Ranking Certifications

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
Cisco	Cisco Certified Architect (CCAr)	8	24	1	150.00	8	10	**219.00**	**Exam Cost:** Total cost is $15,000; $3,750 paid at time of initial application and interview; $11,250 paid after approval to receive the architectural challenge and schedule live Board review. **Prerequisites:** Must possess valid CCDE credential and possess thorough understanding of network infrastructure principles. In addition, candidates must submit an application and participate in an interview. Once approved, candidates will be given an architectural challenge which they will defend before a live Board review.
Red Hat Certification	Red Hat Certified Architect (RHCA)	8	24	5	30.00	8	10	**103.00**	**Exam Cost:** 5 exams, $600 each **Prerequisites:** None **Recertification:** Certification valid for a 3-year calendar based window **Specialization:** None listed **URL:** http://www.redhat.com/training/certifications/rhca/
Cisco	Cisco Certified Internet Expert (CCIE)	8	24	2	18.50	10	10.6	**91.70**	**Exam Cost:** Written exam $350; lab exam $1,500. You must pass written exam before you can schedule the lab exam. Lab exam must be completed within 3 years of written exam. First attempt at lab exam must be made within 18 months of passing written exam. **Prerequisites:** No formal training required **Recertification:** CCIE certification is valid for 2 years. Credential holders must pass one of the following exams to recertify: CCIE written or lab exam, CCDE
Check Point	Check Point Certified Master Architect (CCMA)	6	24	2	15.00	8	13	**87.00**	**Exam Cost:** 2 exams, 1 written exam, $300 and 1 lab exam, $1,200 **Prerequisites:** CCSA, CCSE, and CCSE+ credentials; 5 years Check Point experience recommended. **Recertification:** Certifications are considered valid for 4 years. Credential holders may upgrade as new technology is release. Check Web site for current requirements. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.checkpoint.com/services/education/training/courses/ccma/index.h
SANS GIAC	GIAC Security Expert (GSE)	8	18	5	20.98	6	10	**85.98**	**Exam Cost:** Written and lab exam required; Written exam - $399; Lab exam - $1,699 (Total cost, $2,098). Note: Candidates must pass the written exam before taking the lab exam. The lab exam is 2 days. **Prerequisites:** GIAC Security Essentials (GSEC), GIAC Certified Incident Handler (GCIH), and GIAC Certified Intrusion Analyst (GCIA) with 2-gold; substitution options are available; visit Web site for complete details.

Ranking Certifications

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
Cisco	Cisco Certified Design Expert (CCDE)	6	24	2	18.50	6	8.6	79.70	**Exam Cost:** 1 written exam, $350 plus one practical exam, $1500. Note: Candidates must pass the written exam before taking the practical exam and take the practical exam within 18 months of passing the written exam. **Prerequisites:** None **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.cisco.com/web/learning/certifications/expert/ccde/index.html
Oracle	Oracle Database 12c Administrator Certified Professional	6	6	1	31.75	6	9.8	76.35	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $245. Training required, which costs between $1,300 and $4,500 depending on course selected. **Prerequisites:** Oracle Database 12c Administrator Certified Associate, one training course, exam and submission of form. **Recertification:** None listed **Specialization:** Oracle offers numerous OCP credentials. Candidates should review the Oracle certification page for complete availability. **URL:** http://education.oracle.com/pls/web_prod-plq-dad/db_pages.getpage?page_id=458&get_params=p_track_id:DBOCA12C
VMWare	VMware Certified Design Expert 5 - Data Center Virtualization (VCDX5-DCV)	8	18	0	12.00	8	10	74.00	**Exam Cost:** No exam, $300 application fee plus $900 registration fee **Prerequisites:** Hold VMware Certified Advanced Professional 5 - Data Center Administration (VCAP5-DCA) and VMware Certified Advanced Professional 5 - Data Center Design (VCAP5-DCD) Certification; complete and submit application; present and defend a VMware vSphere based virtual infrastructure design and implementation plan. VMware vSphere: Design Workshop [V5.x] and Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Design [v5.X] recommended but not required. **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://mylearn.vmware.com/mgrReg/plan.cfm?plan=33270&ui=www_cert
CWNP	Certified Wireless Network Expert (CWNE)	8	21	4	8.5	6	9	73.50	**Exam Cost:** Candidates must pass the CWNA, CWSP, CWAP, and CWDP exams. $850 **Prerequisites:** Valid and current CWSP, CWAP, and CWDP certifications (requires CWNA). In addition, candidates must possess 3 years of documented enterprise Wi-FI implementation experience, 3 professional endorsements, 2 other current professional networking certifications, and documentation of 3 enterprise-level Wi-FI projects that candidates participated in or led, in the form of a 500-word essay. **Recertification:** Candidates must recertify every 3 years by passing the current CWSP, CWAP, or CWDP exam. **Specialization:** None listed

Ranking Certifications

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
HP	Master Accredited Solutions Expert (ASE)	8	18	3	2.00	8	11.3	69.60	**Exam Cost:** 1-5 exams, $100-200 each (Data Center and Cloud Certification requires board review, $5,000 and costs more, $750. Check site for details.) **Prerequisites:** Check each Master ASE certification for required prerequisites. Training is highly recommended on all Master ASE certifications. **Recertification:** Every 3 years. Must meet exam requirements prior to the certification expiration date of the certification you hold. **Specializations:** Servers, Storage, Networking, Data Center and Cloud, Security. (Note that some of more complex certifications, such as the Data Center and Cloud, cost more. The exam is $750, plus training, and a $5,000 board review fee. Check the site for details.) **URL:** http://h10120.www1.hp.com/expertone/expertone_certification.html
SNIA	SNIA Certified Storage Networking Expert (SCSN-E)	6	20	3	6.61	6	10	67.61	**Exam Cost:** 3 exams, 2 SNIA exams are $200 each and CompTIA exam is $261 **Prerequisites:** In addition to passing the required exams, credential seekers must also complete 2 of the following SNIA Certification Partner product credentials: NetApp Certified Data Management Administrator (NCDA), Hitachi Data Systems Certified Professional (HCP), Hitachi Storage Solutions Specialist (Japan), Cisco Data Centre Unified Fabric DCUFI 642-997, EMC Proven Professional - Specialist Level (EMCST) (EMCSA) (EMCTA)(EMCIE) (EMCCE), ASE - HP StorageWorks, ASE - HP StorageWorks (2005), ASE - HP StorageWorks Nearline Storage, Brocade Certified Fabric Professional 16 Gbps (BCFP), Brocade Certified Ethernet Fabric Professional (BCEFP), Brocade Certified Fabric Administrator (BCFA), Dell Compellent Administration and Advanced Management, Dell Compellent FS8600 Administration, Dell EqualLogic PS Series Advanced Management and Data Protection Tools, and Integrating vSphere with Dell EqualLogic PS Series Storage. **Recertification:** Every 3 years **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.snia.org/education/certification/scsne
Citrix	Citrix Certified Expert - Apps and Desktops (CCE-AD)	8	18	1	3.00	8	10	66.00	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $300 **Prerequisites:** CCP-AD certification; 6 months of experience analyzing and designing a solution with XenDesktop 7; training recommended but not required **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** Citrix XenDesktop 7 on Windows Server 2012 **URL:** http://training.citrix.com/cms/index.php/certification/apps-and-desktops/

