



BROCADE

Certification & Accreditation FAQs



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1. What is the Brocade Certification Program?

The Brocade Certification Program enables anyone to demonstrate expertise and gain formal recognition in implementing industry-leading network technology used in data centers through Brocade-authorized training, and then passing the appropriate exam. Brocade provides levels of certification to suit both organizational and individual career goals. Our certifications provide an objective measurement of technical proficiency for selling and supporting network solutions, as well as increasing customer satisfaction.

2. What is the Brocade Accreditation Program?

The Brocade Accreditation Program augments the Certification Program enabling professionals to demonstrate their knowledge in various specific areas of expertise. The Accreditations are either product or topic specific. Candidates should first take the appropriate course, then they should access the corresponding accreditation exam.

3. Who should get a credential?

The Brocade Certification & Accreditation Programs are open to anyone seeking validation of their network skills whether it be storage, file or Ethernet, and wishing to have a competitive technological edge. A validated set of skills leads to a better understanding of the use and maintenance of our products. This may become useful when seeking any career advancement.

4. What is the availability of the program?

The program is available worldwide to all candidates. General information is available on the Brocade website at <http://www.brocade.com/education/certification-accreditation/index.page>.

5. Who delivers the certification exams and then how do I register?

Our certification exams are delivered worldwide through Pearson VUE. Certification candidates should go to the Pearson VUE website at <http://www.pearsonvue.com/brocade> and create a profile. Once a testing center is located, registrations can be made for the appropriate exam from the list provided. Our accreditation exams are delivered through Kryterion's Webassessor tool. Accreditation candidates should visit this URL: <https://www.webassessor.com/wa.do?page=publicHome&branding=BROCADE> and create a profile.

6. What is the cost of an exam?

Certification exams cost US\$150 for each attempt. Pearson VUE accepts payment in many major world currencies, via credit card or voucher. Accreditation exams cost US\$20 and payment must be made with a credit card.

7. What is the exam re-take policy?

Certification & Accreditation exams may be attempted twice within a two-week period.

8. How do I find the exam information and objectives?

Exam details are available on the Exam Information page on the Brocade website. The current exams, exam numbers and durations are listed, with a link to the objectives. This information can be found at the URL <http://www.brocade.com/education/certification-accreditation/index.page> and then select the appropriate exam from the drop down box.

9. What are the passing scores for the exams?

The passing score, or cut score for certification and accreditation exams will vary from exam to exam. Cut scores for our exams are listed on the exam information pages for accreditations and certifications.



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10. Do my certifications and accreditations expire?

There is no expiration on an accreditation or certification. Candidates are encouraged to re-certify when an updated exam is released, to validate their skills on the latest technology. The same advice is true for accreditations.

11. What happens after I pass an exam?

For a certification exam, each candidate will receive a provisional score report from the testing center, which should be kept in a safe place. For an accreditation exam, a score report will be displayed at the end of the exam. Within 2-3 days, you will receive an email from a sender called **Brocade Certification**, sent to the email address in your Pearson VUE or Webassessor profile. The welcome email will contain information about accessing the certification database and getting your logo and certificate. A certificate will be available for each credential achieved. We do not number our certificates, but there is a verification code and URL on each.

12. Do I have to take the recommended course(s)?

No, it is not necessary to attend the training to gain a credential, however, that offers you the best chance of passing the exams. Our certification training materials are geared towards the appropriate topical content, and also help prepare you for the exam experience. Should you possess enough detailed industry experience, you may in fact be able to pass the exam. For accreditation exams, it is useful to attend the appropriate course first before attempting the corresponding exam. You may also want to use any Brocade-branded exam study materials.

13. What is the privacy policy regarding exam results and candidate information?

Except for administrative purposes within Brocade Education, exam results and personal information will remain confidential, and will not be disclosed by Brocade to any party other than the examinee, unless the candidate has chosen to “opt-in” or if there is express written consent. This would include pass/fail status, exam score and a list of certifications and accreditations held. We deeply respect the confidentiality and privacy of the candidate’s information. Candidates may access their records online and choose to “opt-out”.

14. Is there a non-disclosure agreement, and terms and conditions associated with the exams?

Most definitely. Before attempting an exam a candidate must agree to the terms of the non-disclosure. The non-disclosure agreement (NDA), and the terms and conditions may be viewed in advance from a link on the Exam Information page. Brocade does not tolerate the use of **non-authorized** training materials, such as purchased 3rd-party “study guides” or brain dumps. Anyone found violating this rule may face a lifetime ban from the program. We have a zero-tolerance policy.

15. What can you tell me about the exam cut score?

Certification exam cut scores, or the passing marks, are determined based on analysis of data from the beta version of an exam. A beta exam is where all questions are put out for review and comment. From the feedback, and statistical results, the questions to go to the finals forms of the exam, and cut scores are chosen based on psychometric analysis by industry experts. Certifications exams are not like traditional education exams, where a letter grade is assigned based on the percentage (for example a grade of A means 90% or higher). Knowledge Skills and Abilities exams (KSAs) are pass/fail. Therefore, the cut score is the number of questions that one needs to get correct to pass the exam. Accreditation exams have a cut score determined based on analysis of the subject matter and difficulty of the questions. Exam cut scores reflect the difficulty of an exam. The lower the cut score, the more difficult the exam is going to be.



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16. How can I track my credentials?

Go to <https://www.certmetrics.com/brocade> and log in with your BRCD ID. If you have not logged in before, you will have the ability to create a login. Once in the system you may:

- Track your existing credentials
- Update your demographic information
- Get access to the logos
- Have a transcript made available for someone to access

If you do not have your BRCD ID you can get it from your Pearson VUE profile or send an email to certification@brocade.com.

17. What happens if I lose my internet connection during an accreditation exam?

If you go back into Webassessor, you will be able to continue from the last question answered.

18. I am Foundry certified (FNCNE, FNCNP etc.). Is my certification still valid and will it expire?

Your Foundry certification is valid, and has been converted to a Brocade-branded one. Brocade certifications do not expire, so in keeping with our policy, it will not expire. This chart should help:

FNCNE = BCNE (Brocade Certified Network Engineer)

FNCNP = BCNP (Brocade Certified Network Professional)

FNCL4-7E = BCLE (Brocade Certified Layer 4-7 Engineer)

FNCL4-7P = BCLP (Brocade Certified Layer 4-7 Professional)

The training courses to prepare for the exams are still the same. Updated Foundry exams will have the Nutshell study guides as a means of preparation, along with practice exams (knowledge assessments).

19. What happened to the certificate numbers we received on our Foundry certificates?

Brocade does not issue certificate numbers, so any new Brocade-branded certificates will be without numbers. The numbers were not ported over to our new certification tracking system. If you formerly used the certificate number to register for the Knowledge Portal, you should now use the last four digits of your BRCD ID.

20. Do the Select, Premier and Elite levels grant any credentials?

Those 3 levels are aimed at our channel partners for contractual obligations. For everyone else, they are just steps towards gaining the main credential, the Track award. Candidates must complete all of the exams in a track to gain that credential. Once achieved, the candidate will receive a special certificate and the choice of a gift for becoming a Brocade Certified Professional.