TPM Specialist Certification Program

Guidelines

2026 Oct

[Note] Application Period [The 6th Period: 18 Jan – 17 Feb 2027]

公益社団法人 日本プラントメンテナンス協会
Japan Institute of Plant Maintenance

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1. Introduction - What is TPM Specialist Certification Program

The TPM Specialist Certification Program is a certification system in which Japan Institute of Plant Maintenance (JIPM) certify individuals as they are qualified to become leaders or evangelists for the correct promotion and dissemination of TPM (Total Productive Maintenance). The main target group is individuals regardless of the organization they belong to, e.g., TPM consultants, in-company promoters, interpreters, etc.

TPM, which was born in Japan in 1971, is widely recognized globally in the manufacturing industry, and the number of companies engaged in its activities is increasing. While it has been spreading globally in recent years, there have been some cases where improvement activities have failed to produce results due to a lack of correct knowledge of TPM. JIPM assume that this situation is caused by the fact that those who teach TPM are lack of correct knowledge, and that the companies receiving instruction are also promoting activities based on an incorrect understanding of TPM.

Under these circumstances, JIPM, the originator of TPM, decided to make a program to certify individuals with correct knowledge in order to prevent the spread of the wrong TPM and to further promote and encourage TPM activities.

1－1. Overview

The TPM Specialist Certification Program is for individuals involved in the promotion and dissemination of TPM activities. The program has four classes based on the knowledge or teaching achievements and awards of the applicant, and JIPM certify individuals who meet the requirements. JIPM will provide a certification card to each certificant and disclose their information on the JIPM web page. This allows not only the certificants but also the company requesting instruction to see their status.

In addition, certificants need to register with the TPM Network, registration-only site. This membership site will provide the latest information from JIPM, as well as members-only analysis data.

1－2. Advantages of Certification

The TPM Specialist Certification Program is basically intended for TPM consultants, in-company promoters, and interpreters. The advantages of program for each position are as follows.

・TPM consultants

JIPM certify that individuals have a certain level of knowledge and teaching achievements, and the consultant himself/herself can indicate it. JIPM also disclose information about certified TPM consultants on the web page, so clients can easily check the certification status.

・TPM in-company promoters

The process of certification will help you acquire the correct TPM knowledge. In addition, you will be able to indicate your certification, which will help to enhance your status as a TPM promoter within your company.

・TPM interpreters

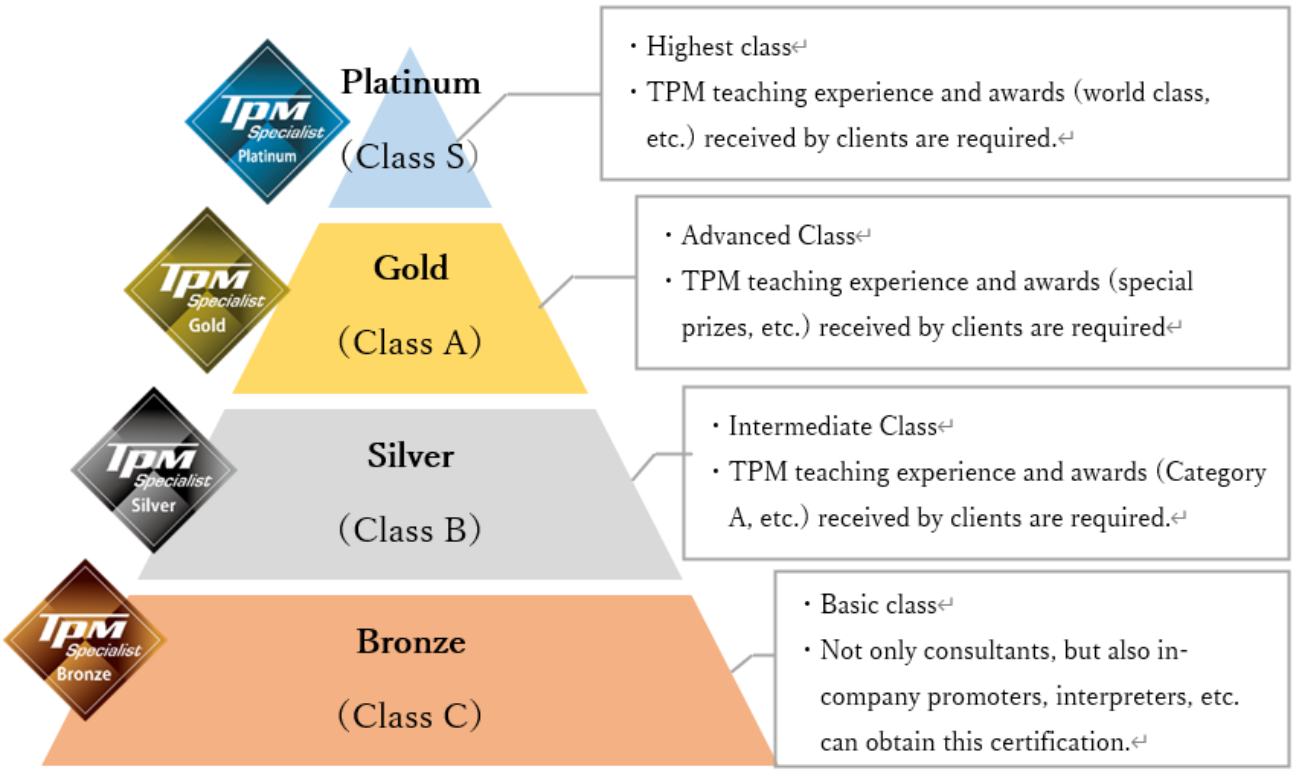
The process of certification will help you acquire the correct TPM knowledge. In addition, you will be able to indicate your certification, which will help you to prove to your clients that you are a knowledgeable interpreter.

