

# New PCA Exam Duration & Real PCA Exam

## Instructions regarding PCA/ Examination Form for June/July 2024 HSBTE Exams

PCA / Exam Form Schedule for Students		
Sr. No.	Activity	Last Date
1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Last date to submit PCA form by the student in their institute</li> <li>Exam Fee under semester system :Rs. 600/- per student per semester (including Regular of 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> &amp; 6<sup>th</sup> Sem. &amp; Reappears of all Semester)</li> <li>Exam Fee under annual system : Rs. 1200/- per student per year (including Regular &amp; Reappears of Diploma Pharmacy Course &amp; Reappears of 1st year under annual pattern scheme for 2018-batch / 2019-batch / 2020-batch &amp; 2021 batch)</li> </ul>	Started w.e.f. 19.04.2024 Upto 5.00 PM on 24.05.2024 (Friday)
2.	Last date to submit PCA form by the student in their institute with additional late fee of Rs. 50/- per student per form	Upto 5.00 PM on 31.05.2024 (Friday)
<p><b>Note 1:</b> Students shall deposit Examination Fee to their Institute as applicable.</p> <p><b>Note 2:</b> Reappear students of D. Pharmacy of any batch (who must be appeared as regular in that particular year) can apply / fill the PCA Form if he / she is otherwise eligible.</p> <p><b>Note 3:</b> Mercy Chance is not allowed in the June/July2024 Exam. Hence, the students of 3 years Diploma course of 2018 Batch onwards (2018 batch-2023 Batch) and the students of 4 year Part time course of 2016 batch onwards can fill the PCA form.</p>		

### NOTE:

- I. The institutes must ensure that for any student, PCA / Examination form should be uploaded only upto 12 subjects (regular + reappears) as per instructions already issued by the Board . (Available on the website under the link 'Common Letters / Instructions for Each Board Exam' ).
- II. The candidate will not be promoted to next semester if he / she fails to submit PCA / Examination Form for the respective semester exam as per instructions conveyed by the Board vide Memo No. 2552 /Exam/HSBTE dt. 21.03.2017 (also available on the website under the link 'Common Letters / Instructions for Each Board Exam') and such students shall be considered as 'Dropped Students'.
- III. The subject code will not be edited / corrected once the PCA submitted / uploaded.

### Exam Fee Calculation

**Example 1 :** Let a student having 03 Reappears in 5<sup>th</sup> semester, 02 reappears in 4<sup>th</sup> semester and 01 reappear in 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, his/ her Exam Fees shall be calculated as below:

S.No.	Exam	Exam Fee
1.	03 Reappear of 5th Sem.	600/-
2.	02 Reappear of 4 <sup>th</sup> Sem	600/-
3.	01 Reappear of 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem.	600/-
<b>Total Exam Fee</b>		<b>1800/-</b>

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>> New PCA Exam Duration <<

## Real Linux Foundation PCA Exam | PCA Valid Exam Sims

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## Linux Foundation PCA Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prometheus Fundamentals: This domain evaluates the knowledge of DevOps Engineers and emphasizes the core architecture and components of Prometheus. It includes topics such as configuration and scraping techniques, limitations of the Prometheus system, data models and labels, and the exposition format used for data collection. The section ensures a solid grasp of how Prometheus functions as a monitoring and alerting toolkit within distributed environments.</li> </ul>
Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Observability Concepts: This section of the exam measures the skills of Site Reliability Engineers and covers the essential principles of observability used in modern systems. It focuses on understanding metrics, logs, and tracing mechanisms such as spans, as well as the difference between push and pull data collection methods. Candidates also learn about service discovery processes and the fundamentals of defining and maintaining SLOs, SLAs, and SLIs to monitor performance and reliability.</li> </ul>
Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PromQL: This section of the exam measures the skills of Monitoring Specialists and focuses on Prometheus Query Language (PromQL) concepts. It covers data selection, calculating rates and derivatives, and performing aggregations across time and dimensions. Candidates also study the use of binary operators, histograms, and timestamp metrics to analyze monitoring data effectively, ensuring accurate interpretation of system performance and trends.</li> </ul>
Topic 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alerting and Dashboarding: This section of the exam assesses the competencies of Cloud Operations Engineers and focuses on monitoring visualization and alert management. It covers dashboarding basics, alerting rules configuration, and the use of Alertmanager to handle notifications. Candidates also learn the core principles of when, what, and why to trigger alerts, ensuring they can create reliable monitoring dashboards and proactive alerting systems to maintain system stability.</li> </ul>
Topic 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instrumentation and Exporters: This domain evaluates the abilities of Software Engineers and addresses the methods for integrating Prometheus into applications. It includes the use of client libraries, the process of instrumenting code, and the proper structuring and naming of metrics. The section also introduces exporters that allow Prometheus to collect metrics from various systems, ensuring efficient and standardized monitoring implementation.</li> </ul>

## Linux Foundation Prometheus Certified Associate Exam Sample Questions (Q60-Q65):

### NEW QUESTION # 60

What is an example of a single-target exporter?

