GSDC
Global Skill Development Council

ABICB
Accreditation Board for International Certification Bodies

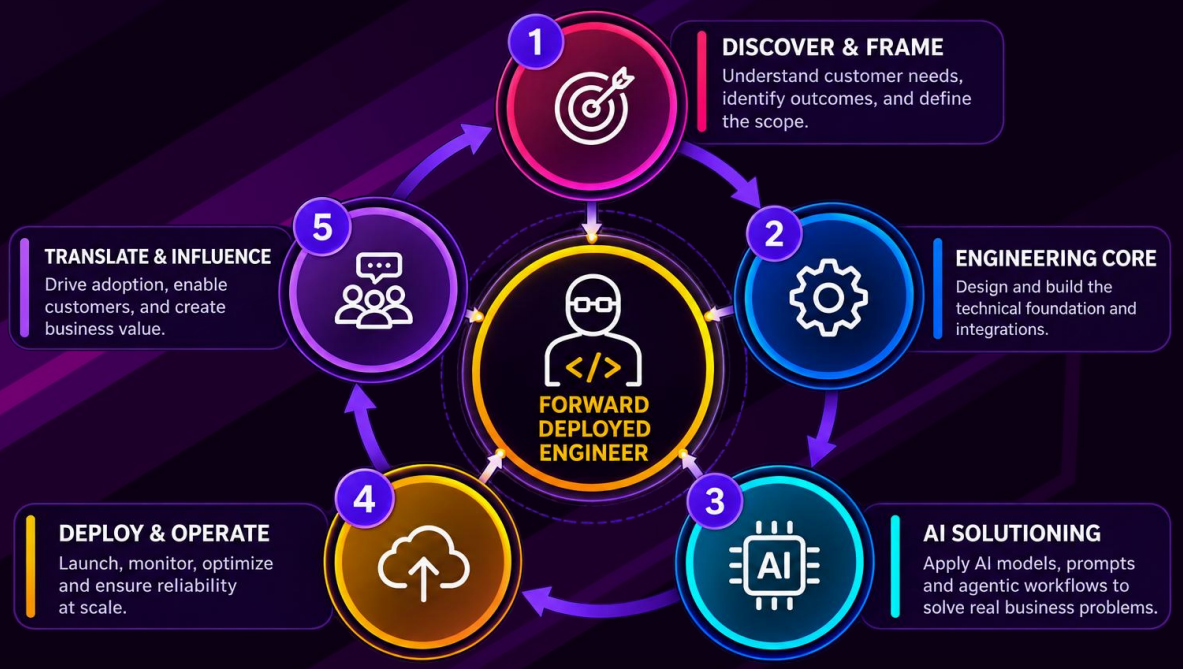
IAS
ACCREDITED
Personnel Certification Body

WORLD'S MOST RECOGNIZED CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Certified Forward Deployed Engineer

Build, deploy and deliver production AI where engineering meets the customer.

50+	15 hrs	13
Hours of learning	Live training	Modules



- ✓ Globally recognized GSDC certification
- ✓ Learn by doing with 3 deployed AI projects
- ✓ Daily live sessions from global experts
- ✓ Two exam attempts & lifetime access

Offered by Global Skill Development Council (GSDC) · an IAS accredited certification body under ISO/IEC 17024

WHO WE ARE

About GSDC

250,000+	100+	500+	100+
Professionals certified worldwide	Certifications in the portfolio	Fortune companies associated	Global training partners

- Independent, vendor-neutral organization offering certifications in emerging technologies and skill-based frameworks
- Established in 2016 with offices in the US, Singapore and Switzerland
- Certification exams designed by SMEs across the globe
- Supported by thought leaders from Yale, MIT, Stanford, Wharton and Harvard
- Portfolio spans Generative AI, L&D, Cyber Security, ISO Auditing and more

TRUST SCORE

REVIEWS.io
GLOBAL SKILL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL REVIEWS
4.8/5 RATING

96%
Of reviewers recommend
Global Skills Development Council

Trustpilot

Our Excellent
4.5 RATINGS

FEATURED IN

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GSDC is an IAS Accredited Certification Body

IAS ACCREDITED™ Personnel Certification Body

ISO/IEC 17024

Accredited under the international standard for personnel certification bodies – PCB 168

GSDC is accredited by IAS as a personnel certification body under ISO/IEC 17024. This independent accreditation confirms GSDC's competence and capability to develop and maintain professional certification programs in line with internationally recognized standards.

IAS is a nonprofit, public-benefit accreditation body that has operated since 1975, with programs built on recognized national and international standards. It holds signatory status across major multilateral arrangements — APAC, IAF, and ILAC — ensuring GSDC's accreditation is accepted worldwide.