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
ITIL	ITIL Master Qualification	8	18	0	0.00	10	10	64.00	**Exam Cost:** No exam **Perquisites:** ITIL Expert Qualification; minimum 5 years IT service management experience in leadership, managerial, or higher management advisory capacity. Candidates must submit an application; prepare and submit a proposal outlining real life situations where ITIL practices and processes can be implemented; prepare and submit a work package documenting and demonstrating how ITIL was implemented in the proposal; participate in a face-to-face interview. **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** Lifecycle or Capability tracks **URL:** http://www.itil-officialsite.com/Qualifications/ITILQualificationLevels/ITILMasterQualification.aspx
ITIL	ITIL Expert	8	12	0	6.00	8	9.4	60.80	**Exam Cost:** Prices vary widely by education provider. Candidates can expect to pay between $2,000 and $9,800 for a typical training course, including exams. **Prerequisites:** ITIL Foundation Qualification or a Bridge certificate; 17 ITIL credits from the Foundation and Intermediate Qualifications before obtaining the Managing Across the Lifecycle Qualification, completion of the Managing Across the Lifecycle Qualification, plus a minimum of 22 ITIL credits. **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.itil-officialsite.com/Qualifications/ITILQualificationLevels/ITILExpertLevel.aspx
CompTIA	Advanced Security Practitioner (CASP)	6	12	1	3.9	12	9.5	59.90	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $390 **Prerequisites:** Recommended 10 years' experience in IT administration, including at least 5 years of hands-on technical security experience **Recertification:** Those certified prior to 12/31/2010 are certified for life. Those certified in 2011 must recertify every 3 years. To recertify, you must earn 75 continuing education units (CEUs). To earn CEUs, obtain a higher-level certification, complete certain activities, or take a newer version of the certification. **Specialization:** None listed **URL:** http://certification.comptia.org/getCertified/certifications/comptia-advanced-security-practitioner-(casp)
Microsoft	Microsoft Certified Solutions Expert (MCSE)	6	12	5	7.50	6	8.2	58.90	**Exams:** 5 exams, $150 each **Prerequisites:** MCSA in chosen specialization **Recertification:** Credential holders are required to recertify every 3 years. **Specializations:** The following tracks are available: Server Infrastructure, Desktop Infrastructure, Private Cloud, Data Platform, Business Intelligence, Messaging, Communications, and SharePoint **URL:** http://www.microsoft.com/learning/en/us/mcse-certification.aspx

Ranking Certifications

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
Adobe	Adobe Certified Expert (ACE) Master	6	12	4	7.20	6	8.5	**58.20**	**Exam Cost:** 1-5 exams depending on track chosen, most exams are $180 each; recertification exams are $60 each **Prerequisites:** Must pass current exam for each product in the product suites; all exams must be on the same product version **Recertification:** Must recertify 90 days after exam is retired **Specializations:** Recognizes expert skills with a product suite focused on design, web, or video **URL:** http://training.adobe.com/certification.html
EC-Council	Licensed Penetration Tester (LPT)	8	12	0	5	8	8	**57.00**	**Exam Cost:** No exam, a $500 license fee is required for the first 2 years and $250 thereafter **Prerequisites:** Must possess CEH and ECSA certifications; have a valid EC-Council Continuing Education account in good standing; complete the LPT application/recommendation form and agree to a code of ethics; undergo criminal background check or sign a Declaration of No Criminal Convictions; submit a detailed resume/C.V. **Recertification:** Certification valid for 2 years **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.eccouncil.org/Certification/licensed-penetration-tester
ISC-squared	Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP)	6	12	1	5.99	6	10	**56.99**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $599 **Prerequisites:** Candidates must have 5 years work experience in at least 2 of the 10 CISSP domains. Relevant education may be substituted for 1 year of experience. Endorsement by another active (ISC)2 professional required. **Recertification:** Annual maintenance fee of $85 required. Recertification is required every 3 years. Candidates must gain 120 credits for recertification with a minimum of 20 CPEs posted during each year of the 3-year certification cycle. **Specialization:** Architecture, Engineering, and Management **URL:** https://www.isc2.org/cissp-how-to-certify.aspx
ISACA	Certified in Risk and Information System Controls (CRISC)	6	12	1	4.70	6	10.6	**56.90**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $470 members and $650 non-members for online registration; early registration discounts apply. Exam offered twice each year. A new member processing fee of $30 is also required. Registration fee of $50 applies if you register after the final registration deadline. **Prerequisites:** A minimum of at least 3 years of cumulative work experience performing the tasks of a CRISC professional across at least 3 CRISC domains is required for certification. No substitutions or experience waivers. Experience must have been gained within the 10-year period preceding the application date for certification or within 5 years from the date of initially passing the examination. **Recertification:** Maintenance fees and a minimum of 20 contact hours of CPE are required annually. In addition, a minimum of 120 contact hours is required during a fixed 3-year period. Annual maintenance of $40 for members and $85 for non-members required. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.isaca.org/CERTIFICATION/CRISC-CERTIFIED-IN-RISK-AND-INFORMATION-SYSTEMS-CONTROL/Pages/How-to-Become-Certified-CRISC.aspx

