

# Training and Certification Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

## General FAQs

Q: Why did you change the Cisco certification portfolio?

A: This initiative is built on the technology transition that Cisco has driven in the networking industry. “Unleashing the full capabilities of the new network” means that there are entirely new capabilities in the network, and this fundamentally changes “how networking is done.” To fully leverage the capabilities of the new network, networking and software skills are key.

The new Cisco Certification program introduces CCNA, CCNP, and CCIE certifications that maintain the high-quality standards known to the industry yet have been streamlined based on market demands and learner preferences. The program is designed for agility, value, and leadership. It lets people choose the skills they want to develop and encourages lifelong learning.

New DevNet Associate and DevNet Professional Certifications provide software skills for network engineers and software developers who work with Cisco technologies.

This allows us to combine the strengths of our Cisco certified community, Networking Academy community, and DevNet community, and build the workforce for the next generation of businesses built on Cisco technologies.

Q: What are the changes?

A: We’ve enhanced the certification program to bring you:

- Streamlined and updated certification paths, such as
  - Consolidated and updated associate level training and certification for networking engineers – one course, one exam covers the fundamental topics for all network technologies.
  - Specialist certifications validate your skills in line with your job role and interests.
  - Your choice of concentration exams at the professional level that allows you to tailor your certification to your preferences.
  - CCIE achievement validates core knowledge on end-to-end practical skills through the entire network lifecycle of designing, deploying, operating and optimizing complex network scenarios.
- New DevNet certifications at the associate, specialist and professional levels, to validate your software development skills.
- The ability to start where you want – no prerequisites to start earning your associate, specialist, professional or expert level certification.
- Continuing education credits for recertification and ongoing development are available for CCNA, Cisco Certified Specialist, CCNP and CCIE.
- New Emeritus lifetime tenure for CCIE certifications maintained continuously for 20 years.
- Badging for completing training courses.

- No more continuing education administrative fee, as of February 24, 2020.

**Q: What's the same?**

A: The best features of our program have not changed. We still offer:

- Multiple levels of certification, at associate (CCNA), specialist, professional (CCNP) and expert (CCIE) levels.
- Learning on your schedule, in your preferred way – online or in-person.
- Core technology concentrations at professional and expert levels, in Enterprise, Security, Service Provider, Collaboration, Data Center and more.
- Recertification exams available at all levels.

**Q: What certifications were removed and what certifications were added?**

A: Certification technology tracks for CCNP and CCIE have been consolidated to Enterprise, Security, Service Provider, Collaboration and Data Center, which include relevant topics from legacy programs. The topics from legacy certifications are reflected in new concentration exams. New DevNet certifications include Cisco Certified DevNet Associate, Cisco Certified DevNet Specialist and Cisco Certified DevNet Professional.

**Q: How do I qualify for a training badge or a certification?**

A:

For:	You get:
Successfully completing training courses that are part of a certification track	Training badge
Passing the CCNA exam	Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA)
Passing the Cisco Certified DevNet Associate exam	Cisco Certified DevNet Associate
Passing any written, proctored exam, with exception of the CCNA exam	Cisco Certified Specialist
Passing any DevNet written, proctored exam, with exception of the Cisco Certified DevNet Associate exam	Cisco Certified DevNet Specialist
Passing one core exam and one concentration exam in the same technology	Cisco Certified Network Professional (CCNP)
Passing one DevNet core and one DevNet concentration exam	Cisco Certified DevNet Professional

Passing one core exam and the corresponding lab in the same technology	Cisco Certified Internetwork Expert (CCIE)
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Q: With fewer technology tracks, how can I get certified in a technology that relates to my work?

A: We designed the new training and certification program to be customizable. For example, CCNP includes more options than ever before, with a concentration exam of your choice. And you can earn training badges for completing training and Specialist certifications for passing written, proctored exams in technologies and skills that relate directly to your job, interests, and aspirations.

Q: How has the portfolio update changed the number of exams a user will take for certifications?

