

Certificate of Competence in Zero Trust (CCZT) FAQ

The industry's first authoritative Zero Trust training and certificate.

What is the CCZT?

The [Certificate of Competence in Zero Trust](#) (CCZT) is the authoritative Zero Trust training and certificate that delivers the knowledge needed to understand the core concepts of Zero Trust. Developed by CSA, the trusted industry leader for cloud security certificates, the CCZT builds knowledge to drive the definition, implementation and management of Zero Trust over time.

Who is it for?

With Zero Trust established as the future of information security, a Zero Trust based approach will inevitably become a requirement for organizations and a required skill for security professionals. Here are just a few examples of those who should prepare for this inevitability with the CCZT:

- The C-Suite, managers, and decision makers to build a Zero Trust governance and risk posture
- Security engineers, architects, analysts, and administrators to protect devices and build/automate controls
- Compliance managers to identify the key components of the Zero Trust Governance Framework and how it supports an organization's risk and compliance programs



What are the benefits of earning your CCZT?

- **Keep up with innovation:** Demand for Zero Trust training is increasing. According to Gartner, 60% of organizations are expected to embrace Zero Trust by 2025.
- **Build a competent workforce and further individual development:** The CCZT and [CCZT Exam Bundle](#) builds a workforce that is proficient in implementing and managing Zero Trust models. This is crucial to keep up with evolving cybersecurity threats.
- **Ineffectiveness of traditional security:** Traditional models are not effective against modern threats. Zero Trust assumes no user or device can be trusted. Earning the CCZT ensures professionals are equipped to implement the robust security measures required from taking a Zero Trust approach.

What is the exam structure?

The CCZT is an open-book, online exam with 60 multiple choice questions covering six core areas of Zero Trust knowledge. Testers have two attempts to complete the exam in the allotted 120-minute timeframe and achieve a minimum passing score of 80%.

What does it cover?

The CCZT evaluates an individual's knowledge and expertise in these six areas of critical Zero Trust knowledge:



**Zero Trust
Foundational Concepts**



**Zero Trust
Architecture**



**Software Defined
Perimeter**



**NIST and CISA
Best Practices**



Zero Trust Planning



**Zero Trust
Implementation**

Are there required prerequisites?

There are no prerequisites required for the CCZT, however it is helpful to have your [Certificate of Cloud Security Knowledge \(CCSK\)](#) or a basic understanding of security fundamentals. Completing the [CCZT Exam Bundle](#) is also highly recommended to prepare for the CCZT.

How do I prepare for the exam?

There are currently three options to prepare for the exam.

1. **Study on your own.** Use the free [prep-kit](#) to facilitate your independent learning style. The kit includes CCZT Study Guides, CCZT knowledge guide, this FAQ, overview presentation, and authoritative sources to help you prepare.
2. **Self-paced training online.** If you need training flexible enough for your schedule and budget, self-paced online training may be a good fit. The CCZT exam is based on CSA's [Certificate of Competence in Zero Trust Exam Bundle](#). This online course includes an exam token and delivers the fundamentals needed to understand the core concepts of Zero Trust covered in the exam.
3. **Instructor-led training online.** This option is good for organizations with tight travel budgets or individuals who prefer a more personal instruction. Learn remotely while still being able to interact with your instructor. [Look for a course that fits your schedule.](#)

Why is CSA the authoritative source to deliver a Zero Trust certificate?

- **A Trusted Leader:** CSA certificates are recognized in the infosec community. Achieving the CCZT signals to employers and peers that the holder has demonstrated competence in Zero Trust principles and practices.
- **Vendor-Neutral Training:** The vendor-neutral training ensures that the skills and knowledge imparted can be applied across diverse platforms and technologies, increasing its value for infosec professionals.
- **Industry Collaboration:** The CCZT includes foundational Zero Trust components released by CISA and NIST, innovative work in the Software Defined Perimeter by CSA Research, and guidance from renowned Zero Trust experts such as John Kindervag, Creator of Zero Trust. This integration of knowledge uniquely positions CSA as the authoritative source to deliver the industry's first holistic benchmark for measuring Zero Trust skill sets.

What is the cost?

The CCZT exam costs \$175 and is valid for two years from time of purchase. The CCZT instructor-led training with exam costs \$1895. The online CCZT Exam Bundle and exam token costs \$455. CSA corporate members qualify for special CCZT pricing and discounts are also available for group training. Contact sales@cloudsecurityalliance.org to inquire about pricing options.

Is a digital badge available?

Yes. A [CCZT digital badge](#) is issued upon successful completion of the exam. Leverage the CCZT digital badge on your social media channels and resume to showcase your knowledge and validate your expertise.



Get support from the CSA community.

Connect with other students on [Circle](#), CSA's online community forum that provides a space for professionals, novices and visionaries to share information. Get tips from those who have taken the training or exam, and gain insight from those who helped create it. The robust CSA community is here to help you on your CCZT journey.

Learn more.

For more information, or to explore CSA's full portfolio of Zero Trust resources in the Zero Trust Advancement Center (ZTAC), visit cloudsecurityalliance.org/zt.