



Windows Server® 2008

ISV Early Access Programs: Getting Started

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Work Flow Process

- 1. Microsoft Partner Program Account ID:** Regardless of business size, type, or area of focus, the Microsoft Partner Program offers resources to help you meet your business objectives. Becoming a member of the Microsoft Partner Program can open new windows of opportunity for you and for your organization. Enrolling is easy. And it takes only about 15 minutes. Simply follow the steps to enroll in the program by logging onto <https://partner.microsoft.com> and selecting "Enroll in the Microsoft Partner Program."

Once you have acquired this Account ID you will be able to use this information to log into the Windows Software Server 2008 Early Access Program in Step #2.

- 2. Learn More About Windows Software Server 2008 Early Access Program:** Using your Windows Partner Program Account ID, log onto www.innovateonwindowsserver.com and review the Works with Windows Server 2008 and Certified for Windows Server 2008 materials, and determine which program is appropriate for your application. If you have any questions as to which program would be best suited for your organization you can contact the Windows Server Early Access Program by sending an email to wslogoea@microsoft.com
- 3. Enrollment and Application Profiling:** Enrolling as a user on Innovate on Windows Server and profiling your application is a requirement to request participation in the Works with and Certified for Early Access Programs. From the www.innovateonwindowsserver.com site simply click on the Enroll Now button and begin profiling your applications. During this short (5 question) process you will be asked to provide contact information for you and your organization, as well as information about your application, version number, target dates for testing, and general release, as well as which solution path (Works with or Certified for) you have chosen for your applications

Note: you can enroll multiple applications and you can revise your profile data from the solution dashboard. Profiling an application is very easy and is a simple 7 question process. Once you have completed enrollment and profiling your application, you will receive an email from Microsoft (within 5 business days) notifying you of your acceptance into the Early Access Program.

In addition to enrolling and profiling your application on this site you will also want to download the following tools:

- [Windows Server Release Candidate](#) – Evaluation copy
- [Certification Tool for x86 \(only for applications pursuing "Certified for" status\)](#) – Use this tool to run Windows Server 2008 certification in-house. Please note that all certification testing will be conducted on the 64-bit version of Windows Server 2008. It is acceptable if applications don't run natively on 64-bit and rely on the Microsoft WOW64 emulator to maintain compatibility with 64-bit versions of Windows.

- **[Certification Tool for x64 \(only applications pursuing "Certified for" status\)](#)** – Use this tool to run Windows Server 2008 certification in-house, this is the same tool the authorized test vendors use.
- **[Works with Tool](#)** – Designed for testing Works with applications this highly automated tool can also be used on Certified for applications to quickly determine baseline compatibility with Windows Server 2008.
- **[Systems State Analyzer Tool](#)** – Create multiple snapshots of fixed drives, registry settings, drivers, and services at different points in time and compare the differences during your testing and development cycles.

- 4. Establish a Microsoft Winqual Account:** Your company may already have a Windows Quality Labs (Winqual) account. If so, check with your Winqual account administrator for your company's Winqual access credentials. If you are unsure whether-or-not your organization has a Winqual account you can check by going into the "Establish an Account" page and search for your company under the "Search Company" drop down box.

If you do not currently have a Winqual account, you will need to create one before starting the submission process by logging into <https://winqual.microsoft.com> and selecting the "Establish an Account" button. All Winqual accounts require a VeriSign Digital ID which allows Microsoft to identify your organization on the Winqual site. This validation ensures that only you can communicate information about your products to Microsoft. It also ensures that the right information about your application is received. This allows Microsoft to share your application's logo status with Windows Server 2008 customers.

Within Winqual, your digital certificate enables you to establish an organization account for your company. There are two VeriSign certificates that Winqual supports for establishing an account for your company.

Note: Although VeriSign offers two classes of Digital ID, Microsoft recommends that all Partners and ISV's use the VeriSign Microsoft Authenticode Code Signing Digital ID, which is significantly more versatile and will allow you to sign executable files, device drivers and kernel mode drivers.

- **[VeriSign 'Microsoft Authenticode' Code Signing Digital ID \(\\$399 USD\)](#)** – The Code Signing digital ID is more versatile, and is the accepted standard for establishing ownership of code. Some applications within Winqual require the use of a Class 3 code signing certificate (examples are: Hardware Logo signatures, Driver reliability signatures, and Driver Verification Testing). Using a code signing certificate enables you to digitally sign your 32-bit or 64-bit .exe (PE files), .cab, .dll and .ocx, files.

- 5. Logging into Microsoft Winqual and Creating an XML Submission Package:** Once you have established a Winqual account you will need to log in <https://winqual.microsoft.com> and create an XML Package with Product ID. You will need this file in Step #8.

Note: If your application includes device drivers or filter drivers it must have documented proof of passing the Windows Hardware Quality Labs tests prior to your applications submission to the test vendor. Visit the <https://winqual.microsoft.com> website for more information.

- 6. Select and engage a Test vendor:** The following Microsoft approved test vendors are ready to test and qualify your applications.

- **VeriTest**
 - **Web site:** [Click here](#)
 - **Email:** windowscert@veritest.com
 - **Phone:**
 - **United State:** +1 (425) 468-1108
 - **France:** +33 (0)1 5605 2919
 - **PR China:** +86 (0)10 6528 0568 x254
- **Wipro**
 - **Web site:** [Click here](#)

- **Email:** server-certify@wipro.com
- **United States;** +1 (425) 577-5035

7. Pretesting (Certified for applications ONLY): If you are part of the Works with program you can skip this step, pretests are only available for Certified for applications.

Microsoft highly recommends you take advantage of the pretesting promotion. Pretesting empowers ISVs, with minimal resource investment, to determine how an application performs against a key subset of Certified for Windows Server 2008 test cases. This service is conducted by the authorized test vendor and additional pretesting for specific test cases can also be performed – contact the test vendor for details.