A: It depends on each learner's path. Our goal is to make it more convenient for learners to become certified and enable them to customize learning to best meet their needs. At the associate level, users take a single, comprehensive exam. At the professional level, users take a core exam and their choice of concentration exam in the same technology track. At the expert level, users take a core exam and the corresponding lab exam. Specialist certifications are awarded for passing any written, proctored exam, with the exception of associate level exams.

Q: What will happen to the CCDE and CCAr curriculum and certification?

A: At this time, the CCDE and CCAr certifications remain as they are today.

Q: How is Cisco protecting the integrity and rigor of the certifications under the new structure?

A: As we enhance our program, our intent is to maintain and strengthen the integrity and rigor that Cisco certifications have today. At the CCNA level, we've broadened the topics within the exam to cover the range of skills required to manage digital networks. We've also embedded knowledge from across technologies into our associate level exam, making it more comprehensive than ever. At the CCNP and CCIE levels, we've increased the rigor of exams.

The new core exams cover essential knowledge for job roles within the network domain. And by offering concentration exams that cover depth of knowledge in specific topics, we validate your specific skills even more rigorously than in the past. Finally, CCIE exams cover the entire network lifecycle of designing, deploying, operating and optimizing complex network scenarios.

Q: How does Cisco work to protect the value of my certification?

A: Cisco certifications are among the most valued in the industry. All our certification exams are designed and monitored by experts. They're developed using a standardized, industry-accepted methodology, which generates valid, credible, valuable, and legally defensible certifications.

We are also constantly validating the integrity of the exams through test site monitoring, enforcement of candidate requirements, exam security practices, data analytics and investigations tied to the security tip line.

Q: How does this change impact Cisco Networking Academy?

A: Cisco Networking Academy aligns to the enhanced certification program by

- Updating CCNA curriculum to align with the enhanced Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) certification
- Developing new curriculum that will align to the new Cisco DevNet Associate Certification and expanding skills with programming for the intent-based network

Q: When will the new Networking Academy CCNA courses be available?

A: Cisco Networking Academy has released three CCNA courses that align to the updated CCNA certification:

- [CCNA: Introduction to Networks \(ITN\)](#)
- [CCNA: Switching, Routing, and Wireless Essentials](#)
- [CCNA: Enterprise Networking, Security, and Automation](#)

Q: I have a question about my NetAcad course. Who should I reach out to?

A: Cisco Networking Academy is happy to answer your question. Simply post your question to their Facebook page, and they'll respond:

<https://www.facebook.com/cisconetworkingacademy/>

Q: What happened to my certification when the new program went into effect February 24, 2020?

A: For CCNA, Specialist and CCNP: Your certification is still valid and will be active until its expiration date. Effective February 24, 2020, your current certification transitions to an equivalent in the new program.

For CCIE: If you are an active CCIE, your suspended year has been converted to an active year. For example, if your active CCIE would have been suspended beginning April 21, 2020, you sustain active status until April 21, 2021.

## CCNA

Q: How is the new CCNA different from the previous CCNAs that Cisco offered?

A: We've consolidated and updated CCNA training and certification into one course, one comprehensive exam that covers entry-level networking skills across technologies, such as basic IP fundamentals, network access, IP connectivity, and basics of automation and network programmability, and security fundamental skills.

Q: Will the CCNA certification still be required as a prerequisite for professional certifications?

A: The CCNA certification is no longer required as a prerequisite for professional certifications, giving learners the ability to start where they choose in their learning journey.

## CCNP

Q: What is a technology core exam?

A: A technology core exam is one of the two exams required for CCNP, CCIE, and Cisco Certified DevNet Professional certifications. For CCNP and CCIE, there are five technology core exams available, focused on Enterprise, Security, Service Provider, Collaboration and Data Center. Technology core exams cover the foundational and common concepts that are required for a candidate to be proficient in a technology architecture. For Cisco Certified DevNet Professional, there is one DevNet core exam.

Q: What is a concentration exam?