ABICB Accreditation Board for International Certification Bodies

Also accredited by ABICB

WHAT YOU WILL MASTER

The 15 Skills Every FDE Needs

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01 Discover & Frame	02 Engineering Core	03 AI Solutioning	04 Deploy & Operate	05 Translate & Influence
Customer Discovery & Context Mapping	Production Software Engineering	Model & Method Judgment	Deployment, Cloud & MLOps	Stakeholder Mgmt & Trusted Advisor
Problem Framing & Decomposition	Backend & API Design	LLM Systems & Retrieval	Reliability, Security & Compliance	Executive Storytelling & Demo Craft
Business Value & ROI Modelling	Data & Systems Integration	Agentic Systems & Orchestration	Adoption & Change Management	Product Feedback Loop & Scale

Technical · Business & client · Product

ENROLL NOW · Use code UPSKILL10 for 10% OFF

Why become a Forward Deployed Engineer?

1. The CFDE program equips professionals with the technical and professional skills needed to work at the front line of AI and software deployment with enterprise clients.

2. It combines production engineering fundamentals with real-world client engagement skills, so you can build, deploy and deliver AI-powered solutions in live enterprise environments.

3. Through GSDC's Learn by Doing approach you gain hands-on experience with Python engineering, API design, LLM workflows, RAG, agentic AI and full-stack deployment, building three deployed services and an individual capstone.

Validates expertise across the complete FDE lifecycle, for roles in AI deployment, enterprise consulting and technical client delivery.

WHAT YOU GET

Key Highlights & Lifelong Learning

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GSDC LIFELONG LEARNING

Certification is the start, not the finish.

1. **Your learning program**
   Live training, videos, Book of Knowledge, SME Connect, 3 projects
2. **CFDE certification**
   Pass the exam and earn your certificate and badge
3. **Lifelong learning**
   Complimentary, continuous, no expiry

- 15 hours of complimentary live training
- Self-paced expert-led videos, lifetime access
- Learn by Doing challenges
- GSDC Studio daily live sessions
- SME Connect (1-on-1)
- Book of Knowledge & templates
- AI-powered capstone project
- Exam + 1 free retake & 2 practice exams
- Gamified assessments
- GSDC AI Utility & Copilot
- AI interview practice platform
- Job support + GSDC Membership ($109)

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WHO IS THIS FOR?

Built for engineers who want to be customer-facing

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1

Software & Backend Engineers

who want to move closer to customers and build, deploy and own production AI systems.

2

Solutions, Pre-sales & Customer Engineers

who want deeper hands-on engineering skills to scope, prototype and deliver AI solutions.

3

ML & AI Engineers

who want to take models beyond notebooks into deployed, monitored services.

4

Technical Consultants & Recent Graduates

who want a structured path into forward deployed engineering roles.

HOW IT WORKS

The FDE Journey

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01

Discover & Frame

Customer discovery, problem framing and readiness assessment.

02

Project 1

Rule-based service: rule engine + SQL, wrapped in an API and deployed.

03

Project 2

ML service: ML + SQL/NoSQL API, deployed and monitored.

04

Project 3

RAG + agents + frontend: deployed, scaled, evaluated.

05

Translate & Influence

ROI framing, adoption, executive narratives and roadmap.

★

Capstone & Mentoring

Individual capstone, then mentoring on a live client problem.

Three deployed services of escalating complexity, then an individual capstone and mentoring on your first real client engagement.

Industry Case Studies You Will Work On

BANKING & FINANCE

Loan Processing

Thousands of SME loan files a month

1. Scattered documents
2. Inconsistent credit decisions
3. Good borrowers lost

10 days → 1 day loan decision time

Discovery: Reading the documents, not the credit model.

HEALTHCARE

Hospital Discharge

500 beds, hundreds of discharges a day

1. Notes in separate systems
2. Beds blocked for hours
3. Billing leakage

6 hrs → 90 min patient discharge time

Discovery: Writing the summary, not the sign-off.

RETAIL & E-COMMERCE

E-commerce Returns

Thousands of return requests a day

1. Unstructured requests
2. Inconsistent approvals
3. Return fraud

5 days → 2 hrs refund decision time

Discovery: Judging the evidence, not paying the refund.

MANUFACTURING

Machine Downtime

200 machines; one stop halts the line

1. Unread sensor data
2. Reactive maintenance
3. Costly stoppages

12 hrs → 2 hrs monthly downtime per line

Discovery: Linking sensor alerts to past repair logs.

