



GIS CERTIFICATION INSTITUTE

GISCI Update

Presented by:

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GISCI Member Organizations

- URISA (2004)



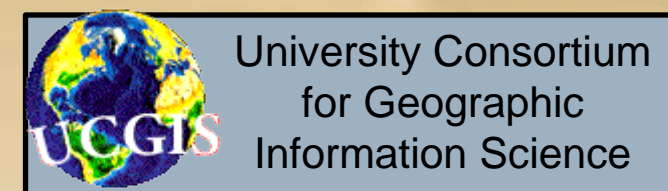
- AAG (2004)



- NSGIC (2004)



- UCGIS (2005)



- GITA (2010)



There are over 5000 certified GISPs.



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GIS Professionals Around The World





What is GISCI?

- The GIS Certification Institute (GISCI) is a tax-exempt not-for-profit organization 501(c)(6) professional association, business league
- that provides a voluntary GIS certification program for professionals
- and added value to the profession.
- Established GISCI Board of Directors in 2003 and began offering certification in 2004.

GISCI is nearing 10 years of service!



Code of Ethics

- **Obligation to Society**
 - Best work possible
 - Contribute to the community
 - Speak out about issues
- **Obligations to Employers**
 - Quality work
 - Professional relationship
 - Honesty in representation
- **Obligations to Colleagues and the Profession**
 - Respect work of others
 - Contribute to the discipline
- **Obligation to Individuals in Society**
 - Respect privacy
 - Respect individuals



Terminology

Certification

- a voluntary evaluation and acknowledgment of skills in a profession

Licensure

- a legal regulation, requiring competency in a practice

Accreditation

- Process of evaluating training materials or standards of program in accordance with pre-established criteria

GISP

- Certification that provides recognition of a **GIS Professional** by peer review examination

Certification and licensure are two different amicable methods recognizing skills and practice.



GISP Certification

- Voluntary
- For GIS Professionals (any specialist)
- Self-documented, point-based system
- Peer review examination
- Recognition of achievement
- Self regulation



Why Certify? (as you)

- **GISP certification has a certain value to you.**
- Why is it important to you?
- How do you benefit as a professional?
- Does it increase your recognition?
- Does it support and recognize your contributions?
- Will it add value to your career?
- Will it help you in employment?



Why Certify? (as GIS industry)

- **Added value to the profession**
- Ensure a core competency of ethics, experience, education and contributions
- Provide recognition of achievement in the GIS industry and market
- Support employment and business needs
- Support educational development for current/prospective GIS professionals
- Encourage long-term professional development



Certification Requirements

- Education
Basis of knowledge
- Experience
4 years experience
- Contribution to the Profession
Ongoing professional development
- Additional Points (Flexible)

Points

30

60

8

52

Total Point Requirement = 150



Simple Example Profile

- Education (30 points)

Bachelor's Degree in any field (20)
and 3 GIS related college courses
or 40 CEUs
or 100 days event attendance

- Experience (60 points)

4 years FTE experience

Tier I	100
Tier II	60
Tier III	40
Bonus	10

+ 52
Additional
points

- Contribution to the Profession (8)

**Participate and get involved in leadership,
memberships, publications, events.**

8 yrs of membership, 4 yrs on committee, 2yrs on a board



GIS as a Profession

Attributes of a Profession

- Mission ☒
- Common language ☒
- Specialized training ☒
- Culture and lore ☒
- Specialized body of knowledge
- Formal organization
- Code of ethics
- Licensing/Certification

*DOLETA Geospatial Technology
Competency Model (GTCM); Geospatial
Management Competency Model (GMCM);
GIS&T Body of Knowledge (UCGIS/
AAG)*

