

AZ-104: Microsoft Azure Administrator Associate

Overview

Microsoft Certified: Azure Administrator Associate validates expertise in managing Azure subscriptions, implementing and managing storage, computing resources, virtual networks, and securing identities.

Exam Details

- **Exam Code:** AZ-104
- **Duration:** 120 minutes
- **Questions:** 40-60 multiple choice
- **Passing Score:** ~700/1000
- **Cost:** \$165 USD
- **Prerequisites:** AZ-900 recommended, hands-on Azure experience essential

Core Skills Tested

1. Identity & Governance

- Azure AD user and group management
- RBAC and access control
- Subscription and resource management
- Cost management and budgeting

2. Storage Management

- Storage accounts and blob containers
- Azure Files and File Sync
- Managed disks and snapshots
- Backup and recovery solutions

3. Compute Resources

- Virtual machines creation and scaling
- App Service and Azure Functions
- Container instances and Kubernetes
- Batch processing and automation

4. Virtual Networks

- Virtual networks and subnets
- Network security groups and firewalls
- Load balancers and application gateways
- VPN and ExpressRoute connections

5. Monitoring & Troubleshooting

- Azure Monitor and Log Analytics
- Application Insights
- Diagnostic logging and alerts
- Performance tuning and optimization

Study Topics

Resource Management - Resource groups, deployments, templates, Azure CLI and PowerShell

Identity Services - Azure AD, MFA, conditional access, service principals, RBAC assignments

Storage Solutions - Blob tiers, Azure Files shares, encryption, replication, lifecycle policies

Compute Deployment - VMs sizing, availability sets, scale sets, managed images, custom extensions

Networking Basics - VNET peering, DNS, traffic management, security group rules, endpoint policies

Recommended Study Path

1. Complete Azure Fundamentals (AZ-900)
2. Microsoft Learn modules (40+ hours)
3. Hands-on labs in Azure Portal
4. Practice exams on Whizlabs/Pluralsight
5. Real deployment projects

Key Resources

- Microsoft Learn: learn.microsoft.com
- Azure Docs: docs.microsoft.com/azure
- Practice Tests: Whizlabs, Pluralsight
- Azure Free Tier: portal.azure.com

Success Tips

- Practice PowerShell/CLI commands extensively
- Deploy real infrastructure in lab environment
- Understand RBAC and access control deeply
- Master virtual networking concepts

- Focus on practical administration tasks