

Aruba Certified Design Expert Practical Exam (inactive on January 15, 2024)

Exam description

This practical exam validates your ability to design a secure campus wired, wireless, remote access and management solution for an enterprise mobility project using Aruba OS (AOS) 8 and Aruba Switches OS CX. Candidates create design solutions that include redundancy, authentication, and integration with existing infrastructure. Candidates will complete an IRIS BOM, an IRIS network diagram, and a VRF diagram for RF planning. The candidate will also answer customer questions.

Ideal candidate for this exam

An ideal candidate has advanced design experience with 5–7 years of architecting a wide variety of complex Aruba solutions. The candidate is able to identify key decision-makers and interview them to determine the customer's business requirements. The candidate synthesizes this information and uses it to formulate statements that accurately describe the customer's general connectivity, availability, security, and application requirements in order to design and integrate the solution.

Exam contents

This exam has 19 questions. Here are types of questions to expect:

- Other – 10 Essay questions Nine multi-step practical items
- Hands on

Advice to help you take this exam

- USING CHROME OR FIREFOX IS REQUIRED.
- Complete the training and review all course materials and documents before you take the exam.
- Use HPE Press study guides and additional reference materials; [study guides](#), [practice tests](#), and HPE books.
- Exam items are based on expected knowledge acquired from job experience, an expected level of industry-standard knowledge, or other prerequisites (events, supplemental materials, etc.).
- **Successful completion of the course or study materials alone does not ensure you will pass the exam.**
- A panel of subject matter experts determined the range of possible responses to each practical task and essay question to allow for as many outcomes and responses that meet the requirements. Your responses must fall within the range of possible responses to earn credit for each practical task.
- You will receive your final exam results in five business days via email. If you fail the exam, you must wait 30 days before you can take it again.

Exam ID	HPE4-A39
Exam type	Practical
Exam duration	8 hours
Exam length	19 questions
Passing score	67%
Delivery languages	English

Register for this Exam

Complete these steps before registering for the ACDX Practical Exam.

1. We strongly recommend that you print this page. Use the **Print this page** in the upper right corner for a comprehensive explanation of what you need to know and do prior to taking this practical exam. Use this button to save the document as a PDF for future reference.
2. Review the [Aruba Practical Exam Instruction Guide](#) or information about the exam/lab environment.
3. During registration, you are responsible for completing the system test on the same computer you will use to take the exam.
4. Review and complete the [ACDX walkthrough](#).
5. It is expected that you passed the required ACDX written exam (HPE6-A80) before registering for the ACDX practical test.
6. Review the complete HPE Partner Ready Certification and Learning [Candidate Agreement](#). **You are fully responsible for adhering to all HPE testing policies.**
 - I understand and agree that the penalties for any form of misconduct on the exam will include, without limitation.
 - My exam score may be invalidated. One or more of my Certification and Learning certifications may be revoked.
 - I may be prohibited from achieving future certifications either temporarily or permanently. All appropriate actions, including the pursuit of legal remedies, will be taken.
 - In addition, I acknowledge and agree that in the event of misconduct on this exam, HPE may contact my employer, if applicable, who is receiving the benefit of the pursued certification in order to discuss the misconduct, the impact of losing the certification (if any), to investigate their test practices, etc.

Passing the HPE6-A80 Aruba Certified Design Expert Written Exam and purchasing a practical exam voucher from [Aruba Education Services](#) are required before registering for the practical exam.

Objectives

ACDX exam has ten written essays and 9 practical tasks.

The essay questions and tasks are on different tabs. You may work on them in any order until the time expires.

For the practical tasks in the scenario:

You will be given a list of business and technical requirements. The score reflects how well you met the requirements. Read the requirements VERY carefully.

- The tasks build on each other.
- Parts of this exam are scored electronically and parts are scored manually. Please allow five business days for your final score report. It will be emailed to you.
- There is no score for each task or each essay.
- The tasks and objectives are mapped to the objectives listed below.

In the practical tasks, you will be required to create three files: IRIS diagram, Airwave Visual RF (heatmap), and IRIS BoM.

You MUST save these files in the specified format and in the ACDX Results folder. If they are not in the correct location or format, you will receive a zero score.

If a business or technical requirement is not met, a zero score may be given even if you complete the task and submit your work. There may or may not be partial credit if the requirement is not sufficiently met.

These tools are available in the testing environment:

- Iris
- Microsoft Office

A panel of subject matter experts determined the range of possible responses to each practical task and essay question to allow for as many outcomes and responses that meet the requirements as possible.

You will receive your final exam results in five business days via email. If you fail the exam, you must wait 30 days before you can take it again.

This exam validates that you have competence in each objective listed below.

Percentage of Exam	Sections/Objectives
45%	IRIS BoM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a detailed Bill of Materials (BOM) listing MM, controller models, Aruba switches, line cards, transceivers, APs, AMs, SMs, Mesh APs, license types, and counts. This will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AP BoM Switch BoM MM and MC BoM Server BoM Meridian Support and Training BoM anomalies
30%	Written Essays <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Answer typical customer questions on Aruba solutions including enterprise Campus Design, Remote Access, VIA and RAP solutions, Aruba Instant and Cloud based solutions, AirWave and Aruba Central management solutions and Meridian features. Provide a technical explanation of AP to Controller data-plane and control plane communications, Controller Discovery Mechanisms and priorities, design of Aruba mobility Solutions (Layer 2 and Layer 3 mobility). Switching features such as VSF and stacking. Provide detailed and comprehensive explanation of secure and guest Aruba WLAN technologies such as AppRF, WIPS, RF Protect, and ClearPass. Additionally explain the underlying dependencies, advantages and disadvantages of each solution. Explain QOS and voice prioritization technologies to optimize the network for mobile and BYOD devices. Indicate the equipment per MDF/IDF closets. Specify the necessary servers such as AirWave and ClearPass, Meridian with licensing specified for a given scenario.
15%	AirWave VisualRF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use the AirWave Visual RF Plan tool to create an RF design to meet the customer requirements and Aruba best practices. Move APs and AMs to the appropriate high density WLAN locations on a VisualRF floor plan. Create a Visual RF plan and export the RF as a customer deliverable on a given customer floor plan.
10%	IRIS Network Diagram <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine appropriate placement of Aruba equipment in IRIS topology diagram. Place the proper equipment into the MDF/IDF groups for access, distribution, core, or DMZ of the network diagram. Make the connections between devices, switches to switch, switch to AP, MC, MM and servers

For more information

Contact our program

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