

Vizient Analyst Certificate Program

Advance your data analysis and presentation skills to more effectively position issues and opportunities for improvement.

Creating the case for change

Each module helps you develop skills in transforming data into information and insights that motivate and result in improvement.

Module 1 — Benchmarking

- A process improvement tool kit, project charter and gap analysis
- Benchmarking: what it is and what it isn't
- Examples of performance measures for internal and external benchmarking
- Factors that influence outcomes
- A roadmap for benchmarking success

Action: Apply process improvement and benchmarking to your project.

Module 2 — Risk adjustment mechanisms and tools

- How risk models are created
- How expected values are created
- What adjustment mechanisms can be used and why
- Our definition of risk adjustment
- The difference between 3M's risk of mortality and our relative expected mortality
- The difference in measuring risk with various types of data
- How risk is calculated in other models
- When it may be more appropriate to use another source

Action: What does risk mean to you and your project?

By the end of this interactive program, you'll know how to leverage the power of health informatics — and how to effectively use the data and analyses available through Vizient Intelligence™ solutions to deliver organizational value.

Class size is limited: Don't miss your chance to apply!

To ensure that each student has a meaningful, interactive experience with program faculty and mentors, each class is limited to 25 students. We are accepting applications for our 2017 sessions:

- Spring (March 23-May 17) – Applications accepted Jan. 18-Feb. 17
- Summer (June 22-Aug. 16) – Applications accepted April 13-May 11
- Fall (Oct. 5-Nov. 29) – Applications accepted July 31-Aug. 25

Your program

This in-depth, competency-based training program combines hands-on workshops, lectures, project work activities, and self-study — all reinforced through meetings with expert facilitators and mentors.

Conducted over nine weeks, the program includes:

- A 1.5-day mandatory boot camp at our Chicago office, including a networking reception
- Six weekly live web-based instructional modules
- Web conference for final project presentations

All conferences will be recorded and made available to you after each lesson.

Your mentor

You'll be assigned a mentor who is a subject matter expert to provide guidance and answers to your questions at every turn. Through scheduled weekly discussions, your mentor will help you refine your project scope, monitor your progress, and serve as an invaluable support resource.

Your improvement project

To put training into action, you'll work on a predefined, leader-driven improvement project that has strategic or operational importance for your organization creating a case for change. During boot camp, you and your Vizient mentor will further define the scope of your project.

Module 3—Basic measurement and analysis of data

- Key elements of analysis planning
- Ways to organize and understand data and determine data cleanliness
- Potential pitfalls and ways to overcome them
- Descriptive versus inferential statistics
- The appropriate application descriptive statistics (basic measures)

Action: Review your project charter.

Module 4—Advanced measurement and analysis of data

- Statistical and meaningful significance
- Use of the z score in benchmarking
- The appropriate statistical test based on data characteristics
- Differences between the chi-square and t tests
- Reasons to use a t test and how to interpret the P value
- Use of the chi-square test to compare observed-to-expected counts
- Use of regression analysis to explain an outcome variable by multiple explanatory or predictor variables

Action: Describe the appropriate tests you will use in your project and why.

Module 5—Importance of variation

- Variation and its importance
- Differences between common and special cause variation and ways to determine which is which
- Characteristics of a process and how to determine if it is in control
- Negative implications of tampering and appropriate next steps
- Data specification limitations, such as setting control lines

Action: Apply lessons learned to your project by defining your process capability and displaying an example data set, chart and poll for answers. Is it in or out of control? What are your next steps?

Please note program prerequisites: Your project must be authorized by an executive sponsor at your organization with preliminary participation and financing approval in place at the time of application.

Who should attend?

This program is beneficial for individuals where data analysis is a primary job function. The experience and departments of past participants were broad, such as hospital and physician quality, safety, supply chain, operational and financial areas.

You should be a proficient user of at least one Vizient database and have a minimum of six months experience, preferably one year, on the primary Vizient data source to be used.

Class size and participant application

Acceptance is limited to 25 participants to ensure the most productive learning experience. To allow for participation from multiple Vizient member organizations, administration may limit admission to a maximum of two individuals per member organization in certain sessions where necessary.

Unlike other Vizient programs, interested candidates must submit their completed applications, which are reviewed by the ACP committee that selects 25 participants per session. Participant selection is based on project scope and applicability to organizational performance improvement. Incomplete applications cannot be accepted. Successful applicants must accept within 24 hours of admittance notification. Registration materials will be provided to those who accept.

Boot camp

Our Analyst Certificate Program boot camp provides the best possible foundation for maximizing your program experience.

You'll be able to:

- Meet and learn more about other participants, instructors and mentors
- Obtain a deeper understanding of the program and the importance of analytics in moving your organization forward
- Receive guidance from your mentor to fine-tune your project learning experience

Boot camp also offers you the option to further explore your current or another Vizient data tool. The small class size and direct access to Vizient subject matter experts give you the opportunity to ask questions and maximize tool use for your specific project needs.

Web conference modules

All modules—instructional and final project presentation—are offered via live webinars on Wednesday from 1 to 3 p.m. CST unless otherwise specified. Attendance is expected. These webinars will be recorded and distributed to participants after each presentation for review.

Module 6—Presentation of data

Elements of graphical excellence

- Audience analysis and its relationship to data display
- Use of a table versus a graph
- Characteristics of effective and ineffective line and bar graphs
- Other methods of displaying complicated data and information

Action: Discuss how to select the most effective data display method for your project.

Module 7—Final presentations*

Practice session for individual presentations, including presentation review and feedback.

*program requirement

Program faculty

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