Certification Exam Partner Preparation Guide

Technology Architect (TA) and Cloud Architect (CA)

10/30/2020

DELL Technologies

Understanding Certification Requirements

To determine what Dell Technologies Proven Professional certifications are accepted by the Partner Program, please refer to the **Accepted Proven Professional Certifications** page located on the Partner Academy. This page will provide you the current (N) and previous (N-1) certifications accepted by the Partner Program.

TECHNOLOGY ARCHITECT (TA)

LEVEL	CERTIFICATION TITLE *click on certification title to view exam description*	VERSION	RECOMMENDED TRAINING *click on package or course name to view details*
Data Protection Specialist	Specialist - Technology Architect, Data Protection Version 1.0	Current (N)	DECS-TA Data Protection Technology Architect- Partner Only
	Specialist - Technology Architect, Backup Recovery Solutions Version 7.0	Previous (N-1)	No longer available*

- In the *sample* shown above, the **Current (N)** version of the accepted certification is listed as **Specialist - Technology Architect, Data Protection Version 1.0**. The certification title will be hyperlinked to the Exam Description and the recommended training will be hyperlinked to the recommended course or package.
- The **Previous (N-1)** certification listed is accepted by the program but its title is not hyperlinked as this version of the certification is no longer offered and the recommended training is no longer available.
- If you want to earn a certification in this category, you would need to prepare for the **Current (N)** version of the certification listed.

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Preparing for a Certification Exam

The steps outlined below can be found in more detail in the **"How do I get Certified?"** section of the Proven Professional program's Certification Overview website page.

Step 1

Review certification options

- Review any current certifications
- Review Certification Framework
- Review Exam Description

Step 2

Prepare for your exam

- Complete recommended training
- Access practice tests

Step 3

Schedule and take your exam

- Purchase exam voucher
- Schedule and take exam

Step 4

Review and share your credentials

- Access your certifications
- Access your Digital Badges

Important Notice: You must be logged into the Partner Portal for all links and references contained within this deck to function properly.

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Step 1

Review certification options

- **Review any current certifications (if applicable) on CertTracker**
  - If you have existing certifications, utilize this step to review those certifications.
    - Follow the instructions on the CertTracker website to access your account.
    - Once logged in, click on “Credentials” to view your certifications.
  - If you do not have any existing certifications, proceed to the next item - Review Certification Framework.

- **Review Certification Framework**
  - This framework provides you a high-level overview of the Proven Professional program and provides you access to a listing of certifications by technology domain and role-specific track.

- **Review Exam Description – see following slides for more details**

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Reviewing the Exam Description: First Page

When pursuing a Dell Technologies Proven Professional certification, it is critical to carefully review the Exam Description so you are familiar with the certification requirements, recommended training and pre-requisites such as an Associate-level certification or other pre-requisites.

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1 Specialist - Technology Architect, Midrange Storage Solutions Version 2.0

Certification Description

2

Overview

This Proven Professional certification provides specialist level certification encompassing a strong understanding of Dell EMC Unity, SC Series and PowerStore midrange storage solutions. This will be a desired certification for those engaged in designing solutions around Dell EMC midrange storage arrays.

This exam focuses on the knowledge needed for the positioning, sizing and designing of Dell EMC midrange storage solutions in a customer environment. This includes a detailed understanding of Dell EMC Unity, SC Series and PowerStore product configurations, features, functionality, best practices and design considerations.

4

Proven Professional Website

Educational Services Community

Certification Requirements

To complete the requirements for this certification you must:

3

1. Achieve one of the following Associate level certifications*
   - Associate - Information Storage and Management Version 2.0
   - Associate - Information Storage and Management Version 3.0
   - Associate - Information Storage and Management Version 4.0
2. Pass the following Specialist exam on or after June 05, 2020:
   - DES-1D12 Specialist - Technology Architect, Midrange Storage Solutions Exam

Note: These details reflect certification requirements as of June 05, 2020.

The Proven Professional Program periodically updates certification requirements. *Please check the Proven Professional CertTracker website regularly for the latest information and for other options to meet the Associate level requirement.

