**Introduction**

Program Management Professional Exam (PgMP) ® is the most covert certification from the PMI Stable, we have 978 certified PgMP’s globally comprising, 19 from Australia (As on 1st November 2013), hence it’s still a niche certification to acquire.

PMI’s Program Management Professional (PgMP) ® credential recognizes the advanced experience and skill of program managers. Globally recognized and demanded, the PgMP® demonstrates your proven competency to oversee multiple, related projects and their resources to achieve strategic business goals.

PgMP® credential holders oversee the success of a program, grouping related projects together to realize organizational benefits not available if they were managed separately. It focuses on Program Benefits and outcomes, and outlines the role of a Program Manager v/s a Project Manager and the different Stakeholders involved

Program Management Professional PgMP® certification is tested on 5 domains and 72 tasks listed in Examination Content Outline (ECO)

The PgMP Certification has 2 steps evaluation process

**Evaluation 1**—Panel Review:

The initial evaluation occurs through an extensive application review during which a panel of credentialed program managers will assess your professional experience based on your responses to the Program Management Experience Summaries provided on the application.

**Evaluation 2**—Multiple-Choice Examination: The next step occurs with the multiple-choice examination in which you will be called upon to demonstrate your competence in both situational and scenario-based questions.

When you earn Program Management Professional -PgMP® certification through the Project Management Institute PMI®, you’ll position yourself for the best and most lucrative job opportunities. No matter what industry you choose to work in, PgMP® certification will be a huge asset as you move forward in your career. Not only does the credential itself carry prestige, but the skills and knowledge that you develop as you work towards attaining it will help you consistently deliver superior performance

### What other Program Managers think about PgMP

“It’s a door opener for new entrants in the field of project/program management”

"The PgMP certification at the beginning helped me to progress within my company. Some companies are already looking for program managers with PgMP certification and obtaining the certification makes the PM career progression easier. I always highlight the PgMP certification to distinguish myself from other PMs that don't have this certification."

"The holder of the PgMP credential gets an edge over other competitors only at the time of initial scrutiny of job profile and help build a trust factor in the customer."

"My PgMP credentials boosted my self-confidence and skills. My organization currently does not recognize, support or require the PgMP credential for any of our job classifications. I have promoted the value of PgMP credentials to colleagues and several have pursued acquiring this credential."

"I have found the PgMP to be a "door opener" -- the minimum requirement for most opportunities. After that, it's about how I apply the information, demonstrate leadership and apply the skills to program/project challenges that help advance my career."

**Advantages of PgMP**

It provides a common vocabulary and area of knowledge from within which those involved in program/project management can communicate more efficiently and effectively.

Growing popularity of the PgMP designation, though experiencing, is in general a good thing as it creates more visibility for the profession.

Unlike other certification, the PMBOK & all the PMI Standards provides a general framework and body of knowledge that will stay timely for years to come and gets updated.

Finally, good program managers will always be good managers regardless of having or not having the three letter designation next to their name, but why not increase our marketability and edge you gain by getting the certification?

Just go for it! I know the intense studying I did for it, definitely uncovered areas of program management I didn't really know about and the time, effort and money I put into it was definitely worth it.