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
PMI	Project Management Professional (PMP)	6	12	1	5.55	6	9.8	56.15	**Exam Cost:** Computer based exam: $405 for PMI members; $555 for non-PMI members; paper based exam: $250 for PMI members; $400 for non-PMI members. PMI membership is $139 annually with $10 initial setup fee. Student memberships are available for $32 annually and retired memberships for $65 annually. **Prerequisites:** Certification requires combination of education and experience: No degree: 5 years of experience, 7,500 hours leading project, plus 35 hours project management education. Bachelor's degree: 3 years' experience, 4,500 hours leading projects, plus 35 hours project management education. **Recertification:** 60 hours of professional development required every 3 years. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.pmi.org/Certification/Project-Management-Professional-PMP.aspx
ISACA	Certified Information Security Manager (CISM)	6	12	1	4.70	6	9.9	55.50	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $470 members and $650 non-members for online registration; early registration discounts apply. Exam offered 3 times each year. A new member processing fee of $30 is also required. Registration fee of $50 applies if you register after the final registration deadline. **Prerequisites:** A minimum of 5 years of experience (as described in the CISM job practice areas) is required for certification. Substitutions and waivers of such experience, to a maximum of 2 years, may be obtained. **Recertification:** Valid for 3 years; 120 CPU hours required to recertify with 20 hours required annually. Annual maintenance of $45 for members and $85 for non-members required. **Specialization:** None listed **URL:** http://www.isaca.org/Certification/CISM-Certified-Information-Security-Manager/Pages/default.aspx
Red Hat Certification	Red Hat Certified Engineer (RHCE)	6	15	1	4.00	6	8.7	55.40	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $400 **Prerequisites:** Must possess Red Hat Certified System Administration (RHCSA) on the same Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) version **Recertification:** Required after 3 years. Credential holders must pass a Certificate of Expertise exam to recertify. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.redhat.com/training/certifications/rhce/
Open CA	Open Group Certified Architect (Open CA) Certified	4	9	0	14.25	4	10	55.25	**Exam Cost:** $1,250, $175 per year annual fee No exam. Candidates must submit a detailed application form, a Certification Record, and a Certification Package that documents skills, knowledge and experience; Open CA Evaluation board review. Rigorous application process. **Prerequisites:** 3 levels of certification are recognized: Level 1 (Certified), Level 2 (Master), and Level 3 (Distinguished). Level 1 requires 2 years of architecture experience, Level 2 requires 3 years of experience. Level 3 requires Level 2 certification or equivalent, significant leadership experience, and deep knowledge of architecture design and creation. **Recertification:** Every 3 years, $250 application fee **Specializations:** IT Architect, Business Architect, and Enterprise Architect. **URL:** http://www.opengroup.org/openca/cert/

Ranking Certifications

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
Check Point	Check Point Certified Security Expert (CCSE)	6	18	1	2.00	6	8	**55.00**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $200 **Prerequisites:** CCSA R70, R71, or R75 plus 1-year experience **Recertification:** Certifications are considered valid for 4 years. Credential holders may upgrade as new technology is released. Upgrade path depends on prior certification level acquired. Check Web site for current requirements. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.checkpoint.com/services/education/training/courses/ccse-r75/index.html
Microsoft	Microsoft Certified Solution Developer (MCSD)	6	12	3	4.50	6	8.7	**54.90**	**Exams:** 3 exams, $150 each (SharePoint requires 4 exams) **Prerequisites:** None **Recertification:** Credential holders are required to recertify every 2 years **Specializations:** Windows Store Applications, Web Applications, SharePoint, and Application Lifestyle Management **URL:** http://www.microsoft.com/learning/en/us/mcsd-certification.aspx
ISACA	Certified Information System Auditor (CISA)	6	12	1	4.70	6	9.5	**54.70**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $470 members and $650 non-members for online registration; early registration discounts apply. Exam offered three times each year. A new member processing fee of $30 is also required. Registration fee of $50 applies if you register after the final registration deadline. **Prerequisites:** A minimum of 5 years of professional information systems auditing, control, or security work experience (as described in the CISA job practice areas) is required for certification. Substitutions and waivers of such experience, to a maximum of 2 years, may be obtained. **Recertification:** Valid for 3 years; 120 CPU hours required to recertify with 20 hours required annually. Annual maintenance of $45 for members and $85 for non-members required. **Specialization:** None listed **URL:** http://www.isaca.org/Certification/CISA-Certified-Information-Systems-Auditor/Pages/default.aspx
Cisco	Cisco Certified Network Professional (CCNP)	6	12	3	6.00	4	8.6	**54.20**	**Exam Cost:** 3 exams, $200 each for basic CCNA certification. Additional exams required for specializations **Prerequisites:** Valid CCNA Routing & Switching certification or any CCIE Certification **Recertification:** CCNP valid for 3 years. Must pass one of the following exams before certification expiration to recertify: any 642-XXX professional-level exam, CCIE written exam, CCDE written or lab exam, or CCAr interview and Board review. **Specializations:** Data Center, Security, Service Provider, Service Provider Operations, Voice, and Wireless **URL:** http://www.cisco.com/web/learning/certifications/professional/ccnp/index.ht

Ranking Certifications

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
SNIA	SNIA Certified Storage Architect (SCSA)	4	18	2	4.61	4	8.6	**53.81**	**Exam Cost:** 2 exams, $200 and $261 **Prerequisites:** SNIA Storage Networking Foundations (S10-101) recommended **Recertification:** Every 3 years **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.snia.org/education/certification/scsa
Cisco	Cisco Certified Design Professional (CCDP)	6	12	3	6.00	6	7.4	**53.80**	**Exam Cost:** 3 exams, $200 each **Prerequisites:** CCDA plus any CCNA Routing & Switching or any CCIE certification **Recertification:** CCDP is valid for 3 years. Credential holders may recertify by passing (1) any 642-XX professional-level exam, (2) the CCIE written exam, (3) CCDE written or lab exam, or (4) CCAr interview and Board Review. (CCAr certification extends to all lower level certifications.) **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.cisco.com/web/learning/certifications/professional/ccdp/index.html
VMWare	VMware Certified Professional 5 – Data Center Virtualization (VCP5-DCV)	2	9	1	18.70	2	9.4	**53.50**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $225 plus cost of training (lowest cost $1,645 for VCP4-DCV) **Prerequisites:** If you're just starting with VMWare, you're required to take one of the following courses: VMware vSphere: Fast Track [V5.0], VMware vSphere: Install, Configure, Manage [V5.0], VMware vSphere: Fast Track [V5.1], VMware vSphere: Install, Configure, Manage [V5.1], or VMware vSphere: Install, Configure, Manage [V5.5]. Costs range from $3,845 to $6,050. If you have VCP4-DCV certification or have attended a VCP4-DCV qualifying class, you must take the What's New training course (online version is $1,645 plus tax). **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://mylearn.vmware.com/mgrReg/plan.cfm?plan=12457&ui=www_cert
EC-Council	Computer Hacking Forensic Investigator (CHFI)	6	12	1	5	6	8	**52.00**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $500 **Note:** Candidates must be 18 years of age or older to take the exam. Candidates younger than 18 years who are enrolled in an institute of higher learning may take the exam with consent of parents and a supporting letter from the institute of higher learning. **Prerequisites:** (1) Attend a CHFI training course ($2,995 for live, online, instructor-led; self-study options are generally $800 to $1,600) or (2) show 2 years of work experience in security-related field, submit $100 non-refundable eligibility application fee, and exam application form. **Recertification:** Certification valid for 3 years; continuing education credits must be obtained t recertify **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.eccouncil.org/Certification/computer-hacking-forensics-