*GIS Certification Institute
(GISCI)*

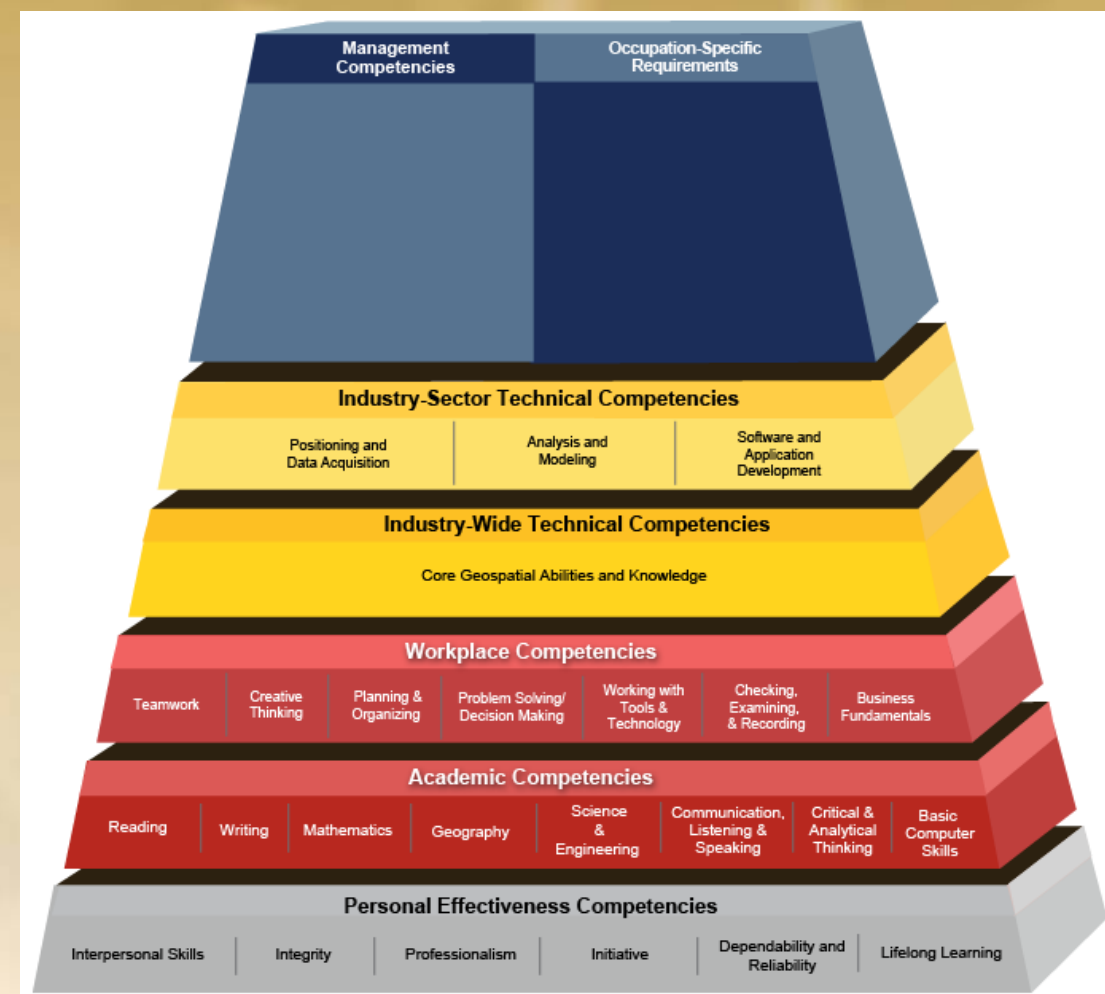
- *adapted from DL Pugh 'Attributes of a Profession'*



GIS as a Profession

Department of Labor Professional Standards

- Employment and Training Administration (ETA) has worked with industry and education leaders to develop a comprehensive competency model for Geospatial Technology. The model is designed to evolve along with changing skill requirements.
- The industry model frameworks are based on the competency model building blocks which are modified to meet the industry needs.
- GTCM endorsed by GISCI, 2011
<http://www.gisci.org/PDFs/GTCM.pdf>
- GMCM approved August 20, 2012
<http://www.urisa.org/gmcm>





Standards of the Profession

- Body of Knowledge
 - GIS&T Body of Knowledge
 - Task Analysis / Model Curricula / Definitions
- DACUM (Developing A Curriculum)
 - Geospatial Technology Competency Model (GTCM)
 - Geospatial Management Competency Model (GMCM)
 - Experience based
 - Subject Matter Experts (SMEs)
- Other standards of GIS specialization...



