

Microsoft Azure Solutions Architect Expert (AZ-305)

Course Duration ~50 Hours · Exam-Aligned Curriculum

Infrastructure — 30–35%

Identity & Governance — 25–30%

Data Storage — 20–25%

Business Continuity — 15–20%

In short: This is an instructor-led certification program mapped 1:1 to the official Microsoft AZ-305 skills outline (as of April 17, 2026) for the Microsoft Certified: Azure Solutions Architect Expert credential. You learn to translate business requirements into secure, scalable, reliable Azure and hybrid designs — compute, application, migration, and network solutions; identity, governance, and monitoring; relational and unstructured data storage; and backup, disaster recovery, and high availability — applying the Azure Well-Architected Framework and the Cloud Adoption Framework throughout, and finishing with full-length mock exams and a capstone solution design. On completion you are ready to pass AZ-305 and take on Azure Solutions Architect and senior cloud engineering roles.

Certification	Microsoft Certified: Azure Solutions Architect Expert	Offered by	Microsoft
Required exam	AZ-305 — Designing Microsoft Azure Infrastructure Solutions		
Prerequisite	Microsoft Certified: Azure Administrator Associate (AZ-104) must also be earned. AZ-305 can be taken before AZ-104; the Expert certification is awarded once both requirements are met.		
Passing score	700 (on a scale of 1000)	Validity	1 year; renewable annually via an online, unproctored assessment on Microsoft Learn
Design frameworks	Azure Well-Architected Framework and the Cloud Adoption Framework for Azure		

Domain 1: Design Infrastructure Solutions

30–35%

ESTIMATED TIME

16–17 Hours

Design compute solutions

- Specify compute solution components based on workload requirements
- Recommend virtual machine-based, container-based, and serverless-based solutions
- Recommend a compute solution for batch processing

Design an application architecture

- Recommend messaging and event-driven architectures
- Recommend a solution for API integration
- Recommend a caching solution for applications
- Recommend an application configuration management solution
- Recommend an automated deployment solution for applications

Design migrations

- Evaluate a migration using the Microsoft Cloud Adoption Framework for Azure
- Evaluate on-premises servers, data, and applications for migration
- Recommend solutions for migrating workloads to IaaS and PaaS
- Recommend solutions for migrating databases and unstructured data

Design network solutions

- Recommend connectivity to the internet and to on-premises networks
- Recommend solutions to optimize network performance and security
- Recommend a load-balancing and routing solution

HANDS-ON

- Design a compute + application architecture for a multi-tier workload
- Plan a CAF-based migration and a hub-spoke network design

Assessment: Design Case Study + Quiz

Domain 2: Design Identity, Governance, and Monitoring Solutions

25–30%

ESTIMATED TIME

13–14 Hours

Design solutions for logging and monitoring

- Recommend a logging solution, a solution for routing logs, and a monitoring solution

Design authentication and authorization solutions

- Recommend authentication and identity management solutions
- Recommend solutions for authorizing access to Azure and on-premises resources
- Recommend a solution to manage secrets, certificates, and keys

Design governance

- Recommend a structure for management groups, subscriptions, and resource groups, plus a resource tagging strategy
- Recommend solutions for managing compliance and for identity governance

HANDS-ON

- Design an enterprise governance hierarchy with management groups, policy, and tagging
- Design an identity architecture with secrets/key management

Assessment: Design Case Study + Quiz

Domain 3: Design Data Storage Solutions

20–25%

ESTIMATED TIME

10–11 Hours

Design data storage solutions for relational data

- Recommend a solution for storing relational data
- Recommend a database service tier and compute tier
- Recommend solutions for database scalability and data protection

Design data storage solutions for semi-structured and unstructured data

- Recommend solutions for storing semi-structured and unstructured data
- Recommend a storage solution balancing features, performance, and cost
- Recommend a data solution for protection and durability

Design data integration

- Recommend solutions for data integration and data analysis

HANDS-ON

- Select and justify database tiers for given workload profiles
- Design a storage + data integration architecture for mixed data types

Assessment: Design Case Study + Quiz

Domain 4: Design Business Continuity Solutions

15–20%

ESTIMATED TIME

8–9 Hours

Design solutions for backup and disaster recovery

- Recommend a recovery solution for Azure and hybrid workloads meeting recovery objectives
- Recommend backup and recovery solutions for compute, databases, and unstructured data

Design for high availability

- Recommend high availability solutions for compute
- Recommend high availability solutions for relational data
- Recommend high availability solutions for semi-structured and unstructured data

HANDS-ON

- Design a DR strategy meeting given RTO/RPO objectives for a hybrid estate
- Design HA architectures for compute and data tiers

Assessment: Design Case Study + Quiz

Exam Readiness & Mock Exams**ESTIMATED TIME**

4–5 Hours

TOPICS

- Well-Architected Framework pillar review for design trade-offs
- Domain-by-domain exam strategy and elimination techniques
- Certification path review: AZ-104 prerequisite and annual renewal on Microsoft Learn

HANDS-ON

- Full-length timed mock exams with detailed review
- Capstone: end-to-end Azure solution design

Assessment: Capstone Design + Mock Exams