

PECS® Certification Program™

Validate Knowledge & Demonstrate Competency in PECS Implementation

PECS® Level 1 Certified Implementer™

PECS® Level 2 Certified Implementer™

PECS® Certified Manager™

Program Overview

The Picture Exchange Communication System® (PECS®) is an evidence-based practice that is supported by a large body of research from around the world. PECS is successfully implemented when the protocol is carefully followed. To assure high quality implementation of PECS, Pyramid Educational Consultants offers a PECS Certification Program™. The process carefully monitors the knowledge and skills of implementers. There are three levels within the PECS Certification Program: PECS Level 1 Certified Implementer™, PECS Level 2 Certified Implementer™, and PECS Certified Manager™.

The first certification level requires completion of the PECS Level 1 Training, the PECS Level 1 Knowledge Examination and PECS Level 1 Demonstration. The second level of certification requires completion of PECS Level 1 Implementer Certification, the PECS Level 2 Training, the PECS Level 2 Knowledge Examination and PECS Level 2 Demonstration. In order to become a PECS Certified Manager, participants must complete the Pyramid Approach Basic Training, hold PECS Level 1 and PECS Level 2 Implementer certificates as well as complete additional courses and assignments provided by Pyramid Educational Consultants.

For those who are only interested in demonstrating their knowledge of PECS an examination that tests knowledge may be completed after PECS Level 1 or PECS Level 2 Trainings. By completing either a PECS Level 1 or PECS Level 2 Examination a PECS Knowledge Certificate will be awarded.

Program Goals

- Foster and maintain quality assurance of PECS implementation
- Enhance the effectiveness of PECS programs for learners
- Publicly acknowledge skills sets that are commensurate with each certification level
- Provide and assess the knowledge basis for appropriate PECS implementation
- Provide employers with a quality assurance tool to identify skilled PECS implementers

PECS® Levels 1 & 2 Certified Implementer™

The PECS Implementer Certification Program is designed for individuals who have completed PECS Training, who are committed to practicing high quality PECS implementation, and who are eager to demonstrate their knowledge and skills with regard to PECS and the Pyramid Approach to Education®.

PECS® Certified Manager™

To ensure the fidelity and accurate implementation of PECS, Pyramid Educational Consultants offers a range of trainings, onsite consultations, products and certification programs to provide educational and training institutions with support. We understand institutions need to balance budgets with the quality of services delivered. To accommodate these needs, Pyramid has designed the PECS Certified Manager Program as a supplementary service for organizations.

The PECS Certified Manager Program is available to those who have completed the PECS Levels 1 & 2 Certification Programs, attended the Pyramid Approach Basic Training and are interested in acquiring the necessary skills to become a Certified PECS specialist within their organization. Individuals who successfully complete this level can provide coaching, oversight, and supervision of PECS implementation, certify new PECS Implementers and present PECS Overviews™ to staff and families within their organization.

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PECS® Level 1 Certified Implementer™

PECS® Level 2 Certified Implementer™

PECS® Certified Manager™

The **PECS® Level 1 Certified Implementer™ Program** is designed to recognize individuals who have established their fundamental knowledge of PECS by demonstrating the practical application of all six phases of the protocol and a basic understanding of the Pyramid Approach to Education.

To become a PECS Level 1 Certified Implementer complete the following:

PECS® Level 1 Knowledge Examination™	PECS® Level 1 Practice Demonstration™
Individuals must demonstrate basic knowledge of the Pyramid Approach to Education and the PECS teaching protocols by completing the PECS Level 1 Knowledge Examination. Individuals who pass the examination will be issued the PECS Level 1 Knowledge Certificate (<i>This certificate is valid for two years from the date of completion</i>). After passing the examination continue onto PECS Level 1 Practice Demonstration.	Individuals must demonstrate basic competency in implementing the PECS teaching protocol and elements of the Pyramid Approach to Education. <u>Demonstration requirements include*</u> : <ul style="list-style-type: none">Demonstrating the teaching of Phases I through VI, including a basic attribute lesson <u>Written requirements include*</u> : <ul style="list-style-type: none">Submitting instructional plans, data sheets, and a written description of how PECS is being implemented within functional activitiesCompleting and submitting self-evaluations <i>*Please note that submissions will not be returned to applicant.</i>

Upon successful completion of these requirements certification applicant will be issued a PECS Level 1 Certified Implementer Certificate.

