

# Certificate of Cloud Security Knowledge (CCSK)

Demonstrate a mastery of essential and up to date cloud security knowledge with the CCSK.

**CSA** cloud security alliance®

**CCSK**<sup>™</sup>  
Certificate of  
Cloud Security Knowledge



# What is the CCSK?

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The [Certificate of Cloud Security Knowledge](#) (CCSK) is the benchmark for cloud security expertise providing a comprehensive and unbiased understanding of how to effectively secure data in the cloud. The CCSK enables everyone from information security professionals to CEOs the ability to utilize cloud services more securely and speak with confidence about cloud security concerns. Earning your CCSK v5 is the mark of a modern cybersecurity professional.

The logo for the Certificate of Cloud Security Knowledge (CCSK) features the letters 'CCSK' in a large, bold, blue, sans-serif font. A small 'TM' trademark symbol is positioned to the upper right of the 'K'.

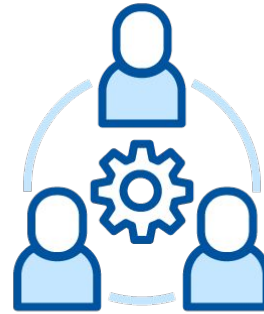
*Certificate of*  
**Cloud Security Knowledge**

# Why CCSK? Why Now?



## Cloud Computing Dominates

Cloud computing is now the dominant information technology system and cloud security is the foundation of modern cybersecurity programs. The CCSK v5 provides a detailed understanding of modern cloud components and state-of-the-art security best practices.



## Close the Skills Gap

Skills gaps are widening with rapidly evolving cybersecurity threats and emerging technology. The CCSK v5 delivers the knowledge and tools for individuals and organizations to keep up.



## Evolving Technology

Rapid availability of AI tools and the continuing shift of computer technology towards an open but untrusted infrastructure makes fundamental cloud security knowledge critical for organizations and individuals.

# CCSK Stands Above

*Setting new industry standards for the modern cloud security professional*



## Vendor Neutrality

Innovative work around the latest advancements in organizational management, cloud-native security, workload, network security, security monitoring, data security, and the latest strategic drivers such as AI and Zero Trust by CSA Research.



## Best Practices

Comprehensive curriculum equips professionals with actionable skills to effectively address modern challenges in complex cloud environments.



## Expert Driven

Collaboration and leadership from renowned cloud security experts and an extensive volunteer community of industry leaders.

# Backed by Industry Support

CCSK: The standard of expertise for cloud security

*"The CCSK has proven to be an invaluable resource for our leadership teams. It ensures that our leaders are well-versed in the latest cloud security trends and technologies, enabling us to make informed decisions and maintain a competitive edge in the market."*

**Tim Chase**

Global Field CISO at Laceworks

*"The CCSK certificate is a cornerstone for vendor-agnostic cloud security education. It effectively strengthens the fundamentals across essential cloud security domains and plays a critical role in upskilling talent to meet modern security challenges."*

**Dr. Victor Monga**

CISO and Adjunct Professor at  
Virtually Testing Foundation



*"Obtaining the CCSK certificate was one of the best decisions I've made for my professional growth. Studying for the certificate not only deepened my technical knowledge but also improved my ability to communicate security concepts to non-technical stakeholders. It's a fantastic certificate for anyone serious about cloud security."*

**Salvador Guarino Jr.**

CISO at PwC Philippines

*"The CCSK is a benchmark for cloud security expertise. Our team of security architects and analysts has greatly benefited from the comprehensive understanding of cloud security principles and practices that this certification offers. It has enabled us to implement robust security strategies that align with industry best practices."*

**Shankar Chebrolu**

Director of Security Architecture  
at Red Hat

# Who should earn their CCSK?



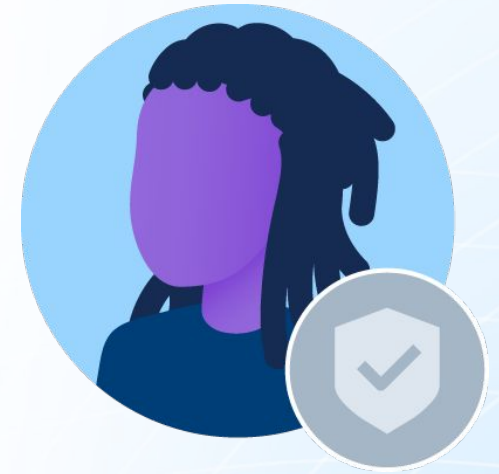
**IT Professionals**



**Developers**



**IT Operations**



**Audit/Compliance  
Managers**

The CCSK is designed for any IT professional working in cloud computing. It is an essential credential for all security professionals to show proof of skills to current and future employers. Because the CCSK is designed to deliver a well rounded view of cloud security, professionals with less experience or non-security backgrounds also find significant value in the training and certificate, particularly developers, IT operations, and audit/compliance professionals.