A: A concentration exam is one of the two exams required for professional-level certification (CCNP). Concentration exams take a deeper dive into a relevant and related technology to the core, allowing the candidate to choose a topic that is either of interest or related to his or her chosen technology area of focus. For CCNP, there are concentration exams for all five technology tracks, Enterprise, Security, Service Provider, Collaboration and Data Center. There are also multiple concentration exams available for Cisco Certified DevNet Professional.

Q: What are the options for concentration exams?

A: Options for concentration exams can be found at the corresponding CCNP pages, listed below:

- [CCNP Enterprise](#)
- [CCNP Security](#)
- [CCNP Service Provider](#)
- [CCNP Collaboration](#)
- [CCNP Data Center](#)
- [Cisco Certified DevNet Professional](#)

Q: Am I required to pass the technology core exam before I can take a concentration exam within the same track?

A: No, you may take the exams in any order you choose.

Q: I passed my technology core exam. How long is it valid for and how much time do I have to pass the concentration exam or lab exam?

A: Effective February 24, 2020, when you pass the technology core exam in a given technology track, you have three years from that pass date to pass a concentration or lab exam within that same technology track to complete your professional or expert-level certification.

Q: I passed my technology core exam. Can I take and pass a concentration exam AND a lab exam to achieve my professional and expert-level certifications?

A: Yes, effective February 24, 2020, you can take and pass both a concentration exam and a lab exam within three years of passing the core exam to achieve your professional and expert-level certifications.

## CCIE

Q: Is the technology core exam the same for both CCNP and CCIE exams?

A: Yes, the same written exam serves as the core exam for CCNP certification and CCIE certification.

Q: When will the new CCIE lab exams be available?

A: The new CCIE lab exams will be available April 27, 2020.

Q: What is the impact of the recent Coronavirus epidemic on CCIE lab testing?

A: For the latest update on impact to CCIE lab testing, please visit <http://cs.co/ccielabclosures>.

Q: What will the options for new CCIE lab exams include?

A: Learners will be able to choose between wireless and infrastructure lab exams within the Enterprise track. All other CCIE lab exams are standardized to the technology track, including Security, Service Provider, Collaboration and Data Center.

Q: Am I required to pass the technology core exam before I can take a lab exam within the same track?

A: Yes, you are required to pass the technology core exam before you take the lab exam.

Q: Why is the CCIE lab exam format changing?

A: The CCIE lab exam is being updated in order to assess candidates' skills through the entire adoption lifecycle of designing, deploying, operating and optimizing complex network scenarios. The lab format has changed to assess these skills end-to-end.

Q: How will the CCIE lab exam format change?

A: The CCIE lab format will change to assess candidates' skills through the entire adoption lifecycle of designing, deploying, operating and optimizing complex network scenarios. The lab exam consists of 2 modules that are fixed in time and will be delivered in a fixed sequence:

- Module 1: Design (3 hours)
- Module 2: Deploy, Operate and Optimize (5 hours)

Automation and Network Programmability skills are an integral part of both modules.

Q: What are the details of the CCIE Lifetime Emeritus benefit?

A: A CCIE or CCIE Emeritus that maintains their active or Emeritus status for 20 years has the option to choose a lifetime Emeritus status with no fee. For more information on the CCIE Lifetime Emeritus Benefit, please visit <https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/training-events/training-certifications/certifications/expert/ccie-program/emeritus.html>.

Q: I passed exams prior to the migration that are equivalent to a technology core exam. Can I take the CCIE lab without taking any additional written exams?

A: Yes. If you passed exams prior to the migration that are equivalent to a technology core exam, you have three years from the date you last passed a technology core equivalent exam to take the CCIE lab in that same track. After three years have lapsed, you must pass the technology core exam again in a given track to be able to take the CCIE lab in that track.