Benefits

- Certification valid for three (3) years
- The title, **PECS Level® 1 Certified Implementer™**, may be used as a professional description (e.g. resumes, curriculum vitae)
- Name displayed on www.pecs.com as a PECS Level 1 Certified Implementer
- 25% discount on attendance at any training sponsored by Pyramid Educational Consultants (only valid for mail, fax or phone registrations)
- Continue onto the PECS Level 2 Certified Implementer Program

Prerequisites:

- PECS Level 1 Training within six (6) months of application*

**Pyramid Educational Consultants is the sole provider of PECS Training. Only Certificates of Attendance issued by Pyramid Educational Consultants accepted.*

Requirements:

- PECS Level 1 Knowledge Examination
- PECS Level 1 Practice Demonstration

Length of Certification

- PECS Level 1 Certified Implementer status is valid for three (3) years from the date of completion

Cost

- PECS Level 1 Certified Implementer Program (Examination \$40.00 USD & Demonstration \$500.00 USD).....\$540.00 USD
Applicants may enroll in the complete PECS Level 1 Certified Implementer Program or register for the examination individually.

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PECS® Level 2 Certified Implementer™

PECS® Certified Manager™

The **PECS® Level 2 Certified Implementer Program™** is designed to recognize individuals who have established their advanced knowledge of PECS by demonstrating problem solving and advanced concepts, including how to incorporate PECS into many situations, how to expand vocabulary and sentence length and how to encourage commenting.

To become a PECS Level 2 Certified Implementer complete the following:

PECS® Level 2 Knowledge Examination™	PECS® Level 2 Practice Demonstration™
<p>The PECS Level 2 Knowledge Examination requires individuals to demonstrate problem solving and knowledge of teaching advanced skills in the PECS teaching protocol and the Pyramid Approach to Education.</p> <p>Individuals who pass the examination will be issued the PECS Level 2 Knowledge Certificate (<i>This certificate is valid for two years from the date of completion</i>).</p> <p>After passing the examination, continue onto the PECS Level 2 Practice Demonstration.</p>	<p>Individuals will demonstrate competency in implementing the advanced phases of the PECS teaching protocol and elements of the Pyramid Approach to Education.</p> <p><u>Demonstration requirements include*:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implementing PECS Phases I through VI within different functional activities• Teaching an attribute lesson with a learner• Teaching an advanced Phase VI lesson with a learner <p><u>Written requirements include*:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submitting instructional plans, data sheets, and a written description of how PECS is being implemented within functional activities• Describing how to solve common PECS implementation issues• Completing and submitting self-evaluations <p><i>*Please note that submissions will not be returned to applicant.</i></p>

Upon successful completion of these requirements certification applicant will be issued a PECS Level 2 Certified Implementer Certificate.

Benefits

- Certification valid for three (3) years
- The title, **PECS® Level 2 Certified Implementer™**, may be used as a professional description (e.g. resumes, curriculum vitae)
- Name displayed on www.pecs.com as a PECS Level 2 Certified Implementer
- 25% discount on attendance at any training sponsored by Pyramid Educational Consultants (only valid for mail, fax or phone registrations)
- Consideration for enrollment in the PECS Certified Manager Program

Prerequisites

- PECS Level 2 Certificate of Attendance
- PECS Level 1 Certified Implementer (current status)

Requirements

- PECS Level 1 Certified Implementer (current status)
- PECS Level 2 Knowledge Examination
- PECS Level 2 Practice Demonstration

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Length of Certification

- PECS Level 2 Certified Implementer status is valid for three (3) years from the date of completion.

Cost

- PECS Level 2 Certified Implementer Program (Examination \$40.00 USD & Demonstration \$500.00 USD).....\$540.00 USD

Applicants may enroll in the complete PECS Level 2 Certified Implementer Program or register for the examination only.

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PECS® Certified Manager™

The **PECS® Certified Manager Program™** is designed to recognize individuals who have demonstrated a mastery level of knowledge and skills related to analyzing and providing feedback on PECS implementation, delivering PECS Overviews, being familiar with Skinner's 1957 analysis of *Verbal Behavior*, and a clear understanding of the Pyramid Approach to Education. PECS Certified Manager Program requirements include attending the Pyramid Approach Basic Training, attending a PECS Manager Training, watching webcasts, demonstrating supervision skills, and completing examinations. Individuals who successfully complete these requirements will be issued a PECS Certified Manager Certificate.

