

DP-300: Azure Database Administrator

Run fast, secure and highly available SQL databases on Azure and prepare for the DP-300 Azure Database Administrator exam.

DURATION

4 days · 32 hours

LEVEL

Intermediate

CURRICULUM

12 modules · 11 labs

DELIVERYLive online, Onsite,
Corporate

Course overview

Database administrators moving to Azure find that much of their expertise still applies, but the decisions change: which deployment option to use, how service tiers affect performance, how high availability is delivered and what is now automated by the platform. This four-day course helps experienced DBAs make those decisions with confidence.

Day one covers planning and deploying data platform resources — comparing Azure SQL Database, Managed Instance and SQL Server on Azure VMs, choosing service tiers and migrating databases. Day two secures the environment with Microsoft Entra authentication, firewall rules, private endpoints, encryption, auditing and data classification.

Day three focuses on performance: monitoring with Query Store, dynamic management views and database watcher, identifying blocking and inefficient queries, and tuning indexes and configuration. Automation is covered alongside, with SQL Agent, elastic jobs and automated maintenance. Day four is dedicated to high availability and disaster recovery — backups, geo-replication, failover groups and Always On availability groups — followed by exam preparation.

Labs use realistic workloads, so you diagnose genuine performance problems and fail over real databases rather than following click-by-click demonstrations.

The course is aligned to the DP-300 exam. Microsoft updates exam outlines periodically, so check the current skills measured on Microsoft Learn before booking.

Highlights

- 32 hours of live, hands-on sessions
- Azure SQL Database, Managed Instance and SQL Server on VMs
- Query Store and performance tuning labs
- High availability and disaster recovery built and tested
- Mapped to the five DP-300 skill areas

What's included

- Labs across all three Azure SQL deployment options
- Database migration with Azure Database Migration Service
- Query Store, DMVs and index tuning exercises
- Security hardening with Entra authentication and encryption
- Failover groups and availability group labs
- Automation with elastic jobs and SQL Agent
- 30 days of post-training doubt support

Who this course is for

Who should attend

- SQL Server database administrators
- Data platform engineers supporting Azure SQL
- Developers who manage production databases
- Infrastructure engineers responsible for database migrations

Prerequisites

- Experience administering SQL Server
- Working knowledge of T-SQL
- Basic Azure knowledge (AZ-900 or DP-900 level)

Detailed curriculum — 4 days, 32 hours, 12 modules, 11 hands-on labs

Day 1 Planning, Deploying and Migrating

8 hours

1.1 Azure SQL options

- Azure SQL Database, Managed Instance and SQL Server on VMs
- Purchasing models: DTU and vCore
- Service tiers, serverless and Hyperscale
- Elastic pools

LAB Deploy Azure SQL Database and Managed Instance options · 45 min

1.2 Deployment and configuration

- Deploying with templates and scripts
- SQL Server on Azure VMs: storage and IaaS agent
- Database configuration settings
- Azure Arc-enabled SQL Server overview

LAB Deploy and configure SQL Server on an Azure VM · 40 min

1.3 Migration

- Assessing readiness for migration
- Online vs offline migration
- Azure Database Migration Service
- Post-migration validation

LAB Migrate an on-premises database to Azure SQL · 55 min

Day 2 Securing the Data Platform

8 hours

2.1 Authentication and authorisation

- Microsoft Entra authentication
- Logins, users and contained users
- Database roles and least privilege
- Managed identities for applications

LAB Configure Entra-only authentication and roles · 45 min

2.2 Network security

- Server and database firewall rules
- Private endpoints
- Connection policies

LAB Restrict access with a private endpoint · 30 min

2.3 Data protection and compliance

- Transparent data encryption
- Always Encrypted
- Dynamic data masking and row-level security
- Auditing, ledger and data classification
- Microsoft Defender for SQL

LAB Apply Always Encrypted, masking and auditing · 55 min

Day 3 Performance and Automation

8 hours

3.1 Monitoring

- Database watcher and Azure Monitor
- Extended events
- Dynamic management views
- Baselining

LAB Set up monitoring and capture a baseline · 35 min

3.2 Query performance

- Query Store and plan regressions
- Index design and maintenance
- Blocking and deadlocks
- Intelligent query processing and automatic tuning

LAB Find and fix a regressed query with Query Store · 60 min

3.3 Automation

- SQL Agent jobs
- Azure Automation and alerts
- Elastic jobs
- Maintenance tasks

LAB Automate index maintenance with elastic jobs · 40 min

Day 4 High Availability, Disaster Recovery and Exam Readiness

8 hours

4.1 Backup and restore

- Automated backups and retention
- Backup to URL for SQL on VMs
- Point-in-time and long-term retention restore

LAB Perform a point-in-time restore · 30 min

4.2 High availability and DR

- Built-in availability and zone redundancy
- Auto-failover groups
- Failover cluster instances
- Active geo-replication
- Always On availability groups on Azure VMs

LAB Configure and test an auto-failover group · 50 min

4.3 Exam readiness

- Exam structure and case studies
- Practice questions with review

Skills and tools

Skills you will build

Azure SQL Database

Azure SQL Managed Instance

SQL Server on Azure VMs

Database migration

Microsoft Entra authentication

TDE & Always Encrypted

Auditing

Query Store

Index tuning

Elastic jobs

Geo-replication

Failover groups

Always On availability groups

Tools used in class

Azure portal

SQL Server Management Studio

Azure Data Studio

Azure Database Migration Service

Azure CLI

PowerShell

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 Database Administrator Associate

Exam code DP-300

Duration	100 minutes
Passing score	700 / 1000 (scaled)
Format	Multiple choice, Multiple response, Drag and drop, Case study
Delivery	Online proctored, Test centre
Validity	1 year (free online renewal assessment)
Official page	https://learn.microsoft.com/credentials/certifications/exams/dp-300/

Exam skill areas covered

Windows Server, Azure platform resources
 Windows Server and Azure platform resources
 Windows Server and Azure platform resources

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

Frequently asked questions

Do I need SQL Server experience?

Yes. The course is designed for working DBAs and assumes you are comfortable with T-SQL and routine administration.

Does the course cover Managed Instance and SQL on VMs?

Yes. All three Azure SQL deployment options are covered, with labs on each.

How do I book the DP-300 exam?

You schedule it through Microsoft Learn, either online-proctored or at a test centre.

What happens if Microsoft updates the DP-300 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 32 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 database 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/dp-300-azure-database-administrator · Email: info@aceskillsconsulting.com

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