

Advanced Professional WordPress Developer Certification - Training Guide

Produced by  **VIP** | [Enterprise WordPress](#)

Hands-on Practice

Practice implementing each competency in a development environment for example:

Plugin & Theme Development

- Build a plugin with a custom post type, taxonomies, custom roles, and secured REST API endpoints.
- Create a Gutenberg block tied to custom data.
- Implement caching with transients or an object cache layer.
- Extend a theme with template hierarchy, enqueueing best practices, and block patterns.

Debugging & Troubleshooting

Develop experience in diagnosing complex issues such as:

- White Screen of Death (WSOD) and out-of-memory errors.
- Object cache problems, redirect loops, and intermittent issues.
- Debugging REST API and AJAX endpoints, including replaying HTTP requests.
- Reading stack traces, stepping into core code, and debugging in production safely.
- Issues with server-side HTTP requests, cookies, and client-side JavaScript.
- Debugging in headless/decoupled WordPress environments.

Security & Compliance

- Review code for vulnerabilities (SQL injection, XSS, CSRF, privilege escalation).
- Apply sanitization, escaping, and nonce verification.

- Test with WPScan and code review.
- Enforce secure authentication, including WordPress application passwords and
- 2FA.

Performance Optimization

- Configure persistent object caching (Redis/Memcached).
- Implement page caching at plugin and server level.
- Apply lazy loading for images/media and measure improvements
- Integrate a CDN and benchmark results with Lighthouse or WebPageTest.

Multisite & Enterprise Workflows

- Set up and manage a multisite network: roles, capabilities, and custom rewrites.
- Practice migrating sites into and out of multisite.
- Manage shared plugins/themes while maintaining site isolation

Disaster Recovery & High Availability

- Restore from database and file backups in a controlled drill.
- Simulate data corruption and patching scenarios.
- Validate recovery processes by performing test restores in staging.
- Automate and test backup workflows.

Enterprise Tooling & DevOps

- Use Git and WP-CLI for deployments and site management.
- Set up CI/CD pipelines for linting, coding standards (PHPCS), and PHPUnit tests.
- Automate database migrations with WP-CLI or dedicated tools.
- Incorporate performance/security checks into the development pipeline.

Read Core Documentation and Handbooks

- [WordPress APIs](#)
 - [The Common APIs Handbook](#)
 - [REST API Handbook](#)
 - [The Plugin Handbook](#)
 - [The Theme Handbook](#)
 - [The Block Editor Handbook](#)

Courses

Take (free) courses on <https://learn.wpvip.com>. Platform-specific WordPress VIP content not relevant to the exam is clearly flagged within the courses.

- <https://learn.wpvip.com/course/enterprise-performance/>
- [Enterprise WordPress Security](#)
- [Advanced WordPress Debugging](#)
- [Mastering the WordPress REST API](#)
- [Enterprise Block Editor](#)
- [Development, Build, Test and Deployment](#)
- <https://learn.wordpress.org/>

Take the Free Practice Test

<https://learn.wpvip.com/course/enterprise-wordpress-developer-test-quiz/>