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
SANS GIAC	GIAC Systems and Network Auditor (GSNA)	6	9	1	10.49	6	6.7	**51.89**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $1,049 (Certification attempts with training course are $599.) **Prerequisites:** Training is recommended but not required. Subject matter experts may challenge for the exam without taking the course. **Recertification:** Must recertify every 4 years; 36 Certification Maintenance Units (CMUs) required; CMUs must be obtained after the 2-year mark of obtaining the certification and before the certification expires; CMUs may be obtained through exams, training/teaching, and publishing. Certification maintenance fee is $399. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.giac.org/certification/systems-network-auditor-gsna
HP	Accredited Solutions Expert (ASE)	6	12	3	2.00	6	8.4	**51.80**	**Exam Cost:** 1-3 exams, $100-200 each **Prerequisites:** Check each ASE certification for required prerequisites. Training is highly recommended on all ASE certifications. **Recertification:** Every 3 years. Must meet exam requirements prior to the certification expiration date of the certification you hold. **Specializations:** Servers, Storage, Networking, Data Center and Cloud, and Security **URL:** http://h10120.www1.hp.com/expertone/expertone_certification.html
VMWare	VMWare Certified Advanced Professional 5 - Datacenter Administration (VCAP5-DCA)	6	12	1	4.00	4	9.4	**51.80**	**Exam Cost:** 1 lab-based exam, $400 **Prerequisites:** Must possess one of the following: VMware Certified Professional 5 - Data Center Virtualization (VCP5-DCV), VMware Certified Professional 5 - Desktop (VCP5-DT), VMware Certified Professional - Cloud (VCP-Cloud), or VMware Certified Advanced Professional 4 - Data Center Administration (VCAP4-DCA). VMware vSphere: Optimize and Scale [V5.x] training course recommended but not required **Recertification:** None listed **Specialization:** Also available in Datacenter Design (DCD) **URL:** http://mylearn.vmware.com/mgrReg/plan.cfm?plan=30483&ui=www_cert
SANS GIAC	GIAC Certified Forensic Analyst (GCFA)	6	6	1	10.49	6	8	**51.49**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $1,049 (Certification attempts with training course are $599.) **Prerequisites:** Training is recommended but not required. **Recertification:** Must recertify every 4 years; 36 Certification Maintenance Units (CMUs) required; CMUs must be obtained after the 2-year mark of obtaining the certification and before the certification expires; CMUs may be obtained through exams, training/teaching, and publishing. Certification maintenance fee is $399. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.giac.org/certification/certified-forensic-analyst-gcfa

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
SANS GIAC	GIAC Certified Windows Security Administrator (GCWN)	6	6	1	10.49	6	7.9	**51.29**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $1,049 (Certification attempts with training course are $599.) **Prerequisites:** Training is recommended by not required **Recertification:** Must recertify every 4 years; 36 Certification Maintenance Units (CMUs) required; CMUs must be obtained after the 2-year mark of obtaining the certification and before the certification expires; CMUs may be obtained through exams, training/teaching, and publishing. Certification maintenance fee is $399. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** https://www.giac.org/certification/certified-windows-security-
EC-Council	Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH)	6	12	5	1	4	8.5	**51.00**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $500 **Note:** Candidates must be 18 years of age or older to take the exam. Candidates younger than 18 years who are enrolled in an institute of higher learning may take the exam with consent of parents and a supporting letter from the institute of higher learning. **Prerequisites:** (1) Attend a CEH training course ($2,895 for live, online, instructor-led; self-study options are generally $800 to $1,600) or (2) show 2 years of work experience in security-related field, submit $100 non-refundable eligibility application fee, and exam application form. **Recertification:** Certification valid for 3 years; continuing education credits must be obtained to recertify **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.eccouncil.org/certification/certified_ethical_hacker.aspx
Novell	Novell/SUSE Certified Linux Engineer (CLE)	6	12	1	1.95	6	9	**50.95**	**Exam Cost:** 1 practical exam, $195 **Prerequisites:** SUSE Certified Linux Professional (CLP) certification **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** https://www.suse.com/training/linux-certification/cle/
ITIL	ITIL Managing Across the Lifecycle	6	9	1	2.99	6	9.9	**50.79**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, Exam cost may vary by education provider; typically $299 **Prerequisites:** 2 ITIL credits from the ITIL Foundation level, a minimum of 15-17 ITIL credits, plus completion of 30-hour approved training course. Fees may vary by education provider but candidates can expect to pay around $749 for an online, 90-day training course. A minimum of 30 hours study is also recommended. **Recertification:** None listed **Specialization:** None listed **URL:** http://www.itil-http://www.itil-officialsite.com/Qualifications/ITILQualificationLevels/ITILManagingAcrosstheLifecycleQualification.aspx Note: All ITIL courses are assigned an ITIL credit profile. Accumulated ITIL credits may be applied to certification requirements for the Expert and Master Qualifications.

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
CompTIA	Certified Technical Trainer (CTT+)	6	12	2	5.6	6	6.5	**50.60**	**Exam Cost:** 2 exams, $269 (Essentials) and $294 (Classroom Trainer or Virtual Classroom Trainer) Candidates must take CompTIA CTT+ Essentials, and at least 1 of the 2 designations: Classroom Trainer or Virtual Classroom Trainer **Prerequisites:** Candidates will need to supply a video or recording of their classroom or virtual classroom sessions. **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** None listed CompTIA reports that Adobe, Dell, Microsoft, Novell, and Ricoh recommend that their trainers be CompTIA CTT+ certified. Also, The Training Associates look for this credential when hiring trainers.
IACIS	Certified Forensic Computer Examiner (CFCE)	4	12	1	7.50	4	9	**50.50**	**Exam Cost:** $750 (application fee). Exam with training is $2,795 Certification is two-phase: (1) Peer review - candidates must complete four practical exercises and (2) Certification phase - candidates must start this phase within 3 months of completing Peer Review; written exam required; report due on practical exam given in form of forensic image of hard drive. **Prerequisites:** May take the 2-week IACIS Basic Computer Forensics Examiner Training, $2,795 (entitles candidates entry into next available cycle) OR may complete application and pay $750 fee. At least 72 hours of computer digital forensic education required (the training satisfies this requirement). Extensive experience recommended. **Recertification:** Valid until 3rd year following certification; all certification materials due by 12/31 of recertification year. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** https://www.iacis.com/certification/cfce
CWNP	Certified Wireless Design Professional (CWDP)	6	12	1	2.25	6	8.6	**50.45**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $225 **Prerequisites:** CWNA (Required exam PWO-105 grants the CWNA certification; $175) **Recertification:** Candidates must recertify every 3 years by passing the the current CWDP or CWNE exam. **Specialization:** None listed URL: http://www.cwnp.com/certifications/cwdp/
Brocade	Brocade Certified Network Professional (BCNP)	6	12	1	1.5	6	8.8	**50.10**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $150 **Prerequisites:** CNE 200 Brocade Certified Network Engineer Blended Learning Solutions strongly recommended but not required **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.brocade.com/education/certification-accreditation/certified-network-professional/prerequisites.page
SNIA	SNIA Certified Storage Engineer (SCSE)	4	12	2	4.61	4	9.2	**49.01**	**Exam Cost:** 2 exams, $200 and $261 **Prerequisites:** None **Recertification:** Every 3 years **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.snia.org/education/certification/scse

