



# **Validate your skills with AWS Certification**

Achieve professional credibility  
and personal satisfaction

## INTRODUCTION

# When you're skilled, you know it. When you're certified, everyone knows it.

Certification is one of the best ways to validate your cloud skills. And AWS Certifications are industry-recognized credentials.

Technology is at the disruptive edge of the job market—a precipice in constant change where it pays to be flexible. Learning new skills is essential, and industry leaders know this.

As a technology professional, you'll want to do everything you can to demonstrate that your skills match the current needs of the market. Training courses can help—and attaining certifications can have a powerful impact.

AWS offers a number of industry-recognized certifications that validate your experience to help you go beyond training and highlight your skills. Earning AWS Certifications allows you to showcase your cloud knowledge and abilities specific to roles or technical domains that help move your career forward.

AWS Certifications are built by AWS experts and updated regularly, so you can be sure you're highlighting current and fresh cloud skills. You can pursue AWS Certifications at various levels that align with your experience with AWS: Foundational, Associate, Professional, and Specialty.

This eBook provides an overview of what you need to know to earn an AWS Certification, acting as your guide throughout the process. It will help you determine which AWS Certifications are right for you and show you how to prepare for and obtain them.

Certification conveys a strong sense of credibility, trust, and confidence. In addition to potential salary benefits, IT professionals overwhelmingly report better job effectiveness and job satisfaction after achieving a new certification:<sup>1</sup>

**90%** say AWS Training and Certification programs drove their ability to work on special cloud projects

**82%** say AWS Certifications boost their effectiveness

**80%** say they saw boosts in efficiency

**79%** say AWS Certification increased their influence within their organization

**74%** say AWS certification increased their earning potential



<sup>1</sup> ESG Whitepaper commissioned by AWS, Training and Certification Help Learners Thrive in an Increasingly Cloud-first World, January 2022.

# Which AWS Certification is for me?

You may be wondering, “How do I determine which certifications are right for me?”

To answer that question, you’ll need to consider your role and honestly evaluate your existing level of experience and knowledge across various areas of technical and cloud expertise.

AWS offers four categories of certifications, three of which correspond to the amount of experience you have with the AWS Cloud. For Specialty certifications, the amount of recommended experience varies by certification.

Certification type	Experience level designed for
Foundational	Less than 1 year
Associate	1–2 years
Professional	2 or more years
Specialty	Varies by certification



# Available AWS Certifications

## Foundational

**Six months** of fundamental AWS Cloud and industry knowledge



## Professional

**Two years** of experience designing, operating, and troubleshooting solutions using the AWS Cloud



## Associate

**One year** of experience solving problems and implementing solutions using the AWS Cloud



## Specialty

Technical AWS Cloud experience in the Specialty domain as specified in the exam guide

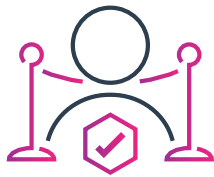


# AWS Certification Benefits



## Exam discount

Get a 50% discount voucher to apply toward recertification or any other exam.



## Digital Badges

Showcase your AWS Certification with digital badges on your social media and email signatures and to gain immediate access to exclusive AWS-sponsored certification events.



## Event recognition

Receive invites to regional Appreciation Receptions and use your digital badge to gain exclusive access to AWS Certification Lounges at AWS re:Invent and select AWS Summit events.



## AWS Certified Global Community

Gain access to our AWS Certified community and network with your peers.



## AWS Certification Store

Unlock access to exclusive AWS Certification merchandise. (Note: The store currently only ships items to the U.S.)

# Practice makes perfect

If you're new to the cloud or work in a non-technical role, we recommend you begin your training by preparing for and earning the **AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner** credential. Explore our available AWS Certification exams to get information on pricing, language availability, and testing options for each exam using the link below. Before we dive into the specifics, let's take a look at some attributes that are common to all or nearly all AWS Certification exams.

## All certification exams are:

- ✓ Multiple choice
- ✓ Delivered in Testing Center and Online proctored exam

## All exams are available in:

- ✓ English, Japanese, Korean, Simplified Chinese, Bahasa\*
- \*AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner only*

**Explore all AWS Certifications ›**

# Exam details

Know your options and what to expect when you take an AWS Certification exam.

## Test delivery options

- Testing center – Take your exam at a public testing center located near you
- Online proctored exam – Take your exam in the comfort of your home or office with online proctors

## Cost

- Varies depending on exam
- 100 USD–300 USD

## Results and next steps

- Exam results are usually available within five business days
- Access results via your AWS Certification Account

## Question styles

- Multiple choice – Select the single best answer from a list of possibilities
- Multiple response – Select multiple responses from a list of possibilities

## Available languages

- English, Japanese, Korean, Simplified Chinese – All exams
- Bahasa – AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner exam only

## If you do not pass

- 14-day waiting period to retake an exam
- No limit on exam attempts

# Preparing for an exam

## There's no such thing as being "too prepared"

Browse the latest [AWS Certification exam](#) preparation resources.

These are some of the resources AWS offers to help you prepare to take your AWS Certification exam. To access all of these resources, you'll need to create a free [AWS Skill Builder Account](#), if you haven't already.

## Exam Guide

- Contains the content outline and target audience for the certification exam. Consider using the exam guide as a self-assessment to help identify gaps in your skills or knowledge.

## AWS Certification Official Practice Question Sets

- Feature 20 questions developed by AWS to demonstrate the style and depth of our certification exams. You can experience these exam-style questions, which offers detailed feedback and recommended resources to help fill gaps.

## AWS Certification Official Practice Exams

- Provide practice with the same question style, depth, and rigor as the certification exam. Exam-style scoring indicates whether you passed or failed using the same scaled scoring model as the certification exam to help you gauge your readiness. You'll also get feedback on the answer choices for each question with recommended resources to deepen your understanding of key topics.

## Recommended Courses

- Training designed to help you build or improve the skills needed for a given certification exam.

## Learning Plan

- Recommended sequence(s) of courses and certifications you can follow to help advance your skills or prepare you to use the AWS Cloud.

## Whitepapers

- Resources designed to broaden your technical understanding, written by the AWS team, independent analysts, and AWS partners.

## FAQ

- Commonly raised issues and questions that will help you understand AWS products, services, and features beyond the scope of your personal experience.

## Exam Readiness Training

- Training courses and workshops explicitly designed to help you prepare for a given certification exam.

[Browse exam preparation resources ›](#)



# Recertification

## Keep your skills and your résumé fresh with recertification

To maintain your AWS Certified status, we require you to periodically validate your continued knowledge and skills.

Upon earning an AWS Certification, you will receive a 50% off exam fee voucher. You can use this voucher to lower the cost of recertification (or toward any future certification exam you wish to purchase). Vouchers can be found in the benefits section of your AWS Certification Account.

AWS Certifications are valid for three years. You must take the current certification exam before your certification expires to keep your certification active. We call this process “recertification.”

Recertification helps strengthen the overall value of your AWS Certification by demonstrating that you are up to date on the latest knowledge, skills, and best practices. Recertification also ensures you have continued access to your AWS Certification benefits, such as your digital badge, exclusive access to AWS Certification events, a free practice exam, and more.

For Foundational- and Associate-level certifications, you can also satisfy the recertification requirement for a current certification by passing or renewing a higher-level role-based exam. If you’re up for the challenge, earn the next certification on your path.



# Take the next step to get AWS Certified

**[Learn more about available AWS Certifications ›](#)**