For example, an individual with an active CCNP Routing & Switching certification who last recertified their CCNP on September 23, 2019 can take the CCIE Enterprise lab up until September 24, 2022. An individual who obtained their CCNP Routing & Switching certification on February 25, 2017 will have until February 26, 2020 to take the CCIE Enterprise lab. An individual that has passed both ROUTE (300-101) and SWITCH (300-115) exams on September 23, 2019 will have until September 24, 2022 to take the CCIE Enterprise lab.

## DevNet Certifications

### Q: What is DevNet?

A: Cisco DevNet is Cisco's developer program to help developers and IT professionals who want to write applications and develop integrations with Cisco products, platforms, and APIs. Cisco DevNet includes Cisco's products in software-defined networking, security, cloud, data center, mobility, internet of things, collaboration, services and open-source software development. The [developer.cisco.com](https://developer.cisco.com) site also provides learning and sandbox environments as well as video series for those trying to learn coding and testing apps.

The industry comes to DevNet to find Cisco Community resources like Code Exchange which includes code repositories related to Cisco technologies, Ecosystem Exchange to connect with the Global Cisco Partner Ecosystem and find solutions, and now DevNet Automation Exchange which is the industry leading code repository of network automation use cases.

### Q: Why is Cisco now offering DevNet certifications?

A: Cisco is announcing new DevNet certifications focused on validating the skill sets of software developers, DevOps engineers, automation specialists, and other software professionals.

The new offering helps unleash the full capabilities of the new network by educating network infrastructure engineers and software developers in application development, automation, DevOps, Cloud, and IoT.

### Q: How are DevNet certifications different than Cisco's traditional certifications?

A: Cisco certifications are already known worldwide as some of the most prestigious networking credentials in the industry. DevNet certifications are a subset of Cisco certifications, intended to validate software skills, such as programming, application development, DevOps and automation.

While Cisco certifications are unique and distinct in their subject matter, they are very much complementary. Together, these certifications provide a comprehensive catalog that validates skill sets in both networking hardware and software. As Cisco has blended hardware and software to reflect the demands of the industry, so, too, are these certification programs aligned, making it easy for learners to fluidly move between technologies, solutions and programmability.

Q: When will DevNet certification exams be available?

A: Exams for the Cisco Certified DevNet Associate, Cisco Certified DevNet Specialist and Cisco Certified DevNet Professional are available now. Visit <https://developer.cisco.com/certification/> to learn more.

Q: When will DevNet training courses be available to start preparing?

A: Simply visit <https://developer.cisco.com/certification> to learn the first steps needed to prepare for certifications. There you will find learning labs to get you started. Formal training courses will be available before the exams are released, and we will continue to provide updates on courses on our website as they become available.

Q: How will I recertify my DevNet certification?

A: DevNet Certifications will follow the new recertification policies taking effect February 24, 2020. Learn more at <https://www.cisco.com/c/en/us/training-events/training-certifications/recertification-policy.html>

Q: Can I just take a DevNet concentration exam alone?

A: Yes, you will earn a Cisco Certified DevNet Specialist if you successfully pass any professional-level DevNet exam.

Q: Can I take more than one DevNet concentration exam?

A: Yes, you can take as many of the concentration exams as you'd like.

Q: How many continuing education credits will be required to recertify as a Cisco Certified DevNet Specialist, Cisco Certified DevNet Associate and Cisco Certified DevNet Professional?

A: DevNet Certifications will follow the same guidelines as the other Cisco Certifications in terms of Continuing Education credits used for recertification. Starting February 24, 2020 credits required for recertification are as follows:

- Associate: 30
- Specialist: 40
- Professional: 80

Q: Does Cisco plan to offer a DevNet Certified Expert certification in the future?

A: Yes, Cisco plans to offer a Cisco Certified DevNet Expert certification. Stay tuned at [developer.cisco.com/certification](https://developer.cisco.com/certification) to learn more.

Q: What is the DevNet Automation Exchange?

A: Cisco DevNet Automation Exchange is an industry leading code repository with over 50 code repositories and use cases for network automation. This resource provides multi-domain network automation solutions to provide step-by-step guidelines with code repositories across your entire automation lifecycle. The Exchange use cases will solve our customers biggest problems and includes automation at scale, self-serve network operations, telemetry and insights, a holistic approach to monitoring your network and cross-domain automation of applications.



