

Updated on 10/08/2026

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CNPA Certification Training

3 days (21 hours)

Overview

The Certified Cloud Native Platform Engineering Associate (CNPA) certification validates your foundational skills in platform engineering, automation, security, and developer experience to help build reliable and scalable cloud-native platforms.

The CNPA Certification Training prepares you for the official exam and covers the essential concepts of Platform Engineering. You'll learn how an internal platform provides reusable, standardized, and self-service capabilities to development teams.

You'll learn to identify the principles of declarative management, Infrastructure as Code, CI/CD, and GitOps. The course also covers application environments, team responsibilities, and designing a platform as a product.

You'll study the fundamentals of Kubernetes, platform APIs, CRDs, Operators, and provisioning mechanisms. Special attention is given to observability, governance, security policies, and incident response practices.

Upon completion of the course, you will be able to effectively prepare for the official Certified Cloud Native Platform Engineering Associate (CNPA) certification, analyze platform scenarios, and select the appropriate approaches to improve reliability, developer autonomy, and team performance.

Like all our training courses, this one will introduce you to **the latest stable version** of the technology and its new features.

Objectives

- Understand the fundamentals of Platform Engineering and the areas assessed by the certification
- Identify the principles of declarative management, automation, and platform architecture
- Master the key concepts of CI/CD, GitOps, and infrastructure provisioning
- Apply the basics of observability, security, and governance in a Kubernetes context
- Develop a strategy for answering questions on the Certified Cloud Native Platform Engineering Associate (CNPA) exam

Target Audience

- Platform Engineer
- DevOps Engineer
- SRE Engineer
- Cloud Native Developer
- Cloud Architect

Prerequisites

- Familiarity with the fundamentals of cloud and cloud-native environments
- Basic knowledge of Linux and the command line
- Understand the principles of Git and code versioning
- Have an introductory understanding of containers and Kubernetes

Technical Prerequisites

- Access to a cloud-native environment dedicated to training
- Access to the Kubernetes cluster and the resources needed for the Platform Engineering exercises
- Access to a Git repository for managing the configurations and workflows used during the workshops
- Sufficient permissions to view and manage the Kubernetes resources required for the
- Access to the CI/CD, GitOps, observability, and provisioning tools used during demonstrations and exercises
- A recent web browser and a stable Internet connection to access the lab

CNPA Training Agenda

[Day 1 - Morning]

Fundamentals of Platform Engineering

- The role of platform engineering in the cloud-native ecosystem
- The role of an Internal Developer Platform and the “platform-as-a-product” principle
- Objectives for standardization, automation, and self-service for developers

- Concepts of application environments, containers, microservices, and infrastructure
- Review of the CNPA reference guide, domain weightings, and exam preparation methods

[Day 1 - Afternoon]

Declarative management and platform architecture

- Principles of declarative management and comparison with imperative approaches
- General operation of Kubernetes, resources, manifests, and desired state
- Platform components, infrastructure layers, shared services, and boundaries of responsibility
- DevOps fundamentals, cross-team collaboration, and feedback loops
- Hands-on Workshop: Analyzing a Simple Application Delivery Platform and Identifying Its Self-Service Capabilities, Users, and Responsibilities

[Day 2 - Morning]

Continuous Delivery and GitOps

- Differences between continuous integration, continuous delivery, and continuous deployment
- Stages of a CI/CD pipeline: build, testing, quality assurance, and release
- Principles of GitOps: configuration repository, single source of truth, and synchronization
- Managing environments, versions, and application changes with declarative manifests
- Incident response, service restoration, and traceability of platform changes

[Day 2 - Afternoon]

Platform provisioning and APIs

- The Role of APIs in Self-Service and Exposing Platform Capabilities
- Understanding Custom Resource Definitions and the Kubernetes reconciliation cycle
- Introduction to the Operator pattern for automating service operations
- Principles of infrastructure provisioning with Infrastructure as Code and Kubernetes controllers
- Hands-on Workshop: Designing a Self-Service Provisioning Workflow to Create a Standardized Application Environment

[Day 3 - Morning]

Observability, Security, and Developer Experience

- Fundamentals of observability: metrics, logs, traces, and events
- Concepts of secure communication between departments and the protection of confidential information

- Governance principles, policies, compliance, and security in pipelines
- Improving the developer experience with service catalogs and developer portals
- Measuring platform effectiveness using DORA metrics and productivity indicators

[Day 3 - Afternoon]

Review and preparation for the CNPA exam

- Structured review of the six competency areas for the Certified Cloud Native Platform Engineering Associate certification
- Analysis of scenarios combining automation, security, observability, GitOps, and self-service
- Techniques for reading multiple-choice questions, eliminating distractors, and managing time
- Identifying concepts that need reinforcement and creating a personalized study plan
- Hands-on workshop: taking a mock exam with feedback, reviewing answers, and justifying choices based on platform engineering principles

Target Audience

This training is intended for both individuals and companies—large or small—seeking to train their teams in a new advanced IT technology or to acquire specific domain knowledge or modern methodologies.

Entry-Level Assessment

The pre-training assessment complies with Qualiopi quality standards. Upon final registration, the learner receives a self-assessment questionnaire that allows us to evaluate their estimated proficiency in various types of technologies, as well as their expectations and personal goals for the upcoming training, within the limits imposed by the selected format. This questionnaire also allows us to anticipate certain connection or internal security issues within the company (intra-company or virtual classroom) that could pose challenges for monitoring and ensuring the smooth running of the training session.

Teaching Methods

Hands-On Training: 60% hands-on, 40% theory. Training materials distributed in digital format to all participants.

Organization

The course alternates between theoretical input from the instructor—supported by examples and reflection sessions—and group work.

Assessment

At the end of the session, a multiple-choice quiz is administered to verify that participants have successfully acquired the skills.

Certification

A certificate will be issued to each trainee who has completed the entire training program.