

AZ-802: Administering Windows Server

Run Windows Server confidently across data centre and Azure, from Active Directory to disaster recovery — and prepare for AZ-802.

DURATION

5 days · 40 hours

LEVEL

Intermediate

CURRICULUM

16 modules · 13 labs

DELIVERYLive online, Onsite,
Corporate

Course overview

Most organisations still run a large Windows Server estate, and more of it is now managed through Azure: servers connected with Azure Arc, file shares synchronised to the cloud, backups held in Recovery Services vaults and disaster recovery handled by Site Recovery. This five-day course prepares administrators to manage that hybrid reality end to end.

Days one and two cover the core: deploying and managing Active Directory Domain Services, Group Policy, hybrid identity with Microsoft Entra Connect, Windows Admin Center and PowerShell remoting, and Hyper-V virtualisation with containers. Day three moves to networking and storage — DNS, DHCP, IP address management, Storage Spaces, file servers and Azure File Sync.

Day four focuses on security and high availability: hardening servers, managing updates, securing privileged access, and building failover clusters. Day five covers disaster recovery with Hyper-V Replica, Azure Backup and Site Recovery, server migrations to newer Windows Server versions and to Azure, and monitoring with Azure Monitor, before a session on exam technique.

Labs run in a multi-server environment that includes domain controllers, file servers and Hyper-V hosts connected to an Azure subscription, so you practise the same tasks you will perform at work.

The course is aligned to the AZ-802 exam, reported as the combined successor to AZ-800 and AZ-801, which retired on 30 September 2026. Check the current outline on Microsoft Learn before booking; we update the course as Microsoft confirms details.

Highlights

- 40 hours of live, lab-heavy sessions
- Covers core and advanced hybrid administration in one course
- Active Directory, Hyper-V, storage and networking labs
- Azure Arc, Azure Backup and Site Recovery for hybrid servers
- Successor path for learners who planned AZ-800 and AZ-801

What's included

- Multi-server lab environment connected to Azure
- Active Directory and Group Policy in depth
- Hyper-V, Storage Spaces and failover clustering labs
- Azure Arc, Azure File Sync and Azure Backup for hybrid servers
- Migration labs to newer Windows Server and Azure
- PowerShell used throughout for repeatable administration
- 30 days of post-training doubt support

Who this course is for

Who should attend

- Windows Server administrators
- Infrastructure engineers managing hybrid estates
- Learners who were preparing for AZ-800 or AZ-801
- IT support engineers progressing to server administration
- Azure administrators supporting on-premises workloads

Prerequisites

- Experience with Windows Server and Windows client administration
- Familiarity with Active Directory, DNS and basic networking
- Basic PowerShell knowledge
- Awareness of Azure fundamentals (AZ-900 level helps)

Detailed curriculum — 5 days, 40 hours, 16 modules, 13 hands-on labs

Day 1 Identity and Server Management

8 hours

1.1 Active Directory Domain Services

- Forests, domains and trusts
- FSMO roles and sites
- Deploying and managing domain controllers
- Read-only domain controllers

LAB Deploy a new domain controller and transfer FSMO roles · 50 min

1.2 Group Policy and hybrid identity

- Group Policy design and troubleshooting
- Password hash sync and pass-through authentication
- Microsoft Entra Connect and Cloud Sync
- Entra Domain Services overview

LAB Synchronise on-premises users to Microsoft Entra ID · 45 min

1.3 Managing servers

- Windows Admin Center
- Server Core administration
- PowerShell remoting and JEA
- Azure Arc-enabled servers

LAB Onboard servers to Azure Arc and apply a policy · 45 min

Day 2 Virtualisation and Containers

8 hours

2.1 Hyper-V

- Hyper-V hosts and virtual switches
- Checkpoints and live migration
- Generation 2 VMs and nested virtualisation
- Shielded VMs overview

LAB Configure Hyper-V networking and live-migrate a VM · 55 min

2.2 Containers on Windows Server

- Windows containers and isolation modes
- Running containers on Azure
- Container images and registries

LAB Run a Windows container and push it to a registry · 40 min

2.3 Azure IaaS for Windows Server

- Deploying Windows Server VMs in Azure
- Azure Bastion and just-in-time access
- Azure Automate and Update Manager