2．Details of the Certification Program

The TPM Specialist Certification Program defines the applicants and requirements according to the class. Please check each section for details.

2－1．Classes

The TPM Specialist Certification Program has four classes, with Platinum (Class S) being the highest level, followed by Gold (Class A), Silver (Class B), and Bronze (Class C). Each class has different requirements, such as knowledge, teaching achievements, and courses.



2－2．Applicants

The TPM Specialist Certification Program is basically for TPM consultants, in-company promoters, and interpreters.

Please note that Platinum, Gold, and Silver classes require TPM teaching experience, so only consultants are qualified for these classes.

2 – 3. Requirements

Applicants and certification for each class are as follows

Class	Applicants	Requirements
Platinum (Class S)	・TPM consultants	・Meet all of the following consulting and awarded experiences ┌ World-class award :1 plant │ Special Award or above: 6 plants └ Category A or Consistent award: 10 plants ・Reports ・Gold certification*
Gold (Class A)	・TPM consultants	・Meet all of the following consulting and awarded experiences ┌ Special Award or above: 3 plants └ Category A or Consistent award: 5 plants ・Reports ・Silver certification*
Silver (Class B)	・TPM consultants	・Meet all of the following consulting and awarded experiences ┌ Category A or Consistent award: 3 plants └ TPM consulting: 5 plants ・Reports ・Bronze certification
Bronze (Class C)	・TPM consultants ・In-company promoters ・Interpreters	・Course Attendance (Online, equivalent to 3 days) ・Certification test

・Consulting achievements（for Platinum、Gold、Silver classes）

Platinum, Gold, and Silver classes require TPM consulting experience. To meet the requirements, the plant that applicants have guided receives the certain number of TPM Excellence Awards in each category. To prove experience, applicants must be named as a consultant on TPM award application each plant had submitted.

*** Relaxed requirements for Platinum and Gold classes**

: Limited to those certified by December 2026.

As an initial special treatment for the establishment of the certification program, the requirements for Platinum and Gold will be relaxed for certificants by December 2026 only. Those who already have an award-winning teaching partner will be able to register for classes based on their teaching achievement after receiving Bronze certification. (Registration fee is additional)

*** Applications for the Silver, Gold, and Platinum classes are scheduled to open during the January–February application period. Qualified consultants (Bronze-certified individuals) will be notified separately regarding the start date for applications. Please note that this requirement relaxation measure remains valid through the application period in January–February 2028; thereafter, it will no longer apply, even to those who obtained Bronze-class certification by December 2026.**

Class	General Requirements	Relaxed Requirements
Platinum (Class S)	・Consulting Achievements ・Reports ・Gold certification	・Consulting Achievements ・Reports ・**Bronze certification**
Gold (Class A)	・Consulting Achievements ・Reports ・Silver certification	・Consulting Achievements ・Reports ・**Bronze certification**

・Reports（for Platinum、Gold、Silver classes）

Platinum, Gold, and Silver classes require the submission of a report. The report must be written in either English or Japanese, and must include information on the content, achievements, and career history of applicants. Applicant can submit the report only in March, and September of each year. It will take about one month from submission to registration for certification (at the end of the following month).

・Bronze or higher certification（for Platinum、Gold、Silver classes）

The Platinum, Gold, and Silver classes require that applicants have enough knowledge of TPM. Therefore, it is necessary to have completed the Bronze certification requirements, which include attending a training course and certification test.

・Course Attendance（for Bronze class）

For the Bronze class, applicants are required to take a designated on-demand training course (in English). The course consists of approximately 15 hours of lectures (5 hours x 3 days). The course is offered on-demand* and it is available freely within given period (until the most recent test).

