

SOA-C03: AWS CloudOps Engineer – Associate

Run AWS in production: monitoring, automation, resilience and security — prepared for the new SOA-C03 CloudOps Engineer exam.

DURATION

3 days · 24 hours

LEVEL

Intermediate

CURRICULUM

9 modules · 7 labs

DELIVERYLive online, Onsite,
Corporate

Course overview

Once workloads are live on AWS, someone has to keep them healthy, secure, recoverable and within budget. That is the CloudOps engineer. AWS renamed its SysOps Administrator certification to CloudOps Engineer – Associate, with the SOA-C03 exam first offered on 30 September 2025, reflecting how much of the role is now automation and observability rather than manual administration.

This three-day course is built around day-to-day operational work. Day one covers monitoring, logging and remediation with CloudWatch, CloudTrail, EventBridge and Systems Manager, and introduces performance tuning across compute, storage and databases. Day two focuses on reliability and automation: Auto Scaling, load balancing, backups, multi-Region recovery, CloudFormation and fleet management. Day three covers security, compliance and networking, from IAM and AWS Config to VPC troubleshooting, DNS and content delivery.

The labs are written as operational tasks rather than tutorials. You will build alarms that trigger automated fixes, patch a fleet with Systems Manager, restore a database to a point in time, deploy a stack with drift detection and track down why an instance cannot reach the internet. Each lab ends with a short discussion of how the same task would appear in an exam scenario.

The final session reviews the SOA-C03 exam domains and practises exam-style questions. This course is aligned to the SOA-C03 exam and prepares you for it; as this is a recently updated exam, confirm the current exam guide on the AWS Certification site before booking.

Highlights

- 24 hours of live, operations-focused training
- Labs on monitoring, automation, backup and networking
- Covers the renamed CloudOps Engineer – Associate exam
- Incident-style troubleshooting exercises
- Weekday and weekend batches in IST and Gulf Time

What's included

- Operations scenarios based on real production tasks
- Automated remediation with EventBridge and Systems Manager
- Backup, restore and disaster recovery practice
- Infrastructure as code with CloudFormation
- Networking troubleshooting exercises
- Practice questions with explained answers
- Course completion certificate from Ace Skills Consulting

Who this course is for

Who should attend

- System administrators running workloads on AWS
- Cloud operations and site reliability engineers
- Support engineers in managed service providers
- DevOps engineers who want stronger operations depth
- Professionals who were preparing for the SysOps Administrator exam

Prerequisites

- Hands-on experience with AWS or Cloud Practitioner-level knowledge
- Linux or Windows administration basics
- Networking fundamentals: TCP/IP, DNS and routing

Detailed curriculum — 3 days, 24 hours, 9 modules, 7 hands-on labs

Day 1 Monitoring, Logging & Remediation

8 hours

1.1 CloudWatch in depth

- Metrics, dimensions and custom metrics
- Alarms, composite alarms and dashboards
- CloudWatch agent for logs and OS metrics
- Logs Insights queries

LAB Install the CloudWatch agent and build an operations dashboard · 45 min

1.2 Auditing and events

- CloudTrail trails and Lake
- AWS Health events
- EventBridge rules for operational events
- Notification routing with SNS

LAB Auto-remediate a stopped instance with EventBridge and SSM Automation · 50 min

1.3 Performance optimisation

- EC2 instance right-sizing with Compute Optimizer
- RDS Performance Insights
- EBS volume types and performance
- S3 performance and transfer acceleration

Day 2 Reliability, Continuity & Automation

8 hours

2.1 Scaling and high availability

- Auto Scaling groups and policies
- Multi-AZ databases and caches
- Load balancer health checks
- Route 53 failover routing

LAB Configure target-tracking Auto Scaling behind an ALB · 45 min

2.2 Backup and recovery

- AWS Backup plans and vaults
- S3 versioning and replication
- Snapshots and point-in-time recovery
- Recovery objectives and DR strategies

LAB Restore an RDS database to a point in time · 40 min

2.3 Provisioning and fleet management

- CloudFormation stacks, change sets and drift
- Systems Manager Patch Manager and Run Command
- StackSets across accounts
- AMI pipelines with EC2 Image Builder

LAB Patch a fleet with Systems Manager and detect stack drift · 55 min

Day 3 Security, Networking & Exam Readiness

8 hours

3.1 Security and compliance

- IAM policy troubleshooting
- Security Hub and GuardDuty findings
- AWS Config rules and conformance packs
- Encryption with KMS and certificate management

LAB Detect and fix non-compliant resources with AWS Config · 40 min

3.2 Networking and content delivery

- VPC routing, NAT and endpoints
- Route 53 hosted zones and resolver
- VPC Flow Logs and Reachability Analyzer
- CloudFront distributions and caching

LAB Troubleshoot a private subnet with Flow Logs and Reachability Analyzer · 45 min

3.3 Exam readiness

- SOA-C03 domain recap
- Timed practice set with review
- Interpreting operational scenarios

Skills and tools

Skills you will build

Amazon CloudWatch

AWS CloudTrail

Amazon EventBridge

AWS Systems Manager

AWS CloudFormation

EC2 Auto Scaling

AWS Backup

AWS Config

Amazon VPC

Route 53

CloudFront

Incident troubleshooting

Tools used in class

AWS Management Console

AWS CLI

AWS CloudShell

AWS Systems Manager

AWS CloudFormation

CloudWatch Logs Insights

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	AWS Certified CloudOps Engineer – Associate
Exam code	SOA-C03
Questions	65
Duration	130 minutes
Delivery	Online proctored, Test centre
Validity	3 years

Exam skill areas covered

Identify, Analyze, Diagnose, Remediate, and Performance Optimization

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

Frequently asked questions

What happened to the SysOps Administrator certification?

AWS renamed it AWS Certified CloudOps Engineer – Associate, with the SOA-C03 exam first available on 30 September 2025. This course is built for the current exam.

Does the exam include hands-on labs?

Exam formats can change, so check the current SOA-C03 exam guide on the AWS Certification site. Our labs build the practical skills either way.

Is this course useful if I am not taking the exam?

Yes. The labs mirror everyday CloudOps work, and many teams use the course to standardise operations practices.

Should I take Solutions Architect – Associate first?

It is helpful but not required. If you already operate AWS workloads, you can start directly with this course.

Can you tailor the course for our operations team?

Yes. Corporate batches can use your monitoring stack and runbooks as examples.

Book a batch or talk to an advisor

Course page: aceskillsconsulting.com/course/soa-c03-aws-cloudops-engineer-associate · Email: info@aceskillsconsulting.com

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