

1. What is Malaysian Software Testing Board (MSTB)?

- An organization that represents the national industry interests and promotes the broad profession of software testing and requirements engineering.
- An industry-driven initiative; established as a national board.
- Pro-team Committee initiated in June 2006.
- Established as a Company Limited By Guarantee (CLG), under Malaysian law, in June 2008.
- Accepted as ISTQB board member on 4th December 2006.
- Represents Malaysia in ISO 29119 working group.
- Support national-level standards for software and testing professionals.
- Regulates:-
 - I. Accreditation process for software industry
 - II. Certification & qualification process amongst ICT professionals
- Promotes development of common body of understanding about software testing and requirements engineering.
- Alignment with International Software Testing Qualifications Board (ISTQB).
- Alignment with International Requirement Engineering Board (IREB).

2. Who is ISTQB (International Software Testing Qualification Boards)?

- Officially founded as an International Software Testing Qualifications Board in Edinburgh, Scotland, in November 2002. Subsequently, registered as a legal entity under Belgium law.
- Introduced the international qualification scheme called “ISTQB Certified Tester”. The qualifications are based on a syllabus, and there is a hierarchy of qualifications and guidelines for accreditation and examination.
- The scheme is internationally accepted and currently there are 45 Board Members representing 55 countries ,
i.e. one board in one country, hence MSTB represents Malaysia in the ISTQB.
- There are 130,000 certified testers world wide as at October 2009.

3. Who is IREB (International Requirements Engineering Board)?

- Founded in Fürth, Germany, in October 2006. IREB e.V. is a legal entity based in Germany.
- IREB e.V. was registered as an association under German law.
- The members are international experts and active advocates of requirements engineering from business, industry, research and education organizations.
- Introduced the international qualification scheme called "**IREB Certified Professional for Requirements Engineering (CPRE)**". The qualifications are based on a syllabus and guidelines for accreditation and an examination.

4. What is MSTB doing?

- As a member of the ISTQB, MSTB provides the leadership and regulates the ISTQB accreditation process and certification regulations for the Malaysian software industry.
- As a representative of the IREB, MSTB regulates the IREB certification regulations for the Malaysian software industry.
- The above is delivered through promoting the development of a common body of understanding and knowledge about software testing and requirements engineering, via alignment with ISTQB's & IREB's programs that are internationally recognized.

5. What is the Malaysia Software Testing Hub (MSTH) program?

It's a Government-Industry Partnership program funded by the Malaysian Government, via EPU (Economic Planning Unit), with supervision by SIRIM, to establish a new economic thrust for Malaysia.

6. What is the objective the program?

- To incubate a testing hub that is internationally competitive.
- To stimulate the local software testing as an independent industry.
- To introduce an innovative apprenticeship (scholarship) scheme as a capacity and capability development model for Q-Workers, with the participation of the private industries having strategic talent pool, for a new cluster for national competitiveness.
- Promote "innovative or industry-friendly" policies to the Government for implementation so as to ensure the program objectives can be achieved. Ultimately, to promote policies that can ensure that the initiatives developed within the MSFTH are achievable.
- Develop a viable sustainability model in support of software product certifications and endorsements, by independent IV&V, for export to international markets which is in line with the government's economic objective.

7. What is the scope of the program?

The scope of this program covers:

- Training & certification of a talent pool through a **specified apprenticeship (scholarship)** program via Q-Capability (Q-Cap) program. The talent Pool are selected and offered after going through a stringent selection process.
- **Q-Lab program** that is the setup of **testing facilities (or Q-Lab)** accommodating approximately 100 apprentices (scholars) as Test Professionals. This includes establishing Testing clusters and securing local & international clients in collaboration with the GoM ministries and agencies such as MATRADE.