The first page of the Exam Description will include:

1. **Name of the Certification**
2. **Overview**
3. **Certification Requirements – *see next slide for more details***
4. **Link to the Proven Professional Website and Education Services Community**

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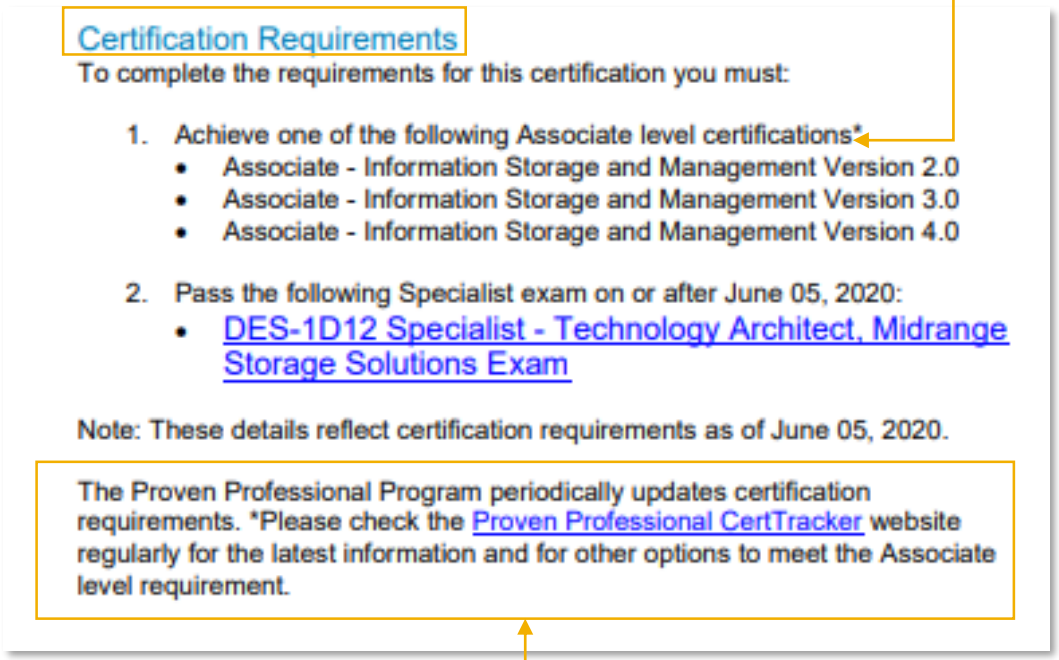
Additional Details: Certification Requirements



Certification Requirements

To complete the requirements for this certification you must:

1. Achieve one of the following Associate level certifications*
   - Associate - Information Storage and Management Version 2.0
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   - DES-1D12 Specialist - Technology Architect, Midrange Storage Solutions Exam

Note: These details reflect certification requirements as of June 05, 2020.

The Proven Professional Program periodically updates certification requirements. *Please check the Proven Professional CertTracker website regularly for the latest information and for other options to meet the Associate level requirement.

- **Specialist-level certifications require achievement of a pre-requisite certification.** Carefully review the Certification Requirements section of the Exam Description to understand any certification pre-requisites.
- In this sample, the Certification Requirements indicates you must achieve one of the Associate-level certifications listed in addition to passing the Specialist exam.
- The **Dell Technologies Proven Professional Specialist Certifications and Qualifying Associates** guide may also be helpful in identifying qualifying Associate-level certifications for Specialist level exams.
- You can also access **CertTracker** to view information on certification requirements. Once logged in, click on the “Credential” menu option and select “Credential Catalog” from the sub-menu options. You can then search for the certification you would like to view, click on the search results and view the requirements for the certification. As noted in the exam description, it is important to review and follow any recommendations to ensure you are accessing the latest information!

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Reviewing the Exam Description: Exam Details

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1

DES-1D12 Specialist - Technology Architect, Midrange Storage Solutions Exam

Exam Description

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Proven Professional

Overview

This exam is a qualifying exam for the **Specialist - Technology Architect, Midrange Storage (DCS-TA)** track.