The PECS Certified Manager Program is limited to individuals who implement PECS and who currently oversee staff who are actively implementing PECS within an educational, vocational or residential organization. This is not intended for individuals in private practice. All applicants must be approved by Pyramid Educational Consultants before enrollment in the program will be accepted.

Benefits

- Certification is valid for three (3) years
- The title, **PECS® Certified Manager™**, may be used as a professional description (e.g. resumes, curriculum vitae)
- Hands-on mentoring and feedback from a Pyramid Consultant throughout the certification process
- Name displayed on www.pecs.com as a PECS Certified Manager
- 50% discount on attendance at any training sponsored by Pyramid Educational Consultants (only valid for mail, fax or phone registrations)
- Participate in certifying staff as PECS Level 1 and/or PECS Level 2 Implementers (with prior permission from Pyramid)
- Present PECS Overviews (with prior permission from Pyramid) for up to 90 minutes to classroom teams and families of common learners within their place of employment
- Demonstrate PECS implementation to staff and families of common learners
- Coach and provide feedback for individuals within their organization about PECS implementation

Prerequisites

- Valid PECS Level 2 Certified Implementer Certificate
- Certificate of Attendance** for a Pyramid Approach Basic Training within one (1) year of application
- Applicant currently oversees and works with teams in an educational, vocational or residential organization
- Applicant must apply to the program at least six (6) months prior to the expiration of PECS Level 2 Certified Implementer status.

***Pyramid Educational Consultants is the sole provider of Pyramid Training. Only Certificates of Attendance issued by Pyramid Educational Consultants accepted.*

Length of Certification

- PECS Certified Manager status is valid for three (3) years from the date of completion.

Cost

- PECS Certified Manager Program.....\$1500.00 USD

Certificate Expiration Timelines: Please see the details below regarding the time frames for each available certification option

Certificate Level	Validation Period
Knowledge Examination	
PECS Level 1 Knowledge Examination	Two (2) Years
PECS Level 2 Knowledge Examination	Two (2) Years
Certified Implementer	
PECS Level 1 Certified Implementer	Three (3) Years
PECS Level 2 Certified Implementer	Three (3) Years
Certified Manager	
PECS Certified Manager	Three (3) Years
Recertification	
PECS Level 1 Implementer Recertification	Three (3) Years
PECS Level 2 Implementer Recertification	Three (3) Years

PECS® Recertification™

Individuals wishing to maintain their certification status may do so by enrolling in the PECS Recertification Program three (3) months prior to the expiration of their current certification level and successfully completing the requirements outlined to be recertified at their current level of certification.

PECS® Recertification™ Requirements

PECS Level 1 Certified Implementers: must complete training hours for professional development provided by Pyramid Educational Consultants and renewal demonstration requirements prior to the certificate expiration date.

- PECS Level 1 Certified Implementer Recertification Program.....\$200.00 USD

PECS Level 2 Certified Implementers: must complete training hours for professional development provided by Pyramid Educational Consultants and renewal demonstration requirements prior to the certificate expiration date.

- PECS Level 2 Certified Implementer Recertification Program.....\$200.00 USD

PECS Certified Managers: must complete training hours for professional development provided by Pyramid Educational Consultants and renewal demonstration requirements prior to the certificate expiration date.

- PECS Certified Manager Recertification Program.....\$400.00 USD

Certification Level Time Restrictions: The time frame for successful completion of each certification level is listed below. All assignments must be completed satisfactorily within the time allotted. Failure to complete the requirements within the time indicated will require applicants to re-register for the certification level and pay all associated fees.

Level 1 Knowledge Examination: Three (3) hours
 Level 1 Practice Demonstration: One (1) year from registration date
 Level 2 Knowledge Examination: Three (3) hours
 Level 2 Practice Demonstration: One (1) year from registration date

Certified Manager: One (1) year from registration date
 Level 1 Implementer Recertification: One (1) year from registration date
 Level 2 Implementer Recertification: One (1) year from registration date
 Certified Manager Recertification: One (1) year from registration date