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Evaluating the Profession

“the purpose of GISP certification is to advance the GIS profession by promoting competent and ethical professional practice. Portfolio-based certification made sense in 2004, when no authoritative specification of geospatial competencies yet existed. The Department of Labor’s recently issued Geospatial Technology Competency Model helps fill that gap, and sets the stage for serious consideration of competency-based GISP certification.” Dave DiBiase, GISCI President – July 8 2010

Core Competency Working Group – GISP Certification Update Proposal

January 28, 2011

Key among the proposed updates is the addition of a required examination.

Public comment – February 2011

Exam Working Group (EWG) – October 2011

Project Manager + Exam Consultant + Subject Matter Experts

Exam Development Plan – January 2013

Exam Development Process

Planned implementation of Exam by 2015

Timeline →



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The Foundation of the GISP

GISP CERTIFICATION

Ethics

Education

Experience

Contributions

Examination



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Coming Online Soon

New GISCI website including:
online applications and renewals.

The screenshot shows the GISCI website homepage. At the top is the GISCI logo and the text "GIS Certification Institute". Below this is a navigation bar with links: Home, Applicants, GISPs, Employers, Students, Ethics, News, Events, and Contact Us. A search bar is located on the right side of the navigation bar. The main content area features a large graphic titled "GIS Professionals Around The World" showing a map of the world with orange dots indicating the locations of GIS professionals. Below this graphic are four buttons: "APPLY ONLINE!", "RENEW ONLINE", "ETHICS", and "ABOUT GISCI". To the right of the main content area is a "GISCI News" section with several news items, each with a "read more" link. At the bottom of the page is a "Search GIS Registry" button. The footer contains the text "Copyright 2012 by GISCI | Privacy Statement | Terms Of Use".

GIS Certification Institute

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Home Register | Login

GIS Professionals Around The World

GISP's by City
6,210 total as of January 2011

APPLY ONLINE! **RENEW ONLINE** **ETHICS** **ABOUT GISCI**

GISCI News

GISCI 2nd Annual Poster Contest
We have received another excellent round of poster submissions. Thank you to everyone who entered th... [read more](#)

GISCI Board of Directors Endorses the GTCM
At its face to face Board of Directors meeting on May 23, 2011, the GIS Certification Institute Boar... [read more](#)

GISCI Poster Contest Top 12
After careful deliberation, the Outreach Committee has chosen the top 12 posters in the GISCI poster... [read more](#)

GISCI Board of Directors Announces Resolution to Update the GISP Certification Process
At its face to face Board of Directors meeting on May 23, 2011, the GISCI Board of Directors continu... [read more](#)

GISCI to Consider Public Comments about Proposed GISP Exam
Earlier this year GISCI issued a proposal to update GIS Professional (GISP) certification requiremen... [read more](#)

Search GIS Registry

About GISCI

The GIS Certification Institute (GISCI) is a tax-exempt not-for-profit organization that provides the geographic information systems (GIS) community with a complete certification program. GISCI offers participants from the first early years on the job until retirement a positive method of developing value for professionals and employers in the GIS profession.

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Developing the Profession

Looking into the foreseeable future...

- Continue to adopt and develop standards
- Serving specialized professionals and GISP designations
- Certification throughout the full career
- Exam preparation materials
- Revised renewal process toward annual contact and updates
- International programs



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