Utilize the Exchange to build more advanced and more capable networks with intent-based networking, multi-domain solutions, and APIs and programmability. You can share your code with the community and use code that has been created by the community. The Exchange is created by the community and curated by Cisco DevNet.

[Q: How will DevNet Certifications change the Gold Certification partner requirements?](#)

A: The new DevNet Certifications will count toward 12 certified individuals required for Gold Certification, giving resellers access to exclusive partner incentives. Of the 12 certified individuals, partners must have at least 4 CCIEs. When the DevNet Certifications launches in February 2020, DevNet Certified Professionals will be allowed to fill any of the other 8 slots.

[Q: What is the DevNet 500?](#)

A: The DevNet 500 will recognize the first 500 individuals to earn a DevNet certification regardless of the specific learning path they take – Associate, Specialist or Professional – and from wherever in the world they pass the exam. DevNet 500 individuals will be recognized with a designated web-enabled badge – a credential that can be leveraged online for professional and personal recognition.

[Q: How do I get to be part of the DevNet 500?](#)

A: The first 500 individuals to earn a DevNet certification will become part of the DevNet 500.

[Q: How will I know if I made it into the DevNet 500?](#)

A: If you've made it into the DevNet 500, the DevNet 500 logo will be added to your customer profile and you will receive an email with access to the web-enabled badge version.

[Q: What are the benefits of being a part of the DevNet 500?](#)

A: DevNet 500 individuals will be recognized with a designated web-enabled badge – a credential that can be leveraged online for professional and personal recognition. The DevNet 500 logo will be added to your customer profile and you will receive an email with access to the web-enabled badge version within 48 hours of certifying.

## Specialist Certifications

[Q: What is a Specialist certification and how do I achieve it?](#)

A: A Specialist certification covers a specific technology topic. You can earn a Specialist certification by passing any written, proctored exam in the certification portfolio, with the exception of associate-level exams.

[Q: How does NPDESI and NPDEV fit into the new portfolio structure?](#)

A: NPDESI and NPDEV will no longer be offered as of February 24, 2020. Your current certification will remain active until its expiration. You can continue to grow your automation and programmability skills by pursuing a DevNet certification.

## CyberOps Certifications

Q: What happened to the CCNA Cyber Ops certification?

A: Effective February 24, 2020, your CCNA Cyber Ops has been renamed Cisco Certified CyberOps Associate to reflect its focus on cybersecurity operations. And coming on May 29, 2020, Cisco will release an updated, consolidated exam that will replace the current exams and courses. And an updated training course is coming soon. [Learn more.](#)

Q: I'm planning on pursuing CCNA Cyber Ops certification (now called Cisco Certified CyberOps Associate). Should I start now?

A: If you've already passed one of the two current exams (210-250 SECFND and 210- 255 SECOPS), keep going. You have until May 28, 2020 to take the current exams and complete your certification. The skills and knowledge covered in the CCNA Cyber Ops certification are still relevant in the updated Cisco Certified CyberOps Associate. The new exam, 200-201 CBROPS replaces the two current exams, and the first date to test on the new exam is May 29, 2020. [Learn more.](#)

Q: When will the details about the updated associate-level cyber ops certification be made available?

A: Information about the updated Cisco Certified CyberOps Certification is available [here](#).

Q: What are the key differences between the current Cisco Certified CyberOps Associate (formerly called CCNA Cyber Ops) and the updated certification program coming out in May?

A: The two current exams (210-250 SECFND and 210-255 SECOPS) and training courses will be combined into a single exam (200-201 CBROPS) and a single training course. The first date to test on the new exam is May 29, 2020. The updated Cisco Certified CyberOps Associate covers the latest foundational skills, processes, and knowledge needed for entry-level Security Operations Center (SOC) positions.

