



Cisco Career Certification

www.cisco.com/go/learningnetwork

■ CCNA Concentrations: Questions and Answers

Why is Cisco expanding its Career Certifications portfolio?

According to a commissioned study conducted by Forrester Consulting on behalf of Cisco, there is a pervasive need for networking skills throughout multiple functions of IT organizations, and the need is growing very fast:

- 36% of the global companies surveyed currently have a dedicated wireless role. Over the next five years, a dedicated wireless role is expected to be found in 66 percent of the IT organizations surveyed.
- Dedicated security roles are expected to exist in 80 percent of the companies studied within five years, while today a dedicated security role was found in only 46 percent of the companies surveyed.
- 69 percent of the IT managers surveyed expect to have a dedicated voice specialist role in their IT organization within five years, while only 40 percent of respondents have them today.

To meet this challenge, Cisco is introducing Cisco® CCNA® Security, CCNA Voice, and CCNA Wireless concentrations. These are role-based, technology-specific concentrations that provide current and future networking professionals with a learning path for career advancement.

When are the new CCNA concentrations being introduced?

Cisco will introduce the new CCNA concentrations globally on June 24, 2008. Both CCNA Voice and CCNA Security exams and courses will be available at this time. CCNA Wireless exams and courses will be available on July 25, 2008.

What is the formal name of each CCNA concentration and what does each consist of?

The new associate-level concentrations are titled CCNA Security, CCNA Voice, and CCNA Wireless. In order to complete one of these concentrations, you must have a valid CCNA certification.

Concentrations are comprised of the following:

CCNA Wireless

The CCNA Wireless certification validates the candidate's skills in the configuration, implementation, and support of wireless LANs, specifically those networks using Cisco equipment. Students completing the recommended Cisco training are provided with information and practice activities to prepare them for configuring, monitoring, and troubleshooting basic tasks of a Cisco WLAN in small to medium-sized business (SMB) and enterprise networks. Once candidates complete the certification, employers will be able to validate that their staff have the skills needed for basic wireless networking on a Cisco WLAN in SMB and enterprise networks.

CCNA Wireless Exams and Recommended Training

Prerequisite	Required Exams	Recommended Courses	Notes
CCNA	640-721 IUWNE	Implementing Cisco Unified Wireless Networking Essentials (IUWNE v1.0)	5-day instructor-led training (ILT) course

CCNA Security

The CCNA Security certification meets the needs of IT professionals who are responsible for network security. It confirms an individual's skills for job roles such as network security specialists, security administrators, and network security support engineers. This certification validates skills including installation, troubleshooting, and monitoring of network devices to maintain integrity, confidentiality, and availability of data and devices, and develops competency in the technologies that Cisco uses in its security structure.

CCNA Security Exams and Recommended Training

Prerequisite	Required Exams	Recommended Courses	Notes
CCNA	640-553 IINS	Implementing Cisco IOS® Network Security (IINS)	5-day instructor-led training (ILT) course

CCNA Voice

The CCNA Voice certification validates skills in VoIP technologies such as IP PBX, IP telephony, handset, call control, and voicemail solutions. Candidate's also get exposure to the Cisco Unified Communications architecture and design covering mobility, presence, and TelePresence applications.

CCNA Voice Exams and Recommended Training

Prerequisite	Required Exams	Recommended Courses	Notes
CCNA	640-460 IUC	Implementing Cisco IOS Unified Communications (IUC)	5-day instructor-led training (ILT) course

How do the CCNA concentrations relate to the CCNA certification?

In order to meet the prerequisites for one of the new CCNA concentrations, you must first pass the CCNA certification through one of two exam paths.

Prerequisites for CCNA Concentrations: CCNA Exams and Recommended Training

Required Exam(s)	Recommended Training
640-802 CCNA	Interconnecting Cisco Networking Devices Part 1 (ICND1) v1.0 Interconnecting Cisco Networking Devices Part 2 (ICND2) v1.0

OR

Required Exam(s)	Recommended Training
640-822 ICND1 640-816 ICND2	Interconnecting Cisco Networking Devices Part 1 (ICND1) v1.0 Interconnecting Cisco Networking Devices Part 2 (ICND2) v1.0

Once you have completed your CCNA certification, you can choose one of the three new CCNA concentrations.

While CCNA remains the certification of choice for individuals who want to demonstrate a solid foundation in core routing and switching skills, the new CCNA Wireless, CCNA Voice, and CCNA Security certifications build on core CCNA skills and provide a clear path to prepare for a specialized job role in wireless, security, or voice technologies.

Do I have to complete the CCNA certification each time I want to take a different CCNA concentration?

No. The CCNA certification only needs to be passed one time in order to move on to each of the new CCNA concentrations.

Where can I take the recommended training for the new CCNA concentrations?

Training for the new CCNA concentrations is available through Cisco Learning Partners and Cisco Learning Solution Partners. For more information visit www.cisco.com/go/courses.

Are the new CCNA concentration courses available through the Cisco Networking Academy® or Cisco Press®?

At this time, instructor-led training courses are available only through Cisco Learning Partners. However, Cisco Press will have corresponding products available for each of the CCNA concentrations in the very near future. In addition to their best-selling exam certification guides, Cisco Press (www.ciscopress.com) will offer digital quick reference guides and other online materials to aide in preparation for the CCNA concentrations.

Will all three concentrations be available June 24, 2008?

Both the exams and recommended training for CCNA Security and CCNA Voice are available as of the announcement date of June 24. The projected release date for the CCNA Wireless concentration recommended training and exam is July 25, 2008.

What types of jobs are available for people who pass one of the new CCNA concentrations?

The following job roles are available for people who obtain a CCNA Wireless certification:

- Network administrators
- Wireless technicians, support technicians
- Security engineers focused on wireless networks
- WLAN project managers
- Wireless support specialists

The following job roles are available for people who obtain a CCNA Security certification:

- Network security administrators
- Security specialists
- Security technicians
- Support technicians

The following job roles are available for people who obtain a CCNA Voice certification:

- Voice administrators
- Voice technicians
- Voice engineers

How do these new concentrations affect Cisco's professional and expert-level certifications?

Passing the new CCNA concentrations will serve as the prerequisites to the corresponding Cisco professional-level certification (Cisco CCSP®, CCVP®, and so on). However, the CCNA certification will continue to be the prerequisite to Cisco CCNP®.

Are there other additional changes to the professional-level certifications that affect the new CCNA concentrations?
Yes, CCSP will be restructured in the fall as a result of the introduction of CCNA Security. The SND (Securing Network Devices) class and exam have been integrated into the IINS class and exam for CCNA Security. As a result, the SND exam will be retired on November 17, 2008 and will no longer be a requirement for CCSP. To accommodate candidates who may already be in progress preparing for a CCSP certification, CCNA + SND exams will be accepted in lieu of the CCNA Security exam until June 24, 2009.

Candidates for CCSP will now take a total of four exams—three required and one elective— instead of the five exams required today (four required and one elective exam). CCSP certifications will continue to give candidates a choice about the exams they must pass for certification.

To accommodate candidates who may already be in progress preparing for a CCVP certification, CCNA will be accepted as the prerequisite in place of CCNA Voice for up to one year, June 24, 2009.

Candidates already pursuing CCVP and CCSP will be able to use exams they have already passed for up to three years.

Where can I find more information about the new CCNA concentrations?

In addition to the current Cisco Career Certifications website, www.cisco.com/go/certifications, Cisco will prominently feature the new CCNA concentrations on the Cisco Learning Network, www.cisco.com/go/learningnetwork, which will also launch on June 24, 2008.

Price Adjustment to CCNA Comprehensive, Professional-level Composite, and CCIE Exams

What price adjustment being to the CCNA Comprehensive, Professional-level Composite, and CCIE Exams

As of June 24, 2008, the price of the CCNA comprehensive exam #640-802, the single exam option for achieving CCNA certification, will be \$250 USD, the professional-level Composite exam #642-892, will be \$300 USD and the CCIE written exams will be \$350 USD or the local currency equivalent in all regions.

Why is the price being adjusted at this time?

Cisco is adjusting the price of these exams to better align with other IT certification exams in the industry. Cisco Career Certifications are one of the industry's most recognizable and highly valued programs for IT professionals. Achieving a CCNA, a Professional or Expert certification validates an individuals knowledge and hands-on skill in networking technologies and solutions.

Will the price be adjusted in all worldwide locations?

Yes, the price will be adjusted in all regions. However, Cisco Certified Learning Partners in some areas may include the exam along with a training course for a single price.

Will the price to Networking Academy students also be changed?

Consistent with our past years strategy, Cisco will provide financial assistance to Cisco Networking Academy students in the form of discounts to offset the cost of key certification exams.



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