・Certification test（for Bronze class）

To be certified in the Bronze class, applicant must take a test after attending the training course (after the course period) and achieve a passing score. The test consists of written questions (answered in English or Japanese) related to TPM activities.

Passing score:　65 or more (out of 100)

Applicant can take the certification test only in March, and September of each year. It will take about one month from examination to registration for certification (at the end of the following month).

2－4．Fee

The TPM Specialist Certification Program requires fees to register for certification. The details and amounts of the fees are as follows.

Class	Fee for Certification
Bronze	・Course attendance/Test taking fee (per one time) : 300,000 yen *The test can be taken up to twice in one course (extra 30,000 yen for taking test a second time.) *No first registration fee (for 3 years) *Certificants will be listed on the web page.
Platinum Gold Silver	・Registration fee (for 3 years) : 150,000 yen *The above includes the certificate fee. *Certificants will be listed on the web page with photo.

・Registration fee

A fee is required to register for each class when you are certified. Registration is valid for three years and must be updated after that period to remain registered. Please note that for Platinum, Gold, and Silver, the fee includes verification of your experience, report review,

and certificate fee. **In addition, registered certificants will be listed on the web page.**

・Course attendance fee

This fee is required to attend the designated training course (on demand), which is a Bronze class requirement. The course is available freely within given period (until the most recent test).

・Test taking fee

This fee is required to take the test, which is a requirement for Bronze class. For one course attended, up to two tests can be taken. Please note that an additional fee is required to take the test a second time after failing the first test. If you fail the test twice, your knowledge is considered insufficient, and you must pay a new fee to take the JIPM-designated course again.

2－5．Indication of certification

In the TPM Specialist Certification Program, registrants will be listed on the JIPM web page as certified registrant information, and JIPM will provide them with a certification card. In addition, the certified class logo can be downloaded and used.

・Information to be disclosed on the JIPM Web page (https://jipmglobal.com/service/tpm-specialist)

—Platinum, Gold, Silver Registration ID, name, country/region, and photo

—Bronze Registration ID, name, country/region, and photo*

*For Bronze class photo publication is optional.

・Certification card

JIPM will provide you a certification card with the following information.

・Certificated class ・Name ・Date of birth ・Registered job title

・Registration ID ・Date of certification ・Photo

2 – 6. Update of Registration

The TPM Specialist Certification Program has a three-year registration period for all classes. To remain your registration, you must update your registration from the TPM Network's My Page and submit a report of your activities (teaching, awards, lectures, etc.) in the required format. Also, you will need to pay the registration fee for your class. In the renewal process, you will be required to submit a report of your activities (teaching, awards, lectures, etc.) in the given format.

*To update your Platinum, Gold, or Silver registration, you must have some consulting engagements within the last five years.

Class	Registration Fee
Bronze	・Registration fee (for 3 years) : 60,000 yen
Platinum Gold Silver	・Registration fee (for 3 years) : 150,000 yen

3．Application

To apply for TPM Specialist program, you must register with the TPM Network, JIPM's membership(registration-only) site. For information on registering with the TPM Network, please visit the following URL.

TPM Network https://jipmglobal.com/network/login

[Note]

- **The on-demand course is available via the cloud service 'Box'. The MP4 file is uploaded to Box, so please make sure you can access and use the following URL and password.**

  Box URL https://jipm-jp.box.com/s/3n25kua4t7vzscoil8pq6u70nj977vaj

  Password Specialist_trial

- **Payment can only be made by card (web).**
- **Once payment has been made, no refunds can be made for any reason.**

3－1．How to Apply

You can apply the certification from TPM Network. (https://jipmglobal.com/network/login)

The following information and data are required for the application process.

*The information in brackets indicates that it will be disclosed on the certification card or web page.

- Name (on the certification card/on the web page)
- Date of birth (on the certification card)
- Country where you are based（on the web page *optional for Bronze members)
- Type of occupation (on the certification card/on the web page *optional for Bronze members)
- Photo (on the certification card/on the web page *publication on the web page is optional for Bronze members)
- Organization *optional
- Current Activities *number of clients for regular guidance, etc.

3 – 2. Steps from Application to Registration for Certification

The steps from application to registration are as follows.

Please check the schedule for report submission and test in advance.

1）Register for the TPM Network

2）Apply for TPM Specialist Certification from TPM Network My Page

3）Payment of fees

*Credit card only

4）Attend a course (only for Bronze class) **[6th Period : from 18 Feb, 2027]**

*As a requirement for Platinum, Gold, and Silver certification, you must be certified to Bronze class.