For ISVs and Partners who are participating in the Certified for testing, Microsoft is offering a US \$1,500 pretest subsidy towards pretest services conducted prior to February 1, 2008. To participate in this program:

- **Contact** – Your test vendor (VeriTest or Wipro)
- **Test vendor Agreements** – Complete your test vendor agreements
- **Supply Pretest Code** – Provide your test vendor with your code.
- **Request** – A pretest fee waiver authorization form through your test vendor, who will request authorization on your behalf with Microsoft – prior to starting pretesting.

8. Testing Works with Applications (ONLY): If you are a part of the Certified for program you can skip this step.

Microsoft is offering a US \$500 subsidy through February 26, 2008, which covers the entire fee to validate your Works with test results. This subsidy is available to the first 300 applications in the Works with Early Access Program that submit passing test results to the authorized test vendor by February 26, 2008.

To participate in this program:

- [Download The Works with Tools and the latest Windows Server 2008 Release Candidate](#) – From Step #3.
- [Download The Test Specifications and Test Framework Documents](#) – For reference.
- **Contact** – Your authorized test vendor (VeriTest or Wipro) See Step #6.
- **Test vendor Agreements** – Will need to be completed with your authorized test vendor, VeriTest or Wipro.
- **Run the Automated Works with Tool** –
- **Technical Questions** – leverage the [moderated technical forum on MSDN](#)
- **Verify** – Your test report summary to ensure that each test case is listed as a “Pass” and the overall test is rated as a “Pass”. Some modification of your application’s code may be necessary to achieve a successful test pass.
- [Technical Waiver](#) – In rare occasions an ISV might feel it is necessary to ask for a technical waiver on a specific test case. In these instances the ISV will need to request the waiver through their test vendor who will send the request to Microsoft for evaluation.
- **Forward** –Your XML Product ID from Winqual Step #4 above and FTP your encrypted submission package to your Authorized Test vendor.

Note: These logs are automatically encrypted and binary serialized as part of the Works with tool when you build the submission package. Applications may be submitted in any

language. However, the testing process and communication with the test vendor may be conducted in English only.

- **Request** – A Works with test fee subsidy authorization form through your test vendor, who on your behalf will contact Microsoft and request this subsidy – prior to the test vendor opening the submission package.
- **Successful Test** – Once your application has been validated by the test vendor, the test vendor (utilizing your previously established Winqual XML Product ID Step #4) will transmit the successful test results to Winqual. This process will automatically place the new Works with application into the next update of the [Windows Server Catalog](#). For questions regarding catalog placement Partners and ISV's can send email to wscat@microsoft.com.
- **Failed Test** – The retest fee is US \$350. The Microsoft subsidy promotion does not cover this fee.

9. Testing Certified for Applications (ONLY): If you are part of the Works with program you can skip this step.

For the first 50 enrolled applications that successfully complete their certification testing prior to February 26, 2008, Microsoft is offering a test fee subsidy up to US \$10,000. Average certification test fees for most applications are US \$8,000-10,000 depending on the test vendor and the complexity of your application.

To participate in this program:

- [Download The Certified for Tools and the latest Windows Server 2008 Release Candidate](#) – From Step #3.
- **Contact** – Your test vendor (VeriTest or Wipro) and establish a billing method.
- **Pretest** – Participate in the pretest program if applicable, See Step #7. Microsoft recommends that you complete pretesting and in-house testing prior to submitting an application for certification testing.
- **Send Your Application Media to your Test vendor** – Utilizing your Winqual account (See Step #4) you will need to transmit your XML Product ID and your application media to your authorized test vendor. The test vendor will supply you with an FTP site for this submission.
Note: Applications may be submitted in any language. However, the testing process and communication with the test vendor may be conducted in English only.
- [Technical Waiver](#) – In rare occasions an ISV might feel it is necessary to ask for a technical waiver on a specific test case. In these instances the ISV will need to request the waiver through their test vendor who will send the request to Microsoft for evaluation. Requesting a technical waiver before the authorized test vendor begins testing your application will save the ISV both time and money.
- **Run Tests** – Work with your test vendor to run the entire set of Certified for test cases. During the testing process, issues will be escalated from the technical forum to our second tier support – the Windows Server Logo Feedback alias. You can email questions that have been escalated to the Windows Server Logo Feedback alias at wslogofb@microsoft.com.
- **Technical Questions** – leverage the [moderated technical forum on MSDN](#)
- **Failed Test** – It is the responsibility of the ISV to work with their test vendor to assure a successful test. In many cases tests fail due to the lack of appropriate documentation, test code not available, or testing has been indefinitely suspended due to a lack of response from the ISV. Microsoft testing subsidies only apply to **SUCCESSFUL** test results which meet the minimum standards of the Early Access Program. Contact your authorized test vendor to determine the retest fee structure.

- **Successful Test** – Once your applications has successfully passed testing your test vendor will notify Microsoft and will apply for a test fee subsidy on the ISV's behalf. If a test fee subsidy is authorized by Microsoft, the test vendor will deduct those subsidies from the ISV's total bill and forward an invoice to the ISV for any remaining amounts due. Finally, the test vendor utilizing your previously established Winqual XML Product ID (Step #4) will transmit the successful test results to Winqual.
- **Sign the Logo License Agreement** – After the test vendor has transmitted the successful test results to Winqual, the ISV will need to log into their Winqual account and execute the Logo Licensing Agreement. Once this agreement is signed the newly Certified for application will automatically be placed into the next update of the Windows Server Software 2008 Catalog. For questions regarding catalog placement partners can send email to wscat@microsoft.com .