LOGISTICS & SUPPLY CHAIN

Shipment Exceptions

50,000 parcels a day; many delayed

1. Alerts in every format
2. Manual firefighting
3. Penalties and complaints

24 hrs → 1 hr exception resolution time

Discovery: Spotting which exceptions will miss delivery.

TELECOM

Customer Churn

Thousands of complaints a day

1. Complaints everywhere
2. Repeat complaints
3. Silent churn

3 days → 4 hrs complaint resolution time

Discovery: Linking complaints to network issues and churn.

CURRICULUM

13 Modules: From FDE Mindset to Client Delivery

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MODULE 1
FDE Mindset & Problem Structuring

- FDE role vs ML Engineer, Architect, Consultant
- Business-to-technical translation
- First-principles and MECE decomposition

MODULE 2
Production-Ready Python

- Clean, modular, testable functions
- Project structure and configuration
- Error handling, logging, defensive code

MODULE 3
Backend Development & API Design

- REST, HTTP and request-response flow
- FastAPI routes, dependencies, async
- API keys, JWT and API testing

MODULE 4
Data Engineering & Pipeline Thinking

- How data moves through systems
- ETL vs ELT, batch vs streaming
- SQL, NoSQL and vector databases

MODULE 5
ML Foundations & Model Lifecycle

- Supervised, unsupervised, RL
- Training, validation, evaluation
- MLflow and W&B experiment tracking

MODULE 6
Deep Learning & NLP Essentials

- Neural networks and backpropagation
- Transfer learning, pre-trained models
- Tokenization, embeddings, attention

MODULE 7
Prompt Engineering & LLM Workflows

- Zero-shot, few-shot, chain-of-thought
- System prompts and structured output
- ReAct, self-consistency, reflection

MODULE 8
Retrieval-Augmented Generation

- Chunk, embed, retrieve, generate
- FAISS, Chroma and Pinecone
- RAG failure modes and fixes

MODULE 9
Agentic Systems & Orchestration

- Reasoning and tool use
- Tool and function calling
- Multi-step agents and planning loops

MODULE 10
UI Integration & Rapid Prototyping

- Why UI matters with clients
- Streamlit layout, widgets, state
- Connecting UI to backend APIs

MODULE 11
Deployment, MLOps & Cloud

- Git workflows and Docker
- AWS, Azure and GCP basics
- Monitoring, logging, observability

MODULE 12
Client Engagement & Consulting

- Discovery and stakeholder mapping
- Scoping workshops and requirements
- Business case and ROI

MODULE 13
Demo, Storytelling & Delivery

- Structuring demos for impact
- Problem, insight, solution, impact
- Live demos under uncertainty

ASSESSMENT
Certification Exam

40	90	65%	2	EN	5 yrs
MCQ	Minutes	Passing	Attempts	Language	Validity

YOUR CREDENTIAL

CFDE Certificate & Digital Badge

A Globally Recognized Certificate From GSDC

- Valid for 5 years
- Shareable digital badge for LinkedIn, your resume and email signature
- Show employers you are skilled to international standards
- Lifetime access to all learning resources.
- Lifetime access to daily 1-hour live sessions from global experts.
- GSDC Membership worth $109

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Where our learners work & what they say

OUR ALUMNI WORK AT

TECHNOLOGY	Capgemini, Microsoft, Google, IBM, TCS (Tata Consultancy Services), Infosys
MANUFACTURING	SIEMENS, GE, Bosch, Mitsubishi, Honeywell, 3M
AUTOMOBILE	Toyota, BMW, Mercedes-Benz, Tesla, Honda, Ford, Hyundai
HEALTHCARE	Johnson & Johnson, Pfizer, Medtronic, Abbott, Roche, GE HealthCare
ENERGY & POWER	Shell, bp, Schneider Electric, Siemens Energy, ExxonMobil, Chevron
BFSI	mastercard, Bank of America, VISA, J.P.Morgan, citi, HSBC, American Express, PayPal

SUCCESS STORIES

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YOUR NEXT STEP

READY TO ADVANCE YOUR CAREER?

Become a Certified Forward Deployed Engineer. Enroll as an individual, or bring GSDC for Business to your team.

ENROLL NOW

Scan to enroll
www.gsdcouncil.org

WHAT YOU WALK AWAY WITH

- **Globally recognized CFDE certificate & digital badge**
- **3 deployed AI projects + an individual capstone for your portfolio**
- **15 hours of live training + daily expert sessions**
- **Job support, interview practice & lifetime access**

1

Enroll

Pick Single or Bundle access

2

Learn & build

Live training, labs and 3 projects

3

Get certified

Pass the exam, earn your badge