



The Demand for Wireless Network Professionals

During the past 12 years, the wireless technology area has shown rapid growth, with the addition of five billion wireless devices worldwide. As impressive as that growth is, however, it is projected that between 2013 and 2015, an *additional* seven billion new wi-fi devices will come into circulation, according to a study by ABI Research. Add the rise of borderless networks and fast-growing interest in Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policies, and one can see that the demands placed on wireless networks and their professionals will be monumental. The talent gap that the networking profession is already experiencing will be particularly pronounced in the wireless area as enterprises look increasingly to wireless access to help improve operational efficiency and user productivity.

Research by Forrester Consulting reveals that 66 percent of organizations worldwide will have wireless job roles by 2013. Stepping into these roles to fill the talent gap will require individuals confident with the design and operation of wireless networks. Cisco foresees a strong need for its wireless training and certifications to enable the global work force to meet the staffing challenges ahead. This period of intense demand makes it a great time to get certified as a wireless expert.

Job-Ready Practical Skills

The Cisco CCNA® Wireless certification program is designed to *teach* and *validate* the associate-level wireless skills required to configure, implement, and support wireless LANs (WLAN) using Cisco equipment. Successful implementation of wireless network technology depends on skilled IT professionals for proper installation and maintenance. Companies with wireless networks have learned that proper IT training and skills have the largest impact on the performance and success of their wireless network deployments. A CCNA Wireless certification validates the job-ready skills and knowledge to install and maintain a wireless network that can have lower network downtime and can recover more quickly from errors.

Curriculum

The CCNA Wireless certification curriculum provides wireless network professionals with information and practice activities to help prepare them to install, configure, monitor, and conduct basic troubleshooting tasks of a Cisco WLAN in small and medium-sized business (SMB) and enterprise installations. The curriculum covers the real-world best practices of wireless network engineering and includes describing WLAN fundamentals, installing Cisco WLAN components (access points and controllers), implementing

WLAN security, and operating and troubleshooting using a Wireless Control System (WCS).

Achieving CCNA Wireless Certification

To obtain a CCNA Wireless certification, a candidate must pass the Implementing Cisco Unified Wireless Networking Essentials (IUWNE) exam. This exam tests a candidate's knowledge of installing, operating, and troubleshooting small- to large-sized WLANs. Specifically, the IUWNE exam will test and validate your understanding of and ability to articulate basic WLAN fundamentals. In addition, the exam requires candidates to identify, install, and troubleshoot basic components of the Cisco Unified Wireless Network architecture, as well as implement WLAN security.

Candidates can prepare for this exam by taking the *Implementing Cisco Unified Wireless Networking Essentials* (IUWNE) instructor-led training (ILT) course offered through Cisco Learning Partners or reviewing the study materials on the Cisco Learning Network website, <https://learningnetwork.cisco.com/>.

Requirements

The CCNA Wireless certification program is a three-year certification program intended to recognize IT professionals, network managers, engineers, administrators, designers, and systems engineers that have the necessary skills to test, deploy, configure, maintain, and troubleshoot Cisco WLAN appliances and software. Prior to attempting the CCNA Wireless certification, a candidate must have a valid Cisco CCNA Routing and Switching certification or any Cisco CCIE® certification, and have 1–3 years of experience in WLANs.

Prerequisite Skills and Knowledge

Completion of the CCNA Wireless certification requires the prerequisite exams and recommended training shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Prerequisite Exams and Recommended Training

Exam Numbers	Prerequisite Exam Names
640-802	CCNA Composite Exam

or

640-822	Interconnecting Cisco Network Devices 1 (ICND1)
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and

640-816	Interconnecting Cisco Network Devices 2 (ICND2)
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Exam Numbers	Recommended Training (Course Names)
640-722	<i>Implementing Cisco Unified Wireless Networking Essentials</i> (IUWNE) instructor-led training

Recertification

Cisco associate-level certifications are valid for three years and must be recertified before the certification expiration date.

To recertify, certificate holders must pass one of the following before the certification expiration date:

- Pass any current CCNA Concentration exam (wireless, or security, or voice, or SP Ops), or
- Pass any current 642-XXX professional level exam, or
- Pass the current Cisco CCDA® DESGN exam, or pass any current Cisco Specialist exam (excluding Sales Specialist exams or MeetingPlace Specialist exams, Implementing Cisco TelePresence Installations (ITI) exams, Cisco Leading Virtual Classroom Instruction exams, or any 650 online exams), or

CCNA Wireless Certification

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Overview

- Pass any current CCIE Written Exam, or
- Pass the current Cisco CCDE® Written Exam OR current CCDE Practical Exam, or
- Pass the Cisco Certified Architect (CCAr®) interview AND the CCAr board review to extend lower certifications.

Learn More

For more information about the CCNA Wireless certification, visit www.cisco.com/web/learning/certifications/associate/ccna_wireless.

