MICROSOFT CERTIFIED: AZURE FUNDAMENTALS (AZ-900) CERTIFICATION

WHO ISSUES THE CERTIFICATION?

Microsoft.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE CERTIFICATION?

The AZ-900 certification is an opportunity to prove knowledge of cloud concepts, Azure services, Azure workloads, security and privacy in Azure, as well as Azure pricing and support. Candidates should be familiar with the general technology concepts, including concepts of networking, storage, compute, application support, and application development.

WHAT IS THE CAREER LEVEL OF THE CERTIFICATION AND WHO IS IT GEARED TO?

AZ-900 is an entry-level certification designed for high school and college students and anyone new to the IT field or at least the Cloud, job changers and business professionals with non-technical experience such as program managers, and sales representatives who are responsible for selling or purchasing cloud-based solutions.

WHAT ARE THE EDUCATION AND/OR EXPERIENCE PREREQUISITES FOR THE CERTIFICATION?

AZ-900 has no prerequisites, but Microsoft's more advanced, role-based certifications do have some experience recommendations.

WHAT IS THE COST AND STRUCTURE OF THE CERTIFICATION'S EXAM(S)?

The cost of taking the AZ-900 exam is $99. In addition, job seekers who have completed training for Microsoft-specific technical roles and can attest that they have been unemployed or furloughed due to COVID-19 can secure a Microsoft certification at a discounted fee. Microsoft also offers volume licensing, which allows companies to consolidate the purchasing, budgeting, and tracking of the Microsoft training and certification solutions products (including exam vouchers) with other Microsoft technology purchases for a reduced bundled price.

The exam measures a person's ability to describe the following concepts: cloud concepts; core Azure services; core solutions and management tools on Azure; general security and network security features; identity, governance, privacy, and compliance features; and Azure cost management and service level agreements through a 60-minute, online-proctored delivery through PSI Exams Online or Pearson VUE's test center network.

WHAT IS THE GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATION?

International.

IS THIS CERTIFICATION ACCREDITED?

No.

HOW LONG IS THE CERTIFICATION VALID?

The AZ-900 certification currently does not expire.

IS THERE A PROCESS FOR RENEWING THE CERTIFICATION, OR RECERTIFICATION?

There is not a recertification process since the certification does not expire.

CAN THE CERTIFICATION BE REVOKED?

Yes. If the test-taker violates the exam non-disclosure agreement, they may have their certification revoked.

IS THE CERTIFICATION LINKED TO LICENSURE?

No.

HOW DOES THE CERTIFICATION RELATE TO OTHER MICROSOFT CERTIFICATIONS OR THOSE OF OTHER CERTIFICATION BODIES?

The AZ-900 is Microsoft's highest volume credential worldwide and is a first step to Microsoft's Azure role-based applied learning paths and certifications. Microsoft's certifications are organized into three levels: a fundamentals level (such as the AZ-900) recommended for individuals just starting in technology or thinking about a career change; and at the role-based (i.e., associate and expert) and specialty levels for those interested in expanding their technical skill set in pursuit of specific job roles. Specialty certifications, such as the Azure IOT Engineer, either cut across more than one job role or are a specialty within a specific job role.

WHAT ARE SOME ORGANIZATIONS OR INDUSTRIES THAT RECOGNIZE OR USE THE CERTIFICATION?

Any company that uses cloud computing or sells cloud computing related products and services.

ARE THERE ANY COMPANIES, CORPORATIONS, OR OTHER ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE PUBLICLY DECLARED THEY PREFER OR REQUIRE THE CERTIFICATION?

Examples include Boeing, Coca-Cola, and PepsiCo.

WHAT OCCUPATIONS USE THE CERTIFICATION?

Anyone in the IT field, program managers, and sales representatives who are responsible for selling or purchasing cloud-based solutions.

DOES MICROSOFT OFFER TRAINING MATERIALS TO HELP INDIVIDUALS PREPARE FOR THE CERTIFICATION EXAM?

Yes, through Microsoft Learn, which provides a free online, customizable environment that involves exercises where students perform tasks in Azure, such as creating virtual machines or performing Azure functions, to practice what they are learning, as well as other paths to pursue based on the job role(s) and Microsoft product(s) the individual is interested in pursuing. In addition, the website provides extensive learning materials, including clear visual depictions of pathways and detailed information about the content of the required examinations for each certification. Microsoft also lists its worldwide network of more than 1,000 partner learning providers on their site and indicates all instructors are Microsoft Certified Trainers (MCTs), meaning they have completed rigorous training and have met stringent technical certification requirements.