Q: I'm currently CCNA Cyber Ops certified. Is anything happening to my certification?

A: Beginning February 24, 2020, your certification will transition to the Cisco Certified CyberOps Associate. You will receive a certificate and a badge with the certification's new name. We have emailed those currently certified with the details on the updates to the program. If you haven't received the certificate and badge, please open a case with our [support team](#).

Q: How is the change from CCNA Cyber Ops to Cisco Certified CyberOps Associate beneficial to me?

A: The updates to the program reflect the latest skills, processes, and knowledge needed for today's associate-level SOC analyst.

Q: Are any prerequisites required to earn the Cisco Certified CyberOps Associate?

A: There are no formal prerequisites for the Cisco Certified CyberOps Associate, but you should have an understanding of the exam topics before taking the exam. Please visit [Cisco Certified CyberOps Associate](#) to learn more.

Q: Will a professional level CyberOps certification be made available in the future? Or will CyberOps material be part of the Security track?

A: A professional-level CyberOps certification is under consideration. Please sign up for future updates on the [Cisco CyberOps Certification Program](#).

## Training & Training Badges

Q: Have training courses changed in response to the changes in certifications?

A: Yes, new training courses align to the new certification structure.

Q: When will new Cisco Press books be available?

A: The schedule for updates to Cisco Press books can be found here: <http://cs.co/9005EoAeT>

Q: How do I earn a training badge?

A: When you complete any of the training courses that are part of a certification track, you earn a training badge.

To complete an instructor-led course, fill out the survey at the end of the course. To complete an e-learning course, finish all assessments or challenge labs in the course. Within approximately one week of completing a course, you will receive an email with a link to claim your training badge in the Acclaim platform.

Q: What do you mean by level 100, 200, 300 and 400 training courses?

A: The different levels represent the difficulty of the course and correspond with the levels of the certification program. They are as follows:

- 100 level: Foundational training with no exam
- 200 level: Training for associate-level certification exams
- 300 level: Training for professional-level certification exams
- 400 level: Training for expert-level certification exams

Q: When will I be able to start earning training badges?

A: You may start earning training badges for courses completed on or after February 24, 2020. Courses completed before this date will not be awarded a training badge. Please note that it will take approximately one week to receive notification that you've been awarded a training badge.

Q: Where do I track completed training badges?

A: You can view your training badges in your Acclaim account at <https://www.youracclaim.com/>.

Q: How do I manage and display my badge?

A: You will receive an email notification to the email address associated with your Cisco Connection Online Identification (CCO ID) alerting you your badge has been issued, and you will be asked to accept your badge. You can log into your Acclaim account at <https://www.youracclaim.com/> to manage and share your digital badges.

Q: I received my completion certificate for completing a training course but did not receive a badge, what should I do?

A: Please open a case with our [support team](#).

Q: I completed an E-Learning Training (ELT) and an Instructor-Led Training (ILT) for the same Cisco course, do I get two badges?

A: No, you are eligible to receive one badge per unique course completed, regardless of format.

Q: I completed the same course in multiple languages; do I get two badges?

A: No, you are eligible to receive one badge per unique course completed, regardless of language.

## Pricing

Q: Where can I find pricing information for Cisco certification exams?

A: You can find pricing for each exam at the Pearson VUE webpage for Cisco exams <http://www.pearsonvue.com/vouchers/pricelist/cisco.asp>

## Recertification

Q: How do I recertify as of February 24, 2020?

A: As of February 24, 2020, all certified individuals can recertify by either taking exams, earning Continuing Education credits or a mix of both. Continuing Education activities include things like, completing eligible online training courses, completing eligible instructor-led training courses, attending eligible Cisco Live training sessions and authoring exam questions. Visit [our website](#) learn more about our Continuing Education program.

Q: How many Continuing Education credits do I need in order to recertify?

A: To recertify as an Associate, you need to earn 30 Continuing Education credits.  
To recertify as a Specialist, you need to earn 40 Continuing Education credits.  
To recertify as a Professional, you need to earn 80 Continuing Education credits.  
To recertify as an Expert, you need to earn 120 Continuing Education credits.

