence Platform (AIP).

Key Users play a critical role with a company's success with CAST AIP. Key Users work closely with the CAST administrator to fine tune the analysis results to consider for the specific application context and to help expose improvement opportunities. They know where to find CAST AIP specific metrics results, how to interpret results, prioritize violations and create and optimize action/remediation plans.

## What does it mean to a be a CKU

- Prove your knowledge and expertise with CAST AIP analysis results to find CAST AIP specific metrics results, interpret results, prioritize violations, and create and optimize action/remediation plans.
- Serve as an evangelist for CAST AIP in your organization and Demonstrate in depth knowledge of CAST AIP fundamentals including
  - Quality model - metrics and scoring methodology
  - Sizing Model – understand AFP and EFP difference, core concepts and use cases
- Master the CAST Assessment Model and understand
  - how to quantify the business impact of violations
  - priority of the quality rules and fine tune analysis to expose critical areas
  - how to customize the Assessment Model to improve relevance of results
- Interpret Dashboards results and create tailored reports
  - Expert use of the CAST dashboards (Engineering and Health Dashboards)
  - Interpretation of CAST output - size and quality
  - Custom and executive reports (Report generator config, use customization)
  - Understand Rest API reporting principles
- Understand and quantify the value of software analysis and drive internal use of analysis results through Advanced Analysis and Action Plans creation
  - Perform advanced analysis of violations and quality indexes
  - Understand and quantify violations' impact
  - Identify architecture/system hot spots and perform transactions base analysis

## Prerequisites

Complete the CAST University Key User eLearning course along with CAST Coaching and Mentoring program (In-person sessions.) Our CAST instructors will take you through hands-on exercises, answer your questions, and share best practices to help you perform at your best and support your team get the most out of CAST AIP output data and its consumption.

## Exam Description

The exam has two parts. Both parts need to be completed.

- Core Knowledge Assessment questionnaire (90 min): 51 multiple-choice questions, covering a range of topics listed above
- Dashboard and Analysis of Results questionnaire (60 min): 7 hands-on exercises used to assess your ability to understand and interpret the CAST AIP output.

## Exam Pattern

The certification consists of achieving a minimum score. The final score is a weighted average of the results achieved on each questionnaire. To become a certified KU, you need to achieve a minimum overall score of 75%

The final score will be calculated as the average of the two questionnaire:

- Core Knowledge Assessment - 51 question each worth 1 point
- Dashboard and Analysis of Results - 7 dashboard review excises each worth 4 points (28 points in total)

Following the successful completion of the exam, the participant will receive the CKU e-diploma.

## Exam Preparation

Recommended learning path to prepare Key Users to the CKU exam include:

1. **KU-102 Driving Quality and Productivity Improvement** - learn where to find CAST AIP outputs, how to interpret results, prioritize violations, and create action and remediation plans to optimize the value of your CAST analysis (eLearning).
2. **CAST Coaching and Mentoring Session** – On-site or virtual workshop/mentoring session includes instructor-led hands-on exercises and detailed explanation of how you can consume CAST output effectively to meet business objectives. The session helps to fast-track your preparation to take the certification exam (contact your CAST sales representative for details)

In addition, you should be able to perform the following generic tasks before taking up the CKU exam:

1. Lead and/or assist application SME in translating the analysis results into effective actionable technical input to the application's SDLC.
2. Creating documents, presenting to application team users, technical managers and/or customer
3. Create a technical specification document that covers analytic implementation details
4. Translate the analysis results into actionable business improvement plans or proposals for presentation to Management and can properly communicate business requirements to technical staff

## How do I get started?

The CKU exam is delivered entirely online. To enroll for the exam, send an email to CAST University [CastU@castsoftware.com](mailto:CastU@castsoftware.com)

## Questions?

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