



THE STANDARD FOR
**PROGRAM
MANAGEMENT**

FOURTH EDITION



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Fourth Edition

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INTRODUCTION

The Standard for Program Management—Fourth Edition provides guidance on the principles of program management. It provides generally accepted definitions of programs and program management and concepts important to their success—program management performance domains, the program life cycle, and important program management principles, practices, and activities. This edition of *The Standard for Program Management* expands and clarifies concepts presented in previous editions. It complements and aligns with the Project Management Institute's (PMI's) core foundational standards and guidance documents, including the latest edition of *A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK® Guide)* [1],¹ *The Standard for Portfolio Management* [2], *Implementing Organizational Project Management: A Practice Guide* [3], and the *PMI Lexicon of Project Management Terms* [4].

This section defines and explains terms related to the standard's scope and provides an introduction to the content that follows. It includes the following major sections:

- 1.1 Purpose of *The Standard for Program Management***
- 1.2 What Is a Program?**
- 1.3 What Is Program Management?**
- 1.4 The Relationships among Portfolio, Program, and Project Management, and their Roles in Organizational Project Management (OPM)**
- 1.5 The Relationships among Organizational Strategy, Program Management, and Operations Management**
- 1.6 Business Value**
- 1.7 Role of the Program Manager**
- 1.8 Role of the Program Sponsor**
- 1.9 Role of the Program Management Office**

¹ The numbers in brackets refer to the list of references at the end of this standard.