

AZ-104: Microsoft Azure Administrator

Run, secure and monitor real Azure environments — and walk into the AZ-104 exam prepared.

DURATION

4 days · 32 hours

LEVEL

Intermediate

CURRICULUM

16 modules · 14 labs

DELIVERY

Live online, Classroom,
Onsite, Corporate

Course overview

Azure administrators keep production running: they decide who can do what, where data lives, how workloads scale and how quickly a team recovers when something breaks. This four-day, trainer-led course builds exactly those habits. Every concept is introduced with a short explanation and then practised straight away in a real Azure subscription, so by the end of each day you have configured, broken and fixed the services you will be tested on.

The plan follows the five skill areas of the AZ-104 exam in a practical order. Day one sets up identity and governance — Microsoft Entra ID, role-based access control, Azure Policy, budgets and resource organisation — because every later decision depends on them. Day two covers storage accounts, secure data access and infrastructure as code with ARM templates and Bicep. Day three moves to compute: virtual machines, scale sets, containers and App Service. Day four connects everything with virtual networking, private access, load balancing, monitoring, backup and recovery.

How the course is taught

Sessions are live and interactive, with a trainer who has administered Azure in real environments. Fourteen guided labs total roughly ten hours of hands-on work, and each lab ends with a short checkpoint so you can confirm the result before moving on. The final afternoon is dedicated to exam readiness: how the question types work, how to approach case studies, and a 40-question mock exam reviewed question by question.

Batches run on weekdays or across two weekends, with timings in IST and options suited to the Gulf region. After the course you keep access to the trainer for 30 days of doubt support while you prepare to book your exam with Microsoft.

This course is aligned to the published AZ-104 skills outline. Exam details on this page are reviewed regularly, but Microsoft can change exams at any time, so always confirm the current outline and price on Microsoft Learn before booking.

Highlights

- 32 hours of live, trainer-led sessions
- 14 guided hands-on labs in a real Azure subscription
- Day-wise plan mapped to the five AZ-104 skill areas
- Mock exam with question-by-question review
- Weekday and weekend batches in IST and Gulf Time
- 30 days of post-training doubt support

What's included

- Trainer with hands-on Azure administration experience
- Real Azure lab subscription — no simulators
- 14 guided labs with checkpoints
- Infrastructure as code with Bicep from Day 2
- Case-study and exam-strategy session
- 40-question mock exam with review
- Course completion certificate from Ace Skills Consulting
- 30 days of post-training doubt support

Who this course is for

Who should attend

- System administrators moving workloads to the cloud
- Cloud and IT support engineers
- Network engineers taking on Azure responsibilities
- DevOps engineers who need administration depth
- AZ-900 holders progressing to associate level

Prerequisites

- Working knowledge of Windows or Linux administration
- Networking basics: IP addressing, DNS and VPNs
- Familiarity with PowerShell or Bash
- AZ-900 (Azure Fundamentals) or equivalent experience recommended

Detailed curriculum — 4 days, 32 hours, 16 modules, 14 hands-on labs

Day 1 Identity, Governance & Resource Management

8 hours

1.1 Microsoft Entra ID

- Tenants, users and groups
- External (B2B) users
- Licence assignment
- Self-service password reset

LAB Create users and groups and bulk-assign licences · 45 min

1.2 Access control

- Azure RBAC: built-in vs custom roles
- Interpreting role assignments
- Scope and role inheritance

LAB Assign scoped RBAC roles and test least privilege · 45 min

1.3 Governance

- Management groups and subscriptions
- Resource locks and tags
- Azure Policy and initiatives
- Cost management and budgets

LAB Enforce tagging with Azure Policy and a resource lock · 40 min

1.4 Resource deployment basics

- Azure Resource Manager
- Moving resources between groups and subscriptions
- Resource groups

Day 2 Storage & Infrastructure as Code

8 hours

2.1 Storage accounts

- Redundancy options
- Lifecycle management
- Access tiers
- Firewalls and private endpoints

LAB Configure storage with lifecycle rules and a private endpoint · 50 min

2.2 Data access

- SAS tokens
- Access key rotation
- Stored access policies
- Identity-based access for Azure Files

LAB Generate and test a SAS token and stored access policy · 35 min

2.3 Blob & Files

- Containers
- Object replication
- AzCopy
- Versioning and soft delete
- Azure File Sync overview

