# Do Scrum and agile certifications expire? CSM, PSM, SAFe, PMI and IICTP renewal compared

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Short answer: Scrum.org's PSM I and PSPO I do not expire. Scrum Alliance's CSM and CSPO need renewing every two years with Scrum Education Units (SEUs). SAFe Agilist needs 24 continuing education units per two-year cycle. PMI certifications, including PMP and PMI-ACP, renew every three years with PDUs, and IICTP credentials renew every three years with Technical Development Units (TDUs).

**TL;DR The short version**

- Scrum.org's PSM I and PSPO I do not expire, while Scrum Alliance's CSM and CSPO renew every two years with SEUs.
- SAFe Agilist needs 24 continuing education units per two-year cycle.
- Log learning as you go and choose activities that count for more than one credential, since late-renewal rules differ by issuer.

Read online, listen to it, or change the text size: https://blogs.iictp.org/do-scrum-certifications-expire-renewal-compared

| CERTIFICATION | EXPIRES? | WHAT RENEWAL NEEDS |
|---|---|---|
| **PSM I, PSPO I (Scrum.org)** | No | Nothing; Scrum.org calls them lifetime certifications |
| **CSM, CSPO (Scrum Alliance)** | Yes | SEUs, every two years |
| **SAFe Agilist (Scaled Agile)** | Yes | At least 24 CEUs in each two-year cycle |
| **PMP, CAPM, PMI-ACP and other PMI certifications** | Yes | PDUs over a three-year cycle |
| **IICTP CTP / ADP / ATP** | Yes | 60 / 45 / 30 TDUs every three years |

From each issuer's own page. Scrum Alliance, Scrum.org and Scaled Agile read 20 November 2026; PMI read 20 October 2026.

## Is a lifetime certification better?

It is cheaper and simpler to hold. The trade-off is that it says nothing about whether you have kept learning since. A renewal requirement is a small, regular signal that the holder is still active in the field. Neither approach is wrong; they answer different questions.

## How to make renewal painless

- Log learning as you go: courses, conference talks, books, mentoring and community work usually count, but check each issuer's categories.
- Choose activities that count for more than one credential when the rules allow it.
- Put the cycle end date in your calendar with a reminder several months before.
- Keep evidence, such as certificates and receipts, in case you are audited. See how PDUs work for PMI's process.

## What happens if you miss the date

Each issuer handles late renewal differently, so read its rules. For IICTP, there is a 90-day grace period after the cycle ends, during which the registry shows the credential as Suspended; after that it lapses and you re-sit the exam.

> Facts about Scrum Alliance, Scrum.org and Scaled Agile were read on their own websites on 20 November 2026; facts about PMI were read on pmi.org on 20 October 2026. Issuers change exams and rules, so check their pages before you book.

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### Sources and further reading

1. Scrum.org. Professional Scrum Master I certification. scrum.org/assessments/professional-scrum-master-i-certification. Read 20 November 2026.
2. Scrum.org. Professional Scrum Product Owner I certification. scrum.org/assessments/professional-scrum-product-owner-i-certification. Read 20 November 2026.
3. Scrum Alliance. Certified ScrumMaster (CSM). scrumalliance.org/get-certified/scrum-master-track/certified-scrummaster. Read 20 November 2026.
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5. Scaled Agile. SAFe Agilist certification (Leading SAFe). scaledagile.com/training/leading-safe. Read 20 November 2026.
6. PMI. Maintain your certification. pmi.org/certifications/certification-resources/maintain. Read 20 October 2026.
7. IICTP. Exam facts, eligibility and blueprints. iictp.org/certifications/exam-facts.

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