This exam tests the candidate's knowledge to architect and size solutions for Dell EMC Unity, SC Series and PowerStore systems. This exam also tests the candidate's knowledge of key product features of these storage systems.

Dell Technologies provides free practice tests to assess your knowledge in preparation for the exam. Practice tests allow you to become familiar with the topics and question types you will find on the proctored exam. Your results on a practice test offer one indication of how prepared you are for the proctored exam and can highlight topics on which you need to study and train further. A passing score on the practice test does not guarantee a passing score on the certification exam.

2

Products

Products likely to be referred to on this exam include but are not limited to:

- Dell EMC Unity
- Dell EMC SC Series
- Dell EMC PowerStore

Exam Topics

Topics likely to be covered on this exam include:

Dell EMC Midrange Architectures (25%)

- Describe the Unity and Unity XT hardware (e.g., enclosures, I/O components, storage media options)
- Explain Unity and Unity XT storage resources and features (e.g., dynamic pools, RAID functions)
- Describe SC Series storage resources, connectivity options (e.g., RAID, Consistency Groups, SSD, HDD options)
- Describe the controller options available in the SC Series models and related use cases
- Describe the PowerStore hardware components and their functions

3

Duration
120 Minutes
(60 Questions)

Pass Score: 60

Practice Test
Specialist – DES-1D12

The next page(s) of the Exam Description will include:

1. **Name and number of exam associated to certification**
2. **Overview of exam, products covered and exam topics**
3. **Duration of exam**
   Pass Score
   Practice Test link

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Reviewing the Exam Description: Recommended Training

Dell Technologies Partner and Customer audiences:

Please complete one of the following courses

Course Title	Course Number	Mode	Available
Midrange Storage Concepts, Features, and Design	DESNOILT-839-7096 (US&CA) DESNOILT-839-7086 (LATAM) DESNOILT-839-7072 (BRAZIL) DESNOILT-806-13839 (EMEA) DESNOILT-806-13822 (APJ)	On Demand	May 6, 2020

At the end of the Exam Description, you will find the **Recommended Training** section.

This section lists the training courses recommended to prepare for the exam.

TECHNOLOGY ARCHITECT (TA)

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Midrange Storage Specialist	Specialist - Technology Architect, Midrange Storage Solutions Version 2.0	Current (N)	Technology Architect, Midrange Storage Solutions Version 2.0 - Partners (Stream)

The **Recommended Training** packages and courses listed on the **Accepted Proven Professional Certifications** page are aligned to the **Recommended Training** section of the respective Exam Descriptions.

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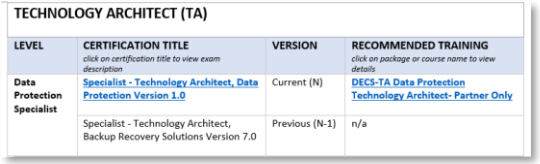
Step 2

Prepare for your exam

- **Complete recommended training**
  - As highlighted in the previous slide, refer to the Recommended Training sections of the Exam Description and the **Accepted Proven Professional Certifications** page for information about the recommended training to prepare for the exam.
  - The Recommended Training section of the Accepted Proven Professional Certifications page also provides links to information on how to locate training and purchase options.



TECHNOLOGY ARCHITECT (TA)

LEVEL	CERTIFICATION TITLE *click on certification title to view exam description*	VERSION	RECOMMENDED TRAINING *click on package or course name to view details*
Data Protection Specialist	Specialist - Technology Architect, Data Protection Version 1.0	Current (N)	DEC5-TA Data Protection Technology Architect- Partner Only
	Specialist - Technology Architect, Backup Recovery Solutions Version 7.0	Previous (N-1)	n/a

- **Access practice exams - see following slide for more details**

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Accessing Practice Exams

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DES-1D12 Specialist - Technology Architect, Midrange Storage Solutions Exam

Exam Description

Proven Professional

Overview

This exam is a qualifying exam for the **Specialist - Technology Architect, Midrange Storage (DCS-TA)** track.