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
Linux Professional Institute	LPIC-3	6	12	1	1.83	6	8	48.83	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $183 **Prerequisites:** Must hold LPIC-2 certification. **Recertification:** Active for 5-years. Since the LPIC-3 certification requires only one exam candidates may retake that exam or any of the LPIC-3 "specialty" exams (e.g. LPI-302, LPI-303, etc.) to attain recertification status for LPIC-3. Therefore, the successful completion of a single LPIC-3 "specialty" exam will recertify the candidate's LPIC-3 level and all other prior LPIC certifications (e.g., LPIC-1 and LPIC-2). **Specializations:** Mixed Environment, Security and Virtualization/High Availability.
SANS GIAC	GIAC Certified Perimeter Protection Analyst (GPPA)	4	6	1	10.49	4	9.1	47.69	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $1,049 (Certification attempts with training course are $599.) **Prerequisites:** Training is recommended but not required. **Recertification:** Must recertify every 4 years; 36 Certification Maintenance Units (CMUs) required; CMUs must be obtained after the 2-year mark of obtaining the certification and before the certification expires; CMUs may be obtained through exams, training/teaching, and publishing. Certification maintenance fee is $399. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.giac.org/certification/certified-perimeter-protection-analyst-
ISACA	Certified in the Governance of Enterprise IT (CGEIT)	4	12	1	4.61	6	8	47.61	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $470 members and $650 non-members for online registration; early registration discounts apply. Exam offered twice each year. A new member processing fee of $30 is also required. Registration fee of $50 applies if you register after the final registration deadline. **Prerequisites:** A minimum of 5 years of professional experience (as described in the CGEIT job practice areas) is required for certification. You can substitute 2 years as a full-time university instructor teaching IT governance related subjects at an accredited university for every 1 year of IT governance experience. **Recertification:** Valid for 3 years; 120 CPU hours required to recertify with 20 hours required annually. Annual maintenance of $45 for members and $85 for non-members required. **Specialization:** None listed **URL:** http://www.isaca.org/Certification/CGEIT-Certified-in-the-Governance-of-Enterprise-IT/Pages/default.aspx
BICSI	Registered Communications Distribution Designer (RCDD)	4	12	1	3.75	8	7.3	47.35	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $150 members/$275 for non-members, plus application fee of $245 members/$370 non-members **Prerequisites:** 5 years ITS design experience; or 2 years verifiable ITS design experience plus 3 years additional ITS equivalents chosen from combinations of experience, approved education, and approved ITS license/certification. **Recertification:** The RCDD credential is valid for 3 years. Within each 3-year period, all RCDDs must obtain a minimum of 45 BICSI-approved continuing education credit (CEC) hours. As part of this 45-hour requirement, attendance in at least one BICSI conference during the 3-year period is mandatory. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** https://www.bicsi.org/double.aspx?l=2558&r=2560

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
CWNP	Certified Wireless Security Professional (CWSP)	6	12	1	2.25	4	8	47.25	**Exams Cost:** 1 exam, $225 **Prerequisites:** CWNA (Required exam PWO-105 grants the CWNA certification; $175); be familiar with the exam terminology used in the CWTS, CWNA, CWSP, and CWSE **Recertification:** The CWSP certification is valid for 3 years. To recertify, pass the current CWSP exam or earn the CWNE certification. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.cwnp.com/certifications/cwsp
CWNP	Certified Wireless Analysis Professional (CWAP)	4	12	1	2.25	6	8.9	47.05	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $225 **Prerequisites:** CWNA (required exam PWO-105 grants the CWNA certification; $175) **Recertification:** Candidates must recertify every 3 years by passing the current CWAP or CWNE exam **Specialization:** None listed **URL:** https://www.cwnp.com/certifications/cwap/
Citrix	Citrix Certified Professional - Apps and Desktops (CCP-AD)	6	6	1	3	6	9.5	47.00	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $300 **Prerequisites:** CCA-AD certification; suggested 6 months of experience building, testing, and rolling out a solution with XenDesktop 7; training recommended but not required **Recertification:** None listed **Specialization:** Citrix XenDesktop 7 on Windows Server 2012 **URL:** http://training.citrix.com/cms/index.php/certification/apps-and-desktops/
ASIS	Professional Certified Investigator (PCI)	2	24	1	4	2	5.5	46.00	**Exam Cost:** Computer-based testing: $300 ($450 for non-members). Pencil and paper testing: $200. Plus $100 nonrefundable application fee **Prerequisites:** High school diploma or GED and 5 years of investigations experience with at least 2 years in case management **Recertification:** Requires earning 45 Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credits per 3-year term. $70 members; $90 nonmembers **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** https://www.asisonline.org/Certification/Board-Certifications/PCI/Pages/default.aspx
ISFCE	Certified Computer Examiner (CCE)	6	12	1	3.95	6	5.5	45.95	**Exam Cost:** $395 processing fee ($2,995 bootcamp fee for a total of $3,390. See other options in prerequisites.) Note: Bootcamp fee reduced to $2,795 for military, government employees, educators, and law enforcement. **Prerequisites:** Completion of CCE Bootcamp OR 18 months verifiable experience conducting digital forensic examinations OR document self-study deemed acceptable by the Certification Board. **Recertification:** Certification valid for 2 years. Candidates must pay $75 recertification fee, complete 40 CPE hours, and complete 3 digital forensic examinations. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.isfce.com/certification.htm

