



## Frequently Asked Questions: Instructor Exam Fee Waiver Program

### Networking Academy Instructor Exam Fee Waiver Program

**Q. What is the Networking Academy Instructor Exam Fee Waiver Program?**

A. In support of the Cisco® Networking Academy® instructor community, Learning@Cisco, the business unit within Cisco that is responsible for authoring and managing the Cisco portfolio of certification exams, and Pearson VUE, Cisco's primary vendor for test delivery, have developed an exam fee waiver program for active instructors in the Networking Academy community. This offer will be available to all active Networking Academy instructors from early September 2008 through January 1, 2010. This program was designed to facilitate the certification and recertification process for interested instructors.

**Q. Who will be eligible for the program?**

A. All **active** instructors in the Networking Academy community will be eligible to receive up to one voucher for each of the certification exams that map to the Networking Academy curricula, including the following:

- Cisco CCENT™ Certification
  - ICND1 (640-822)
- Cisco CCNA® Certification
  - ICND1 (640-822)
  - ICND2 (640-816)
  - CCNA composite (640-802)
- Cisco CCNP® Certification
  - BSCI (642-901)
  - BCMSN (642-812)
  - ISCW (642-825)
  - ONT (642-845)

You may choose a maximum of six distinct vouchers. You may **not** choose ICND1, ICND2, and CCNA composite, you must choose one option or the other.

**Q. What is an active instructor?**

A. An active instructor is an instructor who has taught a class within the past 12 months. To qualify, a class must have a least three students.

**Q. How can I receive a voucher?**

A. Links to request vouchers for each of the exams will appear on the Academy Connection homepage of active instructors. You should only request a voucher if you intend to take the exam and are ready to do so, since voucher redemption rates will be measured as part of the program criteria. Links to request vouchers will remain active until they are used or until January 1, 2010. After requesting a voucher, you will receive confirmation and the voucher number will appear in your instructor profile. Note when the voucher code expires, since expiration dates vary. Your voucher should be valid for at least three months.

**Q. After I request a voucher, will the link go away?**

A. The link for the voucher related to the exam that you requested will disappear. For example, if you click the link for the CCNA Composite exam, that link and the ICND2 voucher exam link will disappear. The links for ICND1 and all four of the CCNP exams will remain active. Only use the links when you are prepared to take an exam.

**Q. Will I only receive one voucher during the 15-month program? What if I want to take CCENT, CCNA, and CCNP?**

A. Active Networking Academy instructors will be eligible for one voucher for each of the exams listed above, so they can choose to certify in CCENT, CCNA, and CCNP. You can choose either the two exam option for CCNA (ICND1 and ICND2), or the CCNA composite exam, however you can not choose both the one and two exam options.

**Q. How much is the voucher discount?**

A. Vouchers within this program will cover 100 percent of the cost of each exam for active Networking Academy instructors.

**Q. How can I receive another voucher?**

A. A single voucher will be issued per exam, per candidate, so please study prior to taking your certification exam.

**Q. If I fail the certification exam, can I use the voucher a second time?**

A. No, the voucher is valid for one use only.

**Q. How can I register for a certification exam with my voucher?**

A. When you register for an exam either online or by calling a Pearson VUE testing center, you will be asked to provide your voucher information. This will be a code number that will ensure you receive the discount.

**Q. How long is my voucher valid?**

A. Expect the voucher you receive to be valid for three months. Some vouchers may be valid longer, but you are responsible for knowing when your voucher expires, since the expiration date cannot be extended.

**Q. If I took a certification exam prior to the availability of this program, am I still eligible for a voucher?**

A. No, vouchers cannot be awarded retroactively. Please note that you will not be reimbursed for any certification exam taken previously. However, you are eligible for a 100 percent voucher for all certification exams listed above if you are an active instructor.

**Q. What will happen when the program ends?**

A. If Networking Academy instructors find this program to be valuable, the goal is to determine how to implement an instructor voucher program on a recurring basis for certifications or promotional activities tied to curriculum updates and releases. When this program is discontinued at the end of 15 months, Networking Academy, Learning@Cisco, and Pearson VUE will continue to explore other options to facilitate the certification process for interested instructors.

**Q. Why is Cisco making this investment?**

A. Cisco is supporting this program to facilitate the certification and recertification process for interested Networking Academy instructors. Networking Academy, Learning@Cisco, and Pearson VUE will continue to explore other viable options to facilitate the certification process for interested instructors based on the feedback received throughout the program.

## Certification Exams

### Q. What are some advantages of Cisco certifications?

A. Cisco Career Certifications are widely respected and bring valuable, measurable rewards to your career—including the ability to earn higher salaries than non-certified professionals. Cisco certification can lead to recognition, new job opportunities, and better compensation throughout your career.

