VCDX Application & Defense Review Process
Updated: September 26, 2012

1. Candidate submits application.

   a. Application is complete and well-formed?
      - Yes: Candidate pays application fee.
      - No: All work by others in application is credited?
        - Yes: Candidate passes.
        - No: Candidate is rejected.

2. VMware performs tech review.

3. Candidate pays application fee.

4. Candidate pays defense fee.

5. Candidate defends.

6. Candidate fully knows and understands application?
   - Yes: Candidate can explain pros/cons and tradeoffs?
     - Yes: Candidate's technical understanding matches app?
       - Yes: Candidate reveals skills in all blueprint areas?
         - Yes: Candidate passes.
         - No: Candidate fails.
       - No: Candidate fails.
     - No: Candidate fails.
   - No: Candidate passes.

7. Candidate can explain pros/cons and tradeoffs?
   - Yes: Candidate's technical understanding matches app?
     - Yes: Candidate reveals skills in all blueprint areas?
       - Yes: Candidate passes.
       - No: Candidate fails.
     - No: Candidate fails.
   - No: Candidate passes.

8. Candidate's technical understanding matches app?
   - Yes: Candidate reveals skills in all blueprint areas?
     - Yes: Candidate passes.
     - No: Candidate fails.
   - No: Candidate fails.

9. Candidate reveals skills in all blueprint areas?
   - Yes: Candidate passes.
   - No: Candidate fails.
## Process Notes

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<td><strong>1</strong></td>
<td>Your application must contain all components called for in the VCDX Handbook and Application, in the format specified. If, for some reason, a component is not applicable, make it clear that nothing was accidentally omitted.</td>
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<td><strong>2</strong></td>
<td>VMware typically gives results within 20 business days of an application deadline. Candidates are always informed of their expected wait time when their application is accepted for review.</td>
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| **3** | Your submitted design may contain work done by others, subject to two conditions:  
  - All such work is clearly disclosed; and  
  - In the defense session, you must be prepared to discuss all components as if they were your own. |
| **4** | A candidate has a material chance of success at defense if his or her application, assuming that it contains no uncredited work by others, generally suggests VCDX-caliber skills in many areas of the VCDX blueprint. The submitted design may contain one or more flaws or weaknesses, but the number and severity are of a level that has been overcome in the defense session by prior successful candidates. |
| **5** | VMware typically gives results within 10 business days of a defense. Candidates are always informed of their expected wait time at the end of their defense sessions. |
| **6** | You must thoroughly know all aspects of your submitted design, even fictitious components and work done by others. |
| **7** | The defense session is so called because the candidate must defend design choices. You should be ready to show the links from customers' requirements through the logical design to the physical design and the implementation guidance. You must be able to explain why apparently workable alternatives were not selected. |
| **8** | If a technical component is in your submitted design, you must be able to discuss it in the defense session. You must display both design understanding and an awareness of operational issues. |
| **9** | The VCDX blueprint is the basis for VMware’s evaluation both of your submission and of your defense. If your application does not suggest skills in all areas of the blueprint, you have weaker chances of advancing to the defense stage. In your defense sessions, you will not pass unless you display VCDX-level competency in all areas of the blueprint. |