***The on-demand course is available via the cloud service 'Box'. So please make sure you can access and use the following URL and password.**

Box URL https://jipm-jp.box.com/s/3n25kua4t7vzscoil8pq6u70nj977vaj

Password Specialist_trial

5）Bronze : Certification test **[6th Period : 9 – 23 Apr, 2027 (plan)]**

Platinum, Gold, Silver : Submit report

*Certificate test are available only two times each year in April, and September.

* It takes about one month (end of the following month) from taking the test and submission of the report to the registration for certification.

[Note]

Note that the test and report submission schedule vary depending on the month in which JIPM confirms payment of fee.

>Confirmation between March and August : September

>Confirmation between September and February : April

6）Registration for certification

After verification that the applicant meets the requirements of the class, he/she will be registered by JIPM as a TPM Specialist. JIPM will also disclose the certificants by the following.

・Certification Card Issuance

・Publication of information on JIPM's web page

The following information will be disclosed.

・Name (on the certification card/on the web page)

・Date of birth (on the certification card)

・Country where you are based（on the web page　*optional for Bronze members)
・Registered job title (on the certification card/on the web page　*the publication on the webpage is optional for Bronze members)
・Photo (on the certification card/on the web page　*optional for Bronze members)

3－3．Certification Registration Procedures (for Platinum, Gold, and Silver)*

Bronze (or higher) certification is required for Platinum, Gold, and Silver certification. Therefore, those who apply for higher class must have achieved Bronze certification (i.e., taken the designated training course and achieved a passing score on the test).

Apply again after receiving Bronze certification.

*** Applications for the Silver, Gold, and Platinum classes are scheduled to open during the January–February application period. Qualified consultants (Bronze-certified individuals) will be notified separately regarding the start date for applications. Please note that the requirement relaxation measure remains valid through the application period in January–February 2028; thereafter, it will no longer apply, even to those who obtained Bronze-class certification by December 2026. Applications for all ranks will be accepted starting in January 2027.**

Class	General Requirements	Relaxed Requirements
Platinum (Class S)	・Consulting Achievements ・Reports ・Gold certification	・Consulting Achievements ・Reports ・**Bronze certification**
Gold (Class A)	・Consulting Achievements ・Reports ・Silver certification	・Consulting Achievements ・Reports ・**Bronze certification**

3－4．Certification Update Procedures

TPM Specialist Certification Program registration is valid for three years. Update procedures and fees are required to continue the registration. The following information and data are necessary to update your registration.

1）Basic Information (if any changes have been made since before the Update)
2）Photo data
3）Reports showing achievements in teaching and awards (company certification required), TPM lectures, etc.

*You will be notified when it is time to update through the TPM Network's My Page.

*JIPM will provide you with a new certification card after the Update procedure is completed.

*If you do not update your registration after the expiration date, your registration will be suspended and your information on the JIPM web page will be deleted.

*Re-registration after the expiration date is possible, but only at the normal certified registration timing (two times a year).

<Note>

To update your Platinum, Gold, or Silver registration, you must have some consulting engagements within the last five years. Failure to prove consulting experience will suspend certification and registration.

4. Appendix

4－1. About TPM Network

To apply for TPM Specialist certification, you must register with the TPM Network, JIPM's membership site. Any changes in certification or registrant information can be managed through this web page. we plan to release not only new information from JIPM, but also useful information for membership only.

4－2. Cautionary Points

TPM Specialist Certification Program is to certify that individuals have a certain level of knowledge for TPM and teaching achievements, and JIPM does not provide consulting or other mediation services. Please do not use this certification as a basis for any excessive or false publicity, dissemination of information, or requests to clients or others.

e.g.: PR that you have been recommended by JIPM

Dissemination of false information that TPM awards cannot be received without guidance from a certified TPM specialist.

Excessive consulting fee claims on the basis of accreditation registration, etc.

4－3.【FYI】Contents of JIPM Designated Course for Bronze class (Table of Contents)

TPM Contents

1. TPM Overview

2. How to implement TPM
3. Loss
4. KPI&KAI
5. Focused improvement
6. Autonomous maintenance
7. Planned maintenance
8. Quality maintenance
9. Education and training to develop skill and knowledge
10. Development management
11. Improvement of the administrative and indirect departments
12. Safety, health and environment
13. JIPM Service

Additional Contents

1. Additional Explanation: Type & Relationship of Maintenance / Zero Break Down
2. Introduction of TPM Activity Examples
3. TPM with Digital Transformation
4. Q&A① : FAQs in TPM Activities from company perspective
5. Learning from TPM Excellence Award Winners' Data Analysis
6. Useful Speech from TPM Award Winners
7. Useful Column: Creating TPM Activity Book
8. Practice Problem
9. Preliminary Survey
10. Karakuri Kaizen
11. Q&A② : Questions and Answers to help move forward with TPM activities

4－4. Contact

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