LAB Deploy and manage a Windows Server VM in Azure · 35 min

Day 3 Networking and Storage

8 hours

3.1 Network infrastructure

- DNS zones, forwarding and policies
- IP Address Management (IPAM)
- DHCP scopes and failover
- Hybrid networking with Azure

LAB Configure DNS conditional forwarding and DHCP failover · 45 min

3.2 Storage and file services

- Storage Spaces and Storage Spaces Direct
- Data deduplication
- File server roles, quotas and DFS
- Storage Replica

LAB Build a Storage Spaces pool and DFS namespace · 45 min

3.3 Azure File Sync

- Sync groups and cloud tiering
- Backup integration
- Migration of file servers to Azure Files

LAB Tier a file server to Azure Files with File Sync · 40 min

Day 4 Security and High Availability

8 hours

4.1 Securing Windows Server

- Security baselines and hardening
- Privileged access tiering
- Credential protection and LAPS
- Microsoft Defender for Servers

LAB Apply a security baseline and deploy Windows LAPS · 45 min

4.2 Updates and compliance

- Windows Server Update Services
- Monitoring compliance with Azure Policy
- Azure Update Manager for hybrid servers

4.3 Failover clustering

- Cluster requirements and validation
- Clustered roles and cluster-aware updating
- Quorum and witness options
- Stretch clusters overview

LAB Build a two-node failover cluster with a cloud witness · 60 min

Day 5 Disaster Recovery, Migration, Monitoring and Exam Readiness

8 hours

5.1 Disaster recovery

- Hyper-V Replica
- Azure Site Recovery for Hyper-V and physical servers
- Azure Backup for on-premises servers

LAB Protect a server with Azure Backup and test a restore · 45 min

5.2 Migration

- Storage Migration Service
- Azure Migrate for Windows Server workloads
- Migrating AD DS to newer versions

LAB Migrate a file server with Storage Migration Service · 45 min

5.3 Monitoring and troubleshooting

- Performance Monitor and event logs
- Troubleshooting AD and boot issues
- Azure Monitor for hybrid servers

5.4 Exam readiness

- Exam format and question styles
- Practice questions with review

Skills and tools

Skills you will build

Active Directory

Group Policy

Microsoft Entra Connect

Windows Admin Center

PowerShell

Hyper-V

Windows containers

DNS & DHCP

Storage Spaces

Azure File Sync

Failover clustering

Azure Arc

Azure Backup

Site Recovery

Server migration

Tools used in class

Windows Server

Windows Admin Center

PowerShell

Hyper-V Manager

Azure portal

Azure Arc

Microsoft Entra Connect

Storage Migration Service

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	Administering Windows Server (AZ-802)
Exam code	AZ-802
Delivery	Online proctored, Test centre
Validity	1 year (free online renewal assessment)
Official page	https://learn.microsoft.com/credentials/

Exam skill areas covered:
Manage Windows Server infrastructure in a hybrid environment
Manage Windows Server roles and services

Exam details are pending verification. Confirm the current exam code, format and fee on the official vendor page before booking.

Frequently asked questions

I passed AZ-800 but not AZ-801. What should I do?

Both exams retired on 30 September 2026, so check Microsoft Learn for how existing progress is treated. This course covers the full combined scope, so it suits you either way.

Is the course mostly on-premises or Azure?

Both. Roughly two-thirds of the labs run on Windows Server, and the rest connect those servers to Azure services.

Do I need a lot of PowerShell?

Basic familiarity is enough. Every lab provides the commands, and the trainer explains them as you go.

What happens if Microsoft updates the AZ-802 exam?

We map the curriculum to the current published skills outline and revise it when Microsoft changes the exam. Always check the latest outline on Microsoft Learn before booking.

Do you run weekend batches?

Yes. Weekend batches cover the same 40 hours across consecutive Saturdays and Sundays, with timings in IST that also suit learners in the Gulf.

Can you run a private batch for our team?

Yes. We run private online or onsite batches for corporate teams, and we can weight the labs towards your server estate and migration plans. Request a corporate quote with your team size and preferred dates.

Book a batch or talk to an advisor

Course page: aceskillsconsulting.com/course/az-802-administering-windows-server · Email: info@aceskillsconsulting.com

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