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Duration
120 Minutes
(60 Questions)

Pass Score: 60

Practice Test
Specialist – DES-1D12

Products

Products likely to be referred to on this exam include but are not limited to:

- Dell EMC Unity
- Dell EMC SC Series
- Dell EMC PowerStore

Exam Topics

Topics likely to be covered on this exam include:

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- Describe the Unity and Unity XT hardware (e.g., enclosures, I/O components, storage media options)
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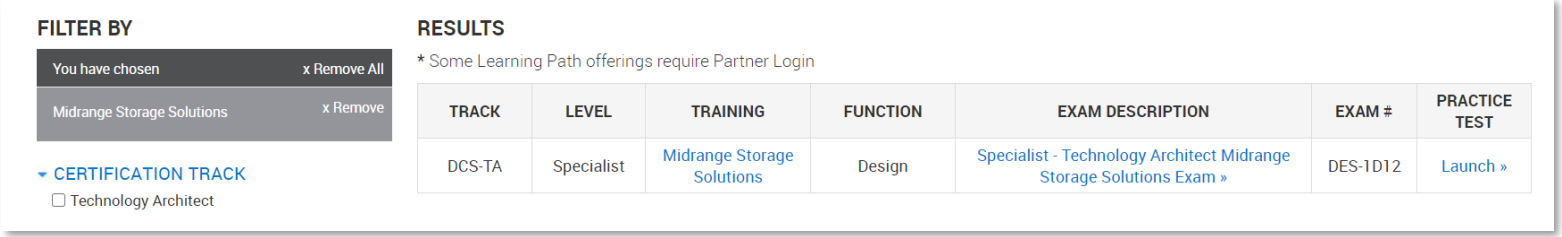
- Describe the controller options available in the SC Series models and related use cases
- Describe the PowerStore hardware components and their functions

- **Option 1:** Each Exam Description contains a link to the associated Practice Test. Simply click on the link to access the practice test and follow any instructions on the screen.

- **Option 2:** Go to the Certification Overview page and scroll down to the "How do I get certified?" section. Under Step #2, click on the link for: Find exams and practice tests
  - The "Find Exams and Training" page features a filter option to select certification track, level, technology or function and view the corresponding certifications. The resulting list of certifications provides links to exam descriptions and practice tests.



FILTER BY

You have chosen — x Remove All

Midrange Storage Solutions — x Remove

▾ CERTIFICATION TRACK

☐ Technology Architect

RESULTS

* Some Learning Path offerings require Partner Login

TRACK	LEVEL	TRAINING	FUNCTION	EXAM DESCRIPTION	EXAM #	PRACTICE TEST
DCS-TA	Specialist	Midrange Storage Solutions	Design	Specialist - Technology Architect Midrange Storage Solutions Exam »	DES-1D12	Launch »

Best Practice:
Use practice tests as a gauge to determine readiness for the exam. Taking practice tests repeatedly to earn to a score will only ensure memorization of the practice test questions.

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Step 3

Schedule and take your exam

- **Purchase exam voucher**
  - Discounted exam vouchers are available to partners.
  - To search for the partner-only exam voucher from the Partner Academy “keyword” search, use one of the search values below:
    - Dell Technologies Proven Professional VUE Exam Voucher [Partner Only Discount]
    - MR-7EV-VUEEMCPROV
  - Or, use direct link: https://education.dellemc.com/content/emc/en-us/csw.html?id=716992916
  - If you need assistance purchasing a voucher, go to the Education Services Support > Contact Us page and submit a case under the Dell Technologies Proven Professional Program option.

- **Schedule and take exam**
  - Visit the Pearson VUE website to find a test center, schedule your exam and view details about testing policies. Be sure and click here to view details about the online proctored exam option!
  - Reminder: Always test under the same email address!

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Step 4

Review and share your credentials

- **Access your certifications on CertTracker**
  - It takes 36-48 hours for exams to be reflected in CertTracker.
  - Follow the instructions on the CertTracker website to access your account.
  - Once logged in, click on “Credentials” to view your certifications.
  - **IMPORTANT! See the next slide for important information on updating your Demographics settings in CertTracker!**

- **Access your Digital Badges**
  - Review our Digital Badges webpage for more information!

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