# What's New in CCSK v5



Latest in cloud architecture, cloud native security, workload, virtual networking, data protection, DevSecOps, Zero Trust, Generative AI and more



Vital information about managing risks, achieving compliance, and understanding the shared responsibility between cloud provide and cloud user



Organization management content, including governance



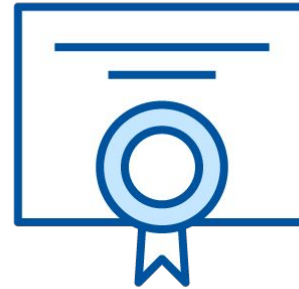
Permanent access to CCSK Orb, CSA's revolutionary CCSK chatbot designed to help you master the body of knowledge

# Benefits



## Career Advancement

A globally recognized standard, the certificate opens doors to new job opportunities and higher roles, enhancing career trajectory.



## Digital Badge

Boost your professional viability by displaying the [CCSK digital badge](#) and certificate on your digital profiles and resumes to demonstrate your verified skills.



## Future Ready Skills

With coverage on AI, GenAI, Zero Trust and additional rapidly emerging technologies, the CCSK equips you to tackle both present and upcoming security threats.



## Industry Leadership

Connect with CCSK instructors and students on [Circle](#), CSA's online community forum, to gain insights, share experiences and knowledge, and learn from industry leaders who helped create the certificate.



# Course Types

## CCSK Foundation

Covering 12 domains of critical cloud security knowledge, this lectures-only class covers the core concepts, best practices and recommendations for securing an organization on the cloud regardless of provider or platform.

## CCSK Plus

The CCSK Plus builds on the foundation class with expanded material and offers extensive hands-on labs. Students engage in a scenario of bringing a fictional organization securely into the cloud, which gives them the opportunity to apply their knowledge by performing a series of activities that would be required in a real-world environment. Labs are available in either Azure or AWS.

# Curriculum

The CCSK covers 12 core areas of cloud security knowledge:



Domain 1  
**Cloud Computing  
Concepts & Architectures**



Domain 2  
**Cloud Governance**



Domain 3  
**Risk, Audit, &  
Compliance**



Domain 4  
**Organization  
Management**



Domain 5  
**Identity & Access  
Management**



Domain 6  
**Security Monitoring**



Domain 7  
**Infrastructure &  
Networking**



Domain 8  
**Cloud Workload  
Security**



Domain 9  
**Data Security**



Domain 10  
**Application Security**



Domain 11  
**Incident Response  
& Resilience**

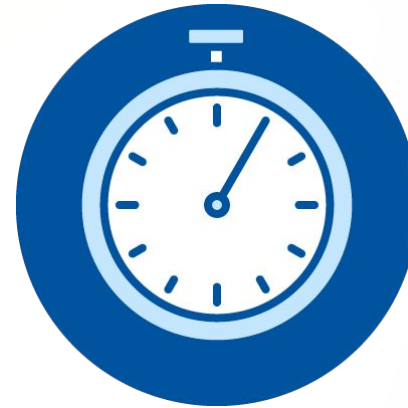


Domain 12  
**Related Technologies  
& Strategies**

# Exam Structure



**Open-book, online exam**



**120 minutes**



**60 multiple choice questions**

randomly selected from  
CCSK question pool



**80% minimum passing score**

# Prepare

## Select your Learning Style

- Study on your own
- Self-paced online training
- Instructor-led training (virtual or in-person)

## Access Study Materials

- Download the CCSK Prep-Kit
  - includes comprehensive study guide, Security Guidance, sample questions, recommended CSA Research publications, and authoritative sources
- Get support from the CSA community on Circle

## No Prerequisites Required

- A basic understanding of security fundamentals is highly recommended



# Take the Exam



## Register on the CSA Exams website

Simply create an account to register for the exam. Because the exam is online, you can take the test where and when you want after purchasing the exam token.



## Purchase the CCSK exam token

Each CCSK exam token provides you with two test attempts. If you choose to enroll in a training course, a complimentary exam token is included.



## Take the exam

Make sure you have thoroughly studied the exam materials and reviewed your notes if you took a training course.

# Build on your Success

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## Earn CPEs

A certificate of completion is issued for all completed CSA trainings and exams. This certificate can be submitted for continuing education credits.

## Share Your Knowledge

- Showcase your knowledge and validate your expertise by displaying the CCSK digital badge on your social media channels and resume
- Join the CCSK Community Group on Circle to share tips learned from taking the training or exam
- Start applying your knowledge by volunteering for one of CSA's many Research Working Groups

## Keep Learning

- Build on your foundational knowledge with the Certificate of Competence in Zero Trust (CCZT), CSA's authoritative zero trust training and certificate.
- Focus on fundamental areas of cloud computing such as Top Threats, Cloud Key Management, DevSecOps and more with the Cloud Infrastructure Security online courses.



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*Earn your CCSK today.*

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