2.4 ARM templates & Bicep

- Template structure and parameters
- Convert ARM to Bicep
- Deploy, modify and export templates

LAB Deploy a VM and storage account with Bicep · 50 min

Day 3 Compute: VMs, Containers & App Service

8 hours

3.1 Virtual machines

- Sizing, disks and disk encryption
- VM Scale Sets with autoscale
- Availability sets vs availability zones
- Moving VMs

LAB Deploy a zone-redundant VM Scale Set with autoscale · 55 min

3.2 Containers

- Azure Container Registry
- Azure Container Apps scaling
- Azure Container Instances

LAB Push an image to ACR and run it in Container Apps · 45 min

3.3 App Service

- Plans and scaling
- Custom domains and TLS certificates
- Networking options
- Deployment slots
- Backup

LAB App Service with a staging slot swap and custom domain · 45 min

Day 4 Networking, Monitoring, Backup & Exam Readiness

8 hours

4.1 Virtual networking

- VNets and subnets
- User-defined routes
- Peering
- Public IP addresses

LAB Hub-spoke peering with UDRs and NSG rules · 50 min

4.2 Secure access

- NSGs and ASGs
- Service endpoints vs private endpoints
- Azure Bastion
- Azure DNS (public and private zones)

LAB Private DNS zone and Bastion access · 35 min

4.3 Load balancing

- Azure Load Balancer (internal and public)
- Troubleshooting connectivity with Network Watcher
- Application Gateway

LAB Public load balancer for two VMs · 40 min

4.4 Monitor & maintain

- Azure Monitor metrics and logs
- Alerts and action groups
- Site Recovery overview
- Log Analytics and KQL basics
- Recovery Services vault and Azure Backup policies

LAB Alerts and Log Analytics queries · 35 min

LAB Back up and restore a VM · 35 min

4.5 Exam readiness

- Exam strategy
- 40-question mock exam with review
- Approaching case studies

Skills and tools

Skills you will build

Microsoft Entra ID

Azure RBAC

Azure Policy

Resource Manager & Bicep

Storage accounts

Azure Files

VMs & scale sets

App Service

Container Apps & ACI

VNets & peering

NSGs

Azure DNS

Load Balancer

Application Gateway

Azure Monitor

Log Analytics

Azure Backup

Site Recovery

Tools used in class

Azure portal

Azure CLI

Azure PowerShell

Bicep

ARM templates

Azure Storage Explorer

AzCopy

Azure Cloud Shell

Certification exam

This course is aligned to the exam below and prepares you for it. The exam itself is booked and taken with the vendor.

Exam	Microsoft Certified: Azure Administrator Associate
Exam code	AZ-104
Questions	40–60
Duration	100 minutes
Passing score	700 / 1000 (scaled)
Format	Multiple choice, Multiple response, Drag and drop, Case study, Performance-based / lab
Delivery	Online proctored, Test centre
Validity	1 year (free online renewal assessment)
Official page	https://learn.microsoft.com/credentials/certifications/azure-administrator/

Exam skill areas covered

Identity and access management, Governance, Operations and maintenance, Security, Troubleshooting, Virtual machines, Web and mobile resources

Exam details last checked on 11 Oct 2026. Vendors change exams without notice — confirm on the official page before booking.

Frequently asked questions

Is AZ-104 suitable if I am new to Azure?

Yes, if you already administer servers or networks. If you have never used a cloud portal, complete AZ-900 or our free Azure basics session first.

Do I get hands-on access?

Yes. Every learner works in a lab subscription for all 14 labs; access details are shared before Day 1.

Is the exam fee included?

Only when the batch shows the "Exam voucher included" badge. Otherwise you book the exam directly with Microsoft.

What if I miss a session?

Recordings (where enabled) are available for 30 days, and you can join the same day in a later batch once at no extra cost.

Do you run weekend batches?

Yes. Weekend batches run over two consecutive weekends and cover the same 32 hours.

Can you train our whole team?

Yes. Request a corporate quote for a private online or onsite batch with a curriculum adjusted to your environment.

How long is the certification valid?

One year. Microsoft offers a free online renewal assessment before it expires.

Will this course stay valid if Microsoft updates the exam?

We map the curriculum to the current skills outline and update it when Microsoft revises the exam. The "last verified" date on this page shows when we last checked.

Book a batch or talk to an advisor

Course page: aceskillsconsulting.com/course/az-104-microsoft-azure-administrator · Email: info@aceskillsconsulting.com

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