- A. Node Exporter
- B. SNMP Exporter
- C. Blackbox Exporter
- D. Redis Exporter

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

A single-target exporter in Prometheus is designed to expose metrics for a specific service instance rather than multiple dynamic endpoints. The Redis Exporter is a prime example - it connects to one Redis server instance and exports its metrics (like memory usage, keypace hits, or command statistics) to Prometheus.

By contrast, exporters like the SNMP Exporter and Blackbox Exporter can probe multiple targets dynamically, making them multi-target exporters. The Node Exporter, while often deployed per host, is considered a host-level exporter, not a true single-target one in configuration behavior.

The Redis Exporter is instrumented specifically for a single Redis endpoint per configuration, aligning it with Prometheus's single-target exporter definition. This design simplifies monitoring and avoids dynamic reconfiguration.

Reference:

Verified from Prometheus documentation and official exporter guidelines - Writing Exporters, Exporter Types, and Redis Exporter Overview sections.

### NEW QUESTION # 61

What are Inhibition rules?

- A. Inhibition rules repeat a set of alerts when another matching alert is firing.
- B. Inhibition rules inject a new set of alerts when a matching alert is firing.
- C. Inhibition rules inspect alerts when a matching set of alerts is firing.
- **D. Inhibition rules mute a set of alerts when another matching alert is firing.**

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

Inhibition rules in Prometheus's Alertmanager are used to suppress (mute) alerts that would otherwise be redundant when a higher-priority or related alert is already active. This feature helps avoid alert noise and ensures that operators focus on the root cause rather than multiple cascading symptoms.

For example, if a "DatacenterDown" alert is firing, inhibition rules can mute all "InstanceDown" alerts that share the same datacenter label, preventing redundant notifications. Inhibition is configured in the Alertmanager configuration file under the `inhibit_rules` section. Each rule defines:

A source match (the alert that triggers inhibition),

A target match (the alert to mute), and

A match condition (labels that must be equal for inhibition to apply).

Only when the source alert is active are the target alerts silenced.

Reference:

Verified from Prometheus documentation - Alertmanager Configuration - Inhibition Rules, Alert Deduplication and Grouping, and Alert Routing Best Practices.

### NEW QUESTION # 62

When can you use the Grafana Heatmap panel?

- A. You can use it to graph a counter metric.
- B. You can use it to graph an info metric.
- C. You can use it to graph a gauge metric.
- **D. You can use it to graph a histogram metric.**

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

The Grafana Heatmap panel is best suited for visualizing histogram metrics collected from Prometheus. Histograms provide bucketed data distributions (e.g., request durations, response sizes), and the heatmap effectively displays these as a two-dimensional density chart over time.

In Prometheus, histogram metrics are exposed as multiple time series with the `_bucket` suffix and the label `le` (less than or equal).

Grafana interprets these buckets to create visual bands showing how frequently different value ranges occurred.

Counters, gauges, and info metrics do not have bucketed distributions, so a heatmap would not produce meaningful output for them.

Reference:

Verified from Grafana documentation - Heatmap Panel Overview, Visualizing Prometheus Histograms, and Prometheus documentation - Understanding Histogram Buckets.

### NEW QUESTION # 63

What does the `evaluation_interval` parameter in the Prometheus configuration control?

- **A. How often Prometheus evaluates recording and alerting rules.**
- B. How often Prometheus sends metrics to remote storage.
- C. How often Prometheus compacts the TSDB data blocks.
- D. How often Prometheus scrapes targets.

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

The `evaluation_interval` parameter defines how frequently Prometheus evaluates its recording and alerting rules. It determines the

schedule at which the rule engine runs, checking whether alert conditions are met and generating new time series for recording rules. For example, setting:  
global:  
evaluation\_interval: 30s  
means Prometheus evaluates all configured rules every 30 seconds. This setting differs from scrape\_interval, which controls how often Prometheus collects data from targets.  
Having a proper evaluation interval ensures alerting latency is balanced with system performance.

#### NEW QUESTION # 64

Given the metric prometheus\_tsdb\_lowest\_timestamp\_seconds, how do you know in which month the lowest timestamp of your Prometheus TSDB belongs?

- A. prometheus\_tsdb\_lowest\_timestamp\_seconds % month
- B. month(prometheus\_tsdb\_lowest\_timestamp\_seconds)
- C. (time() - prometheus\_tsdb\_lowest\_timestamp\_seconds) / 86400
- D. format\_date(prometheus\_tsdb\_lowest\_timestamp\_seconds, "%M")

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

The metric prometheus\_tsdb\_lowest\_timestamp\_seconds provides the oldest stored sample timestamp in Prometheus's local TSDB (in Unix epoch seconds). To determine the age or approximate date of this timestamp, you compare it with the current time (using time() in PromQL).

The expression:

(time() - prometheus\_tsdb\_lowest\_timestamp\_seconds) / 86400

converts the difference between the current time and the oldest timestamp from seconds into days (1 day = 86,400 seconds). This gives the number of days since the earliest sample was stored, allowing you to infer the time range and approximate month manually. The other options are invalid because PromQL does not support direct date formatting (format\_date) or month() extraction functions.

Reference:

Extracted and verified from Prometheus documentation - TSDB Internal Metrics, Time Functions in PromQL, and Using time() for Relative Calculations.

#### NEW QUESTION # 65

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