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
SAP	SAP Certified Application Professional	4	9	1	7.50	4	7.9	**45.30**	**Exam Cost:** $750 per concentration area **Prerequisites:** None **Recertification:** None listed **Specialization:** Concentration areas include SAP HANA, Business Intelligence, Enterprise Data Warehousing, Extended Warehouse Management, Financial Accounting, HCM Talent Management, HCM Workforce Process Management, Logistics Execution & Warehouse Mgmt, Management Accounting, Marketing, Modeling and Data Management, Order Fulfillment, Procurement, Production Planning & Manufacturing, Production, Reporting and Analysis, Sales, Service, and Supplier Relationship Management. **URL:** https://training3.sap.com/us/en/search?query=SAP+Certified+Application+Professional
SANS GIAC	GIAC Information Security Professional (GISP)	4	9	1	10.49	4	6.3	**45.09**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $1,049 (certification attempts with training course are $599). **Prerequisites:** Training is recommended but not required. **Recertification:** Must recertify every 4 years; 36 Certification Maintenance Units (CMUs) required; CMUs must be obtained after the 2-year mark of obtaining the certification and before the certification expires; CMUs may be obtained through exams, training/teaching, and publishing. Certification maintenance fee is $399. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.giac.org/certification/information-security-professional-gisp
Oracle	Oracle E-Business Suite R12 Applications Database Administrator Certified Professional	6	6	1	2.45	6	8.8	**45.05**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $245 **Prerequisites:** Oracle 10g Database Administrator OCP or Oracle 11g Database Administrator OCP **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** Oracle offers numerous OCP credentials. Candidates should review the Oracle certification page for complete availability. **URL:** http://education.oracle.com/pls/web_prod-plq-dad/db_pages.getpage?page_id=458&get_params=p_track_id:EBSR12ADA
SANS GIAC	GIAC Certified Intrusion Analyst (GCIA)	4	6	1	10.49	4	7.75	**44.99**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $1,049 (Certification attempts with training course are $599.) **Prerequisites:** Training is recommended but not required. **Recertification:** Must recertify every 4 years; 36 Certification Maintenance Units (CMUs) required; CMUs must be obtained after the 2-year mark of obtaining the certification and before the certification expires; CMUs may be obtained through exams, training/teaching, and publishing. Certification maintenance fee is $399. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.giac.org/certification/certified-intrusion-analyst-gcia

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
Oracle	Oracle Database SQL Certified Expert	4	12	1	2.45	4	8.6	44.65	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $245 **Prerequisites:** None **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** Oracle offers numerous expert certifications. Candidates should review the Oracle certification page for complete availability. **URL:** http://education.oracle.com/pls/web_prod-plq-dad/db_pages.getpage?page_id=5001&get_params=p_exam_id:1Z0-047&p_org_id=1001&lang=US
SANS GIAC	GIAC Certified Forensic Examiner (GCFE)	4	6	1	10.49	4	7.4	44.29	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $1,049 (Certification attempts with training course are $599.) **Prerequisites:** Training is recommended but not required. **Recertification:** Must recertify every 4 years; 36 Certification Maintenance Units (CMUs) required; CMUs must be obtained after the 2-year mark of obtaining the certification and before the certification expires; CMUs may be obtained through exams, training/teaching, and publishing. Certification maintenance fee is $399. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.giac.org/certification/certified-forensic-examiner-gcfe
SANS GIAC	GIAC Assessing and Auditing Wireless Networks (GAWN)	4	6	1	10.49	4	7.3	44.09	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $1,049 (Certification attempts with training course are $599.) **Prerequisites:** None **Recertification:** Must recertify every 4 years; 36 Certification Maintenance Units (CMUs) required; CMUs must be obtained after the 2-year mark of obtaining the certification and before the certification expires; CMUs may be obtained through exams, training/teaching, and publishing. Certification maintenance fee is $399. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.giac.org/certification/assessing-auditing-wireless-networks-
IBM	IBM Information Management	4	6	2	4.00	4	10	44.00	**Exam Cost:** 1 to 3 exams depending on specialization. $200 each **Prerequisites:** Specific per specialization. See site for details. **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** DB2 (Solution Developer, Database Associate, Database Administrator, Application Developer, Advanced Database Administrator, and System Administrator) **URL:** www-03.ibm.com/certify/certs/dm_index.shtml
Adobe	Adobe Certified Expert (ACE) Specialist	4	9	3	5.40	4	6.5	42.40	**Exam Cost:** 3 exams (2 required plus 1 elective), most exams are $180 each, all exams must be on the same product version **Prerequisites:** None **Recertification:** Must recertify within 90 days after your exam is retired **Specializations:** Recognizes proficiency in a specific medium such as print, web, or video **URL:** http://training.adobe.com/certification.html

Ranking Certifications

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
Oracle	Oracle Certified Professional (OCP), Oracle Linux 6 System Administrator	6	6	1	0.50	6	8.45	**42.40**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $50 **Prerequisites:** Oracle Certified Associate, Oracle Linux 5 and 6 System Administrator **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** Oracle Linux 6 **URL:** http://education.oracle.com/pls/web_prod-plq-dad/db_pages.getpage?page_id=458&get_params=p_track_id:LIN6OCA
Red Hat Certification	Red Hat Certified System Administrator (RHCSA)	4	9	1	4.00	4	7.7	**41.40**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $400 **Prerequisites:** None **Recertification:** Required after 3 years. When an RHCSA under Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6 earns an RHCE, that person is considered current for 3 years from the date that the RHCE is earned. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.redhat.com/certification/rhcsa/
Red Hat Certification	Red Hat Certified Virtualization Administrator (RHCVA)	4	6	1	6.00	4	8	**41.00**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $600 **Prerequisites:** None **Recertification:** Required after 3 years **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** https://www.redhat.com/training/certifications/rhcva/
iNARTE	Wireless Device Certification Professional (WDCP)	4	6	1	3.85	4	8.4	**39.65**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam and application. New application with full exam, $385; add on to certified EMC, $247.50. **Prerequisites:** Appropriate engineering or physical science qualifications **Recertification:** Annual renewal fee. $137.50 with online examination **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** narte.org/h/wdcp.asp
Oracle	Oracle Certified Professional (OCP), Java SE 7 Programmer	4	6	1	2.45	4	9.1	**39.65**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $245 **Prerequisites:** Oracle Certified Associate, Java SE 7 Programmer **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** Oracle offers numerous OCP certifications. Candidates should review the Oracle certification page for complete availability. **URL:** http://education.oracle.com/pls/web_prod-plq-dad/db_pages.getpage?page_id=516&p_org_id=28
Citrix	Citrix Certified Professional - Networking (CCP-N)	4	6	1	1.50	4	9.5	**39.50**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $150 **Prerequisites:** 6 months of experience administering and supporting NetScaler 10; training recommended but not required **Recertification:** None listed **Specialization:** Citrix NetScaler 10 for app and desktop solutions in an enterprise environment **URL:** http://training.citrix.com/cms/index.php/certification/apps-and-desktops/
Citrix	Citrix Certified Associate – Apps and Desktops (CCA-AD)	4	4	1	1.5	6	9.5	**39.50**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $150 **Prerequisites:** Training recommended but not required **Recertification:** None listed **Specialization:** Citrix XenDesktop 7 on Windows Server 2012 **URL:** http://training.citrix.com/cms/index.php/certification/apps-and-desktops/

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
Linux Professional Institute	LPIC-2	4	6	2	5.50	4	7	**39.50**	**Exam Cost:** 2 exams, $366 (Exam 201) $183 (Exam 202) **Prerequisites:** Must have an active LPIC-1 certification to receive LPIC-2 certification; LPIC-1 and LPIC-2 exams may be taken in any order. **Recertification:** Recertification is recommended after 2 years from the date of the certification designation to retain a current certification status. However, to retain an active certification status, a certification holder is required to recertify within 5 years of the certification designation. Recertification requires that the individual candidate passes all up-to-date exams that are required for the highest earned certification designation. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.lpi.org/linux-certifications/programs/lpic-2
ISC-squared	System Security Certified Practitioner (SSCP)	4	6	1	2.50	6	7.75	**39.00**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $250 **Prerequisites:** Minimum of 1 year relevant work experience required. Candidates must be endorsed by another (ISC)2 professional. **Recertification:** Annual maintenance fee of $65 per year required; Certificate holders must recertify every 3 years. 60 CPEs required to recertify with a minimum of 10 CPEs must be posted during each year of the 3-year certification cycle. **Specialization:** None listed **URL:** https://www.isc2.org/sscp-how-to-certify.aspx
Brocade	Brocade Certified Network Engineer (BCNE)	4	6	1	1.5	4	9.1	**38.70**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $150 **Prerequisites:** Completion of ETH 101 Internetworking Fundamentals for Brocade or equivalent networking experience is recommended. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.brocade.com/education/certification-accreditation/certified-network-engineer/index.page
BICSI	Data Center Design Consultant (DCDC)	2	12	1	3.75	2	7.5	**37.75**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $150 members/$275 non-members plus application fee of $245 members/$370 non-members **Prerequisites:** 2 years verifiable experience in design and/or construction of data centers. Experience must be within the last 6 years. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** https://www.bicsi.org/double.aspx?l=5194&r=5620
CompTIA	CompTIA Linux+ Powered by LPI	4	6	2	3.6	4	7	**37.60**	**Exam Cost:** 2 exams, $183 each **Prerequisites:** None required but recommended CompTIA A+, CompTIA Network+ and at least 12 months of Linux administration experience **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** None listed Companies such as Dell, HP, IBM, Lenovo and Xerox recommend or require CompTIA Linux+. **URL:** http://certification.comptia.org/getCertified/certifications/linux.aspx
Novell	Novell/SUSE Certified Linux Professional (CLP)	4	6	1	1.95	4	8.3	**37.55**	**Exam Cost:** 1 practical exam, $195 **Prerequisites:** SUSE Certified Linux Administrator (CLA) certification **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** https://www.suse.com/training/linux-certification/clp/

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
MongoDB	MongoDB Certified Developer, Associate Level (Beta)	4	6	1	1.50	4	8	**36.50**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $150 **Prerequisites:** None **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** Designing and building applications using MongoDB. **URL:** https://www.mongodb.com/products/training/certification
Google	Google Apps Certified Deployment Specialist	4	6	1	1.45	6	7	**36.45**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $100 plus $45 for the Kryterion™ Flexible Neck Webcam (the only webcam approved for taking the exams) **Prerequisites:** 3-6 years of professional IT experience, and complete at least 3 Google Apps for Business deployments. **Recertification:** Required to pass the certification exam 30 days prior to or up to 60 days after the 18-month renewal date. **Specializations:** Google Apps for Business **URL:** http://certification.googleapps.com/Home/overview
Check Point	Check Point Certified Security Administrator (CCSA)	2	12	1	2.00	2	7.5	**36.00**	**Exam Cost:** $200 **Prerequisites:** 6 months to 1 year of experience with Check Point products recommended **Recertification:** Certifications are considered valid for 4 years. Credential holders may upgrade as new technology is released. Upgrade path depends on prior certification level acquired. Check Web site for current requirements. **Specialization:** None **URL:** http://www.checkpoint.com/services/education/training/courses/security-admin-2013/index.html
CompTIA	Network+	4	6	1	2.69	4	6	**33.69**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $269 **Prerequisites:** None required; CompTIA A+ certification and 9 months of networking experience recommended **Recertification:** Those certified prior to 12/31/2010 are certified for life. Those certified in 2011 must recertify every 3 years. To recertify, you must earn 30 continuing education units (CEUs). To earn CEUs, obtain a higher-level certification, complete certain activities, or take a newer version of the certification. **Specializations:** None listed CompTIA reports that Dell, HP, Ricoh, Sharp, and Xerox recommend this credential for their network technicians. This credential is recognized by the U.S. Department of Defense. This credential is a technical prerequisite for the Apple Consulting Network. **URL:** http://certification.comptia.org/getCertified/certifications/network.aspx
GRC Certify	Governance, Risk Management, and Compliance Professional (GRCP)	4	6	1	2.5	4	6	**33.50**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $250 **Prerequisites:** None **Recertification:** Yearly recertification fee of $250 **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.grccertify.org/grc-certifications-overview/grc-professional-certification/

Ranking Certifications

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
CompTIA	A+	2	9	2	3.76	4	5	32.76	**Exam Cost:** 2 exams, $188 each **Prerequisites:** None **Recertification:** Those certified prior to 12/31/2010 are certified for life. Those certified in 2011 must recertify every 3 years. To recertify, you must earn 20 continuing education units (CEUs). To earn CEUs, obtain a higher-level certification, complete certain activities, or take a newer version of the certification. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://certification.comptia.org/getCertified/certifications/a.aspx
ITIL	ITIL Foundation	2	6	1	2.99	2	8	31.99	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $299 (ITILPrime.com) Note: Cost of exams and training courses may vary depending on education provider. **Prerequisites:** Training course not required but recommended. Training cost vary by provider; candidates can expect to pay approximately $1,395 for a live training course that includes an end-of-course exam. Some education providers offer online training for $400. **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.itil-officialsite.com/Qualifications/ITILQualificationLevels/ITILFoundation.aspx Note: All ITL course are assigned a credit profile. Accumulated ITIL credits may be applied to certification requirements for the Managing Across the Lifecycle, Expert, and Master Qualifications.
Apple	Apple Certified Macintosh Technician (ACMT)	4	6	2	3.00	4	4.2	31.40	**Exam Cost:** 2 exams, $150 each **Prerequisites:** None; certification intended for employees of an Apple Authorized Service Provider (AASP) or Self Servicing Account (SSA) **Recertification:** Valid for 1 year; persons employed by AASP or SSA are required to recertify **Specializations:** None listed URL: http://training.apple.com/certification/acmt
CWNP	Certified Wireless Network Administrator (CWNA)	2	6	1	1.75	2	8.3	31.35	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $175 **Prerequisites:** Be familiar with the CWNP exam terminology used in the CWTS, CWNA, and CWSP **Recertification:** The CWNA certification is valid for 3 years. To recertify, pass the current CWNA exam, or pass the current CWSP, CWAP, or CWDP exam to earn the CWSP, CWAP, or CWDP certification. **Specialization:** None listed URL: http://www.cwnp.com/certifications/cwna
MongoDB	MongoDB Certified DBA, Associate Level (Beta)	2	6	1	1.50	2	8	30.50	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $150 **Prerequisites:** None **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** Knowledge of the fundamental concepts and mechanics of MongoDB. **URL:** https://www.mongodb.com/products/training/certification

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
Microsoft	Microsoft Certified Solutions Associate (MCSA)	2	6	2	3.00	2	6.6	**30.20**	**Exam Cost:** 2-3 exams required depending on certification path taken, $150 each **Prerequisites:** None **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** Windows Server 2012, Windows Server 2008, Windows 8, Windows 7, SQL Server 2012, Office 365 **URL:** http://www.microsoft.com/learning/en/us/mcsa-certification.aspx
PMI	Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM)	2	6	1	3.00	2	7	**30.00**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $300 non-members, $225 for members **Prerequisites:** High school diploma or equivalent, plus 1,500 hours experience or 23 hours project management education **Recertification:** Certification is valid for 5 years. Credential holders must retake the exam to recertify. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.pmi.org/Certification/Certified-Associate-in-Project-Management-CAPM.aspx
Linux Professional Institute	LPIC-1	2	6	2	3.66	2	6	**29.66**	**Exam Cost:** 2 exams, $183 each **Prerequisites:** None **Recertification:** Recertification is recommended after 2 years from the date of the certification designation to retain a current certification status. However, to retain an active certification status, a certification holder is required recertify within 5 years of the certification designation. Recertification requires that the individual candidate passes all current exams that are only required for the highest earned certification designation. **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.lpi.org/linux-certifications/programs/lpic-1
CompTIA	Security+	2	6	1	2.76	2	6.5	**28.76**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $276 **Prerequisites:** None required but recommended CompTIA Network+ certification and 2 years of technical networking experience, with an emphasis on security. **Recertification:** Those certified prior to 12/31/2010 are certified for life. Those certified in 2011 and later must recertify every 3 years. To recertify, you must earn 50 continuing education units (CEUs). To earn CEUs you can obtain a higher-level certification, complete certain activities, or take a newer version of the certification. **Specializations:** None listed This credential is recognized by the U.S. Department of Defense. **URL:** http://certification.comptia.org/getCertified/certifications/security.aspx
Novell	Novell/SUSE Certified Linux Administrator (CLA)	2	3	2	2.50	2	7.4	**28.30**	**Exam Cost:** 2 exams, $125 each **Prerequisites:** None **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** https://www.suse.com/training/linux-certification/cla/

Ranking Certifications

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
Citrix	Citrix Certified Associate - Networking (CCA-N)	2	4	1	1.50	2	7.5	**27.50**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $150 **Prerequisites:** 6 months of experience administering NetScaler 10; training recommended but not required **Recertification:** None listed **Specialization:** Citrix NetScaler 10 for app and desktop solutions in an enterprise environment **URL:** http://training.citrix.com/cms/index.php/certification/networking/
Brocade	Brocade Accredited Internetworking Specialist (BAIS)	2	6	1	0.2	2	5.8	**24.80**	**Exam Cost:** $20 **Prerequisites:** Completion of ETH 101 Internetworking Fundamentals for Brocade Training is recommended but not required. **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.brocade.com/education/certification-accreditation/accredited_internetworking/index.page
CompTIA	Healthcare IT Technician	2	3	1	1.06	2	6	**23.06**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $106 **Prerequisites:** None required but recommended CompTIA A+ or 500 hours of hands-on IT technical experience in the healthcare IT field **Recertification:** None listed **Specialization:** None listed **URL:** http://certification.comptia.org/getCertified/certifications/hittech.aspx
Cisco	Cisco Certified Technician (CCT)	2	6	1	1.25	2	4.1	**22.45**	**Exam Cost:** 1 - 2 exams depending on track selected; exams are $125 each **Prerequisites:** Candidates selecting the Data Center or TelePresence tracks must first pass the Routing and Switching exam. **Recertification:** Certification is valid for 3 years. To recertify, credential holders must pass one of the following exams: any CCT exam, ICND1 and ICND2, CCNA composite exam, CCDA, any CCNA concentration, any 642-XXX professional-level exam, any Cisco specialist exam, CCIE written exam, CCDE written or lab exam, or CCAr interview and live Board review. **Specializations:** Data Center, Routing & Switching, TelePresence **URL:** http://www.cisco.com/web/learning/certifications/entry/cct/index.html
Help Desk Institute (HDI)	Desktop Support Technician (DST)	2	3	1	1.45	2	3.85	**19.15**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $145 Online course, which includes exam, can be purchased for $645 (members) and $695 (non-members). Virtual and public classroom costs are $1,395 (members) and $1,495 (non-members). **Prerequisites:** None **Recertification:** Retake test every 2 years **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://www.thinkhdi.com/education/courses/hdi-desktop-support-technician.aspx

Ranking Certifications

Vendor	Name	Level	Time	#Exams	Cost	Experience	$$$	Rank	Comments
Weightings:		1	1	1	1	2	2		
									All costs are USD
Microsoft	Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS)	1	2	1	1.00	1	4.8	**16.60**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $100 **Prerequisites:** None **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** Microsoft Office Specialist on Microsoft Office 2013 (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Access, SharePoint, and OneNote), Microsoft Office Specialist on 2010; 2007 Microsoft Office System and Windows Vista. **URL:** http://www.microsoft.com/learning/en/us/certification/mos.aspx#certifications
CompTIA	Cloud Essentials	2	3	1	1.97	2	2	**15.97**	**Exam Cost:** 1 exam, $197 **Perquisites:** None required but 6 months experience recommended **Recertification:** None listed **Specializations:** None listed **URL:** http://certification.comptia.org/getCertified/certifications/cloud.aspx