- **Q-Industry program**, that is to promote a mindset change on the importance of testing in all Quality Assurance activities across the industries.
- **Q-Cap program for the industry**, where selected individuals are to be certified as qualified testers. These individuals **MUST be selected, recommended and “guaranteed” by their own organization** to participate in this unique initiative. A set of criteria are available upon request through info@mstb.org.

8. How long does the Program last?

18 months starting 1st May 2009 and ends in October 2010.

9. What is the Q-Lab?

One of the Sub Program of Malaysian Software Testing Hub (MSTH) – the testing facilities which provide the latest testing tools, methodologies and infrastructure that supports high end testing works and activities.

10. What are the apprenticeships (scholarship) being offered under the Q-Lab?

- Test Manager
- Test Analyst
- Tester
- Trainer
- Consultant

11. When will the commencement of the apprenticeship (scholarship) if selected?

As soon as possible upon approval from MSTB.

12. Is it a full time and permanent job?

- None of the above. It's an apprenticeship (scholarship) program via structured recruitment process to jump start the program so as to achieve its objectives.
- It's a full time posting of until end of 2010, which maybe extended upon the future evaluation of the MSTH program by the GoM.

13. What are the salaries and benefit?

There are no salaries since it's an apprenticeship (scholarship) program except that, scholarship allowances which are equivalent to the industry remunerations, are offered during the whole duration of the program. The quantum will commensurate with the experience of the individual or professional selected.

14. Where is the location of the Q-Lab?

It is situated in the Q-Lab model office at Puchong Jaya , Selangor Darul Ehsan .

15. Will MSTB assist me to move?

No, however, MSTB shall be able to assist as a facilitator on a case to case basis.

16. Will MSTB provide any lodging?

No, however, MSTB shall provide assistance on a case to case basis.

17. Are there any trainings provided and exams to be taken in the Q-Lab?

- MSTB provides both training and exams towards achieving certification for the (scholars) apprentices.
- The Training Program uses “International Software Testing Qualification Board” (ISTQB) accredited courses as well as IREB’s accredited Course:
 - I. Certified Tester: Foundation Level (CTFL)
 - II. Certified Professional – Requirements Engineering (CP-RE)
- Other training:-
 - I. Tools & Technology related
 - II. Process & Methodologies related

18. What type of technology used by MSTB in the Testing Hub?

The program uses:-

- Various tool-supported test automation for test projects execution, including:
 - Test Script Generator
 - Test Management Tool
 - Static Analysis Tool
 - Automated Test Execution Tool
- Implementation of various leading test workbenches for in-house implementation:
 - Technology Independent

19. Who are the trainers?

- Consultants.
- Practitioners.

20. What are our assignments in Q-Lab?

Real life test projects located in Malaysia which may include special assignment overseas.

21. Any penalties if withdraw half way?

Yes, penalties will be imposed as all selected participants are required to complete the program in order to meet and fulfills the government objectives and the intents. An apprenticeship (scholarship) program contract will be offered to eligible candidates.

22. Can anybody apply?

Yes, based on the following criteria: -

- Open to Malaysian Citizen only.
- Applicants must have completed tertiary education level in the fields of engineering, sciences, technical or IT.
- Notes:
 - The program includes sponsorship for the CTFL Training and the CTFL Exam.
 - The program includes sponsorship for the CPRE Training and the CPRE Exam.
 - ALL application is subject to evaluation and approval by MSTB. Successful applicants will be notified.

23. Public transportation availability to Testing Hub?

Yes, there is number of public transportation available within the vicinity such as buses, Taxi & LRT (Light Railway Transit).

24. What will happen to me after the end of the program?

- The apprentice (scholar) is accredited as a Professional Tester which may be offered job opportunities by MSTB partners. Nevertheless, the apprenticeship (scholarship) provides a strong foundation towards becoming a consultant, trainer or practitioner.
- MSTB aspires that the successful “apprentices (scholars)” will be offered longer term contracts with the Testing Hub.

---- MSTB wishes all applicants Good Luck ----