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# Best Database Certifications For 2016

By [Ed Tittel](#) OCTOBER 14, 2015 8:25 AM


## L. Top 5 Database Certs





Savvy, talented and knowledgeable database professionals are always in demand. Here are some of the best certifications for DBAs, database developers, data analysis and architects, BI and data warehousing specialists and anyone else working with databases.





Over the past three decades, we've seen a lot of [database](#)  platforms come and go, but there's never been any question that database technology can be a crucial component for all kinds of applications and computing tasks.

Database certifications may not be as sexy or bleeding edge as [cloud computing](#), [storage](#) or [computer forensics](#). But the reality is that there has been, is and always will be a need for knowledgeable database professionals at all levels and in a number of related job roles. And the emerging [data](#)  scientist and data analyst roles are getting a lot of attention these days.

To get a better grasp of the available database certifications, it's useful to group them around specific database-related job roles. In part, this reflects the maturity of database [technology](#) , and its integration into most aspects of commercial, scientific and academic computing.

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- **Database Administrator (DBA):** Responsible for installing, configuring and maintaining a database [management system](#) (DBMS). Often tied to a specific platform such as Oracle, MySQL, DB2, SQL Server and others.
- **Database Developer:** Works with generic and proprietary APIs to build applications that interact with DBMSs (also platform specific, as with DBA roles).
- **Database Designer/Database Architect:** Researches data requirements for specific applications or users, and designs database structures and application capabilities to match.
- **Data Analyst/Data Scientist:** Responsible for analyzing data from multiple disparate sources to discover previously hidden insight, determine meaning behind the data and make business-specific recommendations.
- **Data Mining/Business Intelligence (BI) Specialist:** Specializes in dissecting, analyzing and reporting on important data streams, such as customer data, supply chain data, transaction data and histories, and others.
- **Data Warehousing Specialist:** Specializes in assembling and analyzing data from multiple operational systems (orders, transactions, supply chain information, customer data and so forth) to establish data history, analyze trends, generate reports and forecasts, and support general ad hoc queries.

Careful attention to these database job roles implies two important kinds of information. First, a good general background in relational database management systems, including an understanding of the Structured Query Language (SQL), is a basic prerequisite for all database professionals.

Second, although various efforts to standardize database technology exist, much of the whiz-bang capability that databases and [database applications](#) can deliver come from proprietary, vendor-specific technologies. Most serious, heavy-duty database skills and knowledge are tied to specific platforms, including various Oracle products (such as the open source MySQL environment), Microsoft SQL Server, IBM DB2, so-called NoSQL databases and more.

That's why the majority of the top five items you're about to encounter relate directly to those very same, and very popular platforms.

To wind down this section, let's look at the numbers for database certifications. Table 1 displays the results of an informal job search conducted on several high-traffic job boards to see which database

We hope you find our top five database certification picks for 2016 useful.

**Table 1: Job Board Survey**

Cert	SimplyHired	Indeed	Dice	LinkedIn	TechCareers	JustTechJobs	Total
<b>IBM Info Management</b>	69	58	6	9	0	498	<b>640</b>
<b>ICCP CBIP</b>	77	67	4	25	23	2	<b>198</b>
<b>ICCP CDMP</b>	5	118	4	72	23	113	<b>335</b>
<b>MTA DB</b>	29	7	2	1	4	10	<b>53</b>
<b>MCSA: SQL Server 2012</b>	102	46	3	24	24	19	<b>218</b>
<b>MCSE: Business Intelligence</b>	44	20	0	10	10	9	<b>93</b>
<b>MCSE: Data Platform</b>	47	24	1	16	15	15	<b>118</b>
<b>MongoDB/NoSQL</b>	453	156	35	100	18	13	<b>775</b>
<b>Oracle 11g</b>	1,532	599	90	163	277	55	<b>2,716</b>
<b>Oracle 12c</b>	480	260	61	111	435	10	<b>1,357</b>

Click through to see the details on these best database certifications.

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