

Mobius Institute ARP-L: Asset Reliability Practitioner — Reliability Program Leader

Detailed Course Outline

Course Overview

Full Title	Asset Reliability Practitioner® [ARP-L]: Reliability Program Leader
Level	Top tier / leadership (third of three ARP levels: A → E → L)
Duration	32 hours minimum, typically delivered over 5 days (4½ days of content)
Delivery formats	Public classroom, virtual instructor-led, on-site (private), self-paced video/online
Audience	Those who have taken (or will take) the lead role in a reliability and performance improvement program — technical or leadership background
Standards basis	Training modeled on ISO 18436-2 and ISO 18436-3 (no dedicated ISO standard yet for

	reliability-personnel certification); certification per ISO/IEC 17024, modeled on ISO 18436-1
Framework used	Mobius Institute's Asset Reliability Transformation® (ART) process – followed phase by phase, start to finish
Prerequisite	None required – the course does not assume prior ARP-A or ARP-E knowledge

Certification Details

- **Exam:** 3 hours, 100 multiple-choice questions, 70% passing grade; taken online or in person on the final course day
- **Experience requirement:** 48 months of relevant work experience (as a reliability engineer or program manager/leader), verified by an independent person
- **Certification validity:** 3 years
- **Governing body:** Mobius Institute Board of Certification™ (MIBoC), ISO/IEC 17024-accredited
- **Pre-study:** Full "Learning Zone" video library upon registration
- **Post-study:** 4 months of continued Learning Zone access (upgradeable to 1 year); ongoing free access to Mobius CONNECT® community

Course Philosophy: Leadership, Not Program Management

The course explicitly distinguishes **leading** a reliability initiative from **managing** its technical execution. It argues that programs commonly fail when the leader treats reliability as a purely technical problem to delegate. Instead, the leader must:

- Understand and communicate the program's economic value
- Build and drive an implementation strategy
- Change the organizational culture and sustain engagement
- Rely on reliability engineers (ARP-E) and technicians for deep technical execution

There are two recognized paths into the role — the **traditional/technical path** (promoted up from maintenance/reliability/CM, typically already ARP-E certified) and the **leadership path** (coming from general management/project leadership). The last third of the course is designed to give leadership-path candidates enough technical grounding to lead effectively even without an engineering background.

Module-by-Module Outline

(Structured around the 10-phase Asset Reliability Transformation [ART] process)

Getting Started

- The goals of "reliability improvement"

Implementation

- Why do reliability programs fail?
- Introduction to the Asset Reliability Transformation (ART) process — overview, then a deeper pass

The Economics of Reliability

- Speaking the language of finance
- Basic financial analysis techniques: ROI, NPV, DCF, IRR, EVA, RONA, EBITA, and others
- Assessing current state, gaps, and business case development

Phase One: VALUE

- **Performance** – safety incident reduction, quality improvement, profit maximization
- **Constraints** – capital, regulation, raw material availability
- **Risk** – Pareto analysis; Asset Criticality Ranking
- **Opportunities** – achieving peak business performance; Total Effective Equipment Performance (TEEP) and Overall Equipment Effectiveness (OEE)
- Winning the support of senior management
- Establishing pilot projects to build credibility

Phase Two: STRATEGY

- Implementation strategy – building the roadmap
- Asset strategy – outline of the strategic maintenance plan development process

The Psychology of Reliability

- How people make decisions
- Changing behavior

Human Error and Human Performance Management

- What causes human error
- Managing human error

Culture Change

- Why culture change is necessary
- How to change the culture — organization-wide engagement, not just the reliability group

Phase Three: PEOPLE

- Leadership as the key ingredient to success
- Getting organization-wide buy-in to reliability improvement
- Training and certification pathways for the workforce

Phase Four: CONTROL

- Breaking out of the "reactive maintenance cycle of doom" — step-by-step de-escalation of breakdown-driven work

Phase Five: ACQUIRE

- Project management fundamentals
- Designing for reliability
- Acceptance testing of new equipment/contractor work

Phase Six: DISCIPLINE

- The CMMS/EAM (computerized maintenance management / enterprise asset management system)
- Documenting procedures
- Shutdowns, turnarounds, and outages
- 5S and the visual workplace

Phase Seven: CARE

- Basic care — precision lubrication and cleanliness
- Operator-driven reliability (ODR)

Phase Eight: ANALYTICS

- Reviewing and improving financial performance
- Monitoring KPIs
- Condition-Based Maintenance (CBM) — overview for the leader
- Predictive analytics

Phase Nine: END OF LIFE (EOL)

- Root Cause Failure Analysis (RCFA) — leader's-level understanding
- Recording failure data

Phase Ten: OPTIMIZE

- Continuous improvement
- Re-assessing risks, goals, constraints, and opportunities — closing the loop back to Phase One

Depth of Coverage — Important Distinction

Unlike ARP-E, ARP-L does **not** aim for deep technical mastery across all subject areas. The course is intentionally front-loaded:

- **VALUE, STRATEGY, and PEOPLE phases** (economics, psychology, human error, culture change) get the most detailed treatment — these are the leader's core responsibility.
- **CONTROL, ACQUIRE, DISCIPLINE, CARE, ANALYTICS, and EOL phases** are covered as **detailed summaries** rather than full technical depth — the expectation is that qualified

reliability engineers and CM specialists own the technical detail, while the leader understands enough to direct, question, and evaluate their work.

Learning Outcomes

By course completion, participants will be able to:

- **Develop the economic justification** for a reliability program
 - assess current state, build a business case, and win senior management support, whether starting fresh or reinvigorating an existing program
- **Develop and implement a strategy** — apply the ART roadmap's phases and sequencing to their own organization
- **Build a culture of reliability** — apply psychology, human-error management, and culture-change principles to gain organization-wide engagement (not just within the reliability group)
- **Ensure workforce readiness** — see that everyone is trained, motivated, and qualified for their role
- **Break out of reactive maintenance** — lead the plant out of the breakdown-driven "cycle of doom"
- **Lead a team toward disciplined execution** — equipment care (lubrication, ODR), data-driven decision-making (CBM, analytics, RCFA), and continuous improvement (Phase Ten optimization)
- **Know what "world-class" looks like** across maintenance, project management, procurement, and reliability performance, even without being the technical specialist in each area

Should the Reliability Leader Be a Reliability Engineer First?

No formal prerequisite exists, and ARP-E is not required before ARP-L. Mobius Institute identifies two legitimate paths:

Path	Background	Recommendation
Technical path	Promoted from maintenance/reliability/condition monitoring	Typically already holds ARP-E; risk is over-focusing on technical detail rather than leadership
Leadership path	Comes from general management/project leadership	ARP-L's final third provides the technical grounding needed to lead credibly

Either way, Mobius stresses the leader must be supported by qualified reliability engineers and specialists for technical depth – the leader's job is strategy, value, culture, and direction.

Where ARP-L Fits in the Certification Pathway

Level	Focus	Typical Audience	Experience Required
ARP-A (Reliability Advocate)	Big-picture awareness, culture, and process	Anyone new to reliability; managers, cross-functional stakeholders	6 months
ARP-E (Reliability Engineer)	Full technical depth across the reliability discipline	Reliability/maintenance engineers driving the program	24 months
ARP-L (Reliability Program Leader)	Leading and managing the entire initiative via the ART process	Program leaders/managers (technical or leadership background)	48 months

Source: Mobius Institute (mobiusinstitute.com), ARP-L course page and certification guide, accessed July 2026.