Q: Can I recertify my CCNA, CCNP, CCIE or Specialist certification by successfully getting a DevNet certification?

A: Any exam, including DevNet certification exams, that you pass count towards recertifying your CCNA, CCNP, CCIE or Specialist certifications, effective February 24, 2020.

Q: Can I recertify my Cisco Certified DevNet Associate, Cisco Certified DevNet Professional, or Cisco Certified DevNet Specialist certification by successfully getting a CCNA, CCNP, CCIE, or Specialist certification?

A: Any exam, including CCNA, CCNP, CCIE and Specialist exams, that you pass count towards recertifying your Cisco Certified DevNet certifications, effective February 24, 2020.

Q: If my certification was retired, how long do I have before my certification expires?

A: Your certification will be active through its current expiration date.

Q: How did the recertification cycle change under the new portfolio structure?

A: Effective February 24, 2020, certified individuals are required to recertify every 3 years. Candidates are able to recertify by either taking exams, earning Continuing Education credits or a mix of both. Continuing Education activities include things like attending Cisco Live training sessions, completing online training courses and more. Also, any active CCIE or CCIE Emeritus that maintains their CCIE Active or Emeritus status for 20 consecutive years has the option to become a CCIE Lifetime Emeritus and does not have to pay additional Emeritus renewal fees.

Q: How did these changes impact the Continuing Education administrative fee?

A: There is no fee to participate in the Continuing Education program, as of February 24, 2020.

Q: Is my 3-year certification cycle based on my original certification date or based on the date that I most recently recertified?

A: Your certification status is active for three years from when you earn your certification. Each time you complete recertification requirements, your certification status will be extended for an additional three years from the date you recertify. This marks a change for CCIE certified individuals, as previously CCIE certification was active for 2 years, and each recertification event extended certification status for an additional two years from the anniversary date. For reference, here's an example of how the new recertification cycle works:

- Certified: Feb 1, 2019 → expiration: Feb 1, 2022
- Recertify: Nov 1, 2019 → expiration: Nov 1, 2022
- Recertify: Aug 1, 2020 → expiration: Aug 1, 2023

Q: Why did you increase the number of CCIE recertification credits required?

A: In the past, the CCIE recertification cycle was a two-year cycle. Now, the CCIE recertification cycle is three years. Due to this increase in the recertification cycle, we correspondingly increased the number of Continuing Education credits required for recertification to maintain the rigor of the program and ensure skills are continually refreshed.

Q: When does the new recertification policy go into effect?

A: The new recertification policy is in effect as of February 24, 2020.

Q: If I've accumulated a certain amount of recertification credits, did I lose my credits when the new recertification policy went into effect February 24, 2020?

A: No, your recertification credits carry over under the new policy. You are required to earn the number of Continuing Education credits established by the February 24<sup>th</sup> policy update in order to recertify.

Q: What happened to the CCIE suspended status?

A: The CCIE suspended status has been retired as of February 24, 2020. If you were in a suspended status as of February 24, 2020, your certification is considered active for the remainder of the suspended term. To remain active beyond the suspended term, CCIEs must meet new recertification requirements. For example, if your suspended status ends April 10, 2020, your CCIE will become active February 24, 2020 and will expire April 10, 2020 unless new recertification requirements are met.

Q: Does Continuing Education apply to DevNet certifications too?

A: Yes, Continuing Education applies to all DevNet certifications.

## Transition

Q: Will I get a new digital certificate if I was granted a new certification on February 24, 2020?

A: Yes, you will be able to access your new digital certificate in your profile if you're granted a new certification the week of February 24, 2020.



Americas Headquarters  
Cisco Systems, Inc.  
San Jose, CA

Asia Pacific Headquarters  
Cisco Systems (USA) Pte. Ltd.  
Singapore

Europe Headquarters  
Cisco Systems International BV Amsterdam,  
The Netherlands

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