(Source: 2006-2007 TCP Magazine Internetworking Salary Survey, <http://tcpmag.com/salariesurveys>.)

### Q. How long is a Cisco certification valid and how do I recertify?

A. Cisco career certifications are valid for three years from the date you pass your last exam. Valid certifications can be renewed indefinitely, but without timely renewal, certifications will expire or become inactive. To keep certifications current, individuals should recertify by advancing to the next level of certification or passing the designated recertification exam(s). To recertify for CCENT and CCNA, candidates must choose one of the following options:

- Pass the current certification exam. For CCENT and CCNA, ICND2 will also recertify
- Pass a current specialist exam bearing a 642 prefix (excluding Sales Specialist exams)
- Pass any professional level exam bearing a 642 prefix
- Advance to the next level or recertify at the professional level to automatically renew your associate-level certifications
- Pass any current CCIE or CCDE written exam
- For more information on CCENT, visit [www.cisco.com/go/ccent](http://www.cisco.com/go/ccent)
- For more information on CCNA, visit [www.cisco.com/go/ccna](http://www.cisco.com/go/ccna)
- For more information on CCNP, visit [www.cisco.com/go/ccnp](http://www.cisco.com/go/ccnp)

To recertify for CCNP, candidates must pass any 642 exam that is part of the [professional level](#) curriculum, or pass a current CCIE or CCDE written exam. To learn more about recertification, visit:

[www.cisco.com/web/learning/le3/learning\\_about\\_recertification.html](http://www.cisco.com/web/learning/le3/learning_about_recertification.html).

### Q. Where do I go to take the certification exams?

A. Pearson VUE is Cisco's primary vendor for test delivery. Together, we are changing the face of IT testing by introducing features designed to protect the integrity of Cisco certifications. Pearson VUE is the global leader in electronic testing for regulatory and certification boards; providing a full suite of services from test development to test delivery to data management.

### Q. How do I register for an exam at Pearson VUE?

A. Pearson VUE offers three different methods of registration. You can use the Pearson VUE website, call a Pearson VUE agent, or contact the test center directly.

1. To register for an exam on the Pearson VUE website, please [sign in](#) to your account using your Pearson VUE username and password. Please note that you will need to create a web account prior to using the website for the first time. If you do not have a username and password, and would like to get one, please [create a web account](#) now.
2. Another way to register for an exam is to contact a [Pearson VUE agent](#) directly.
3. The final option is to call or visit a test center directly. To locate the address and telephone number of a Pearson VUE test center, use the [Test Center Locator](#).

For more information, visit [www.pearsonvue.com/cisco/](http://www.pearsonvue.com/cisco/)

**Q. How can I locate a Pearson VUE test center in my area?**

A. Pearson VUE has more than 4000 test centers in 162 countries worldwide. The quickest way to locate one near you is to use the [Test Center Locator](#). Simply select the exam program you are interested in, and then follow the instructions displayed. You will see a list of all available Pearson VUE Authorized Test Centers in your area.

**Q. Who is Pearson VUE?**

A. Pearson VUE ([www.pearsonvue.com](http://www.pearsonvue.com)) is the global leader in electronic testing for regulatory and certification boards; providing a full suite of services from test development to test delivery to data management. Pearson VUE offers exams through the world's largest network of test centers in 162 countries, providing testing services for information technology, academic, government and professional clients. In 2007, Pearson VUE was chosen as Cisco's primary vendor for test delivery.

**Q. Who is Learning@Cisco?**

A. Learning@Cisco is chartered with developing the right technical expertise, in the right place, at the right time to support Cisco's vision. The team, under the leadership of Jeanne Beliveau-Dunn, is making an unprecedented investment in developing global talent through the expansion of its certification and training portfolio. To meet global demand, Learning@Cisco is also increasing the number of training and testing outlets and developing a social networking platform, Cisco Learning Network, to enable collaboration and support the lifecycle of learning.

**Q. What is the Cisco Learning Network?**

A. The new Cisco Learning Network was created to be the preeminent online social network for Cisco certified personnel, IT professionals, students, and anyone interested in a career in IT. This community will allow users to interact, collaborate, learn, mentor, and prepare for certification exams through various features:

- Discussion forums
- Blogs
- Video interviews
- Wikis
- Other Web 2.0 technologies

The Cisco Learning Network gives Cisco customers, partners, and Cisco employees the opportunity to collaborate, share knowledge, and provide support as they develop their careers through Cisco certifications. Visit the [Cisco Learning Network](#) to learn more.

**Q. Why are Learning@Cisco and Pearson VUE supporting this program?**

A. Learning@Cisco and Pearson VUE partnered with the Networking Academy to develop this program because they recognize the importance of the Networking Academy instructor community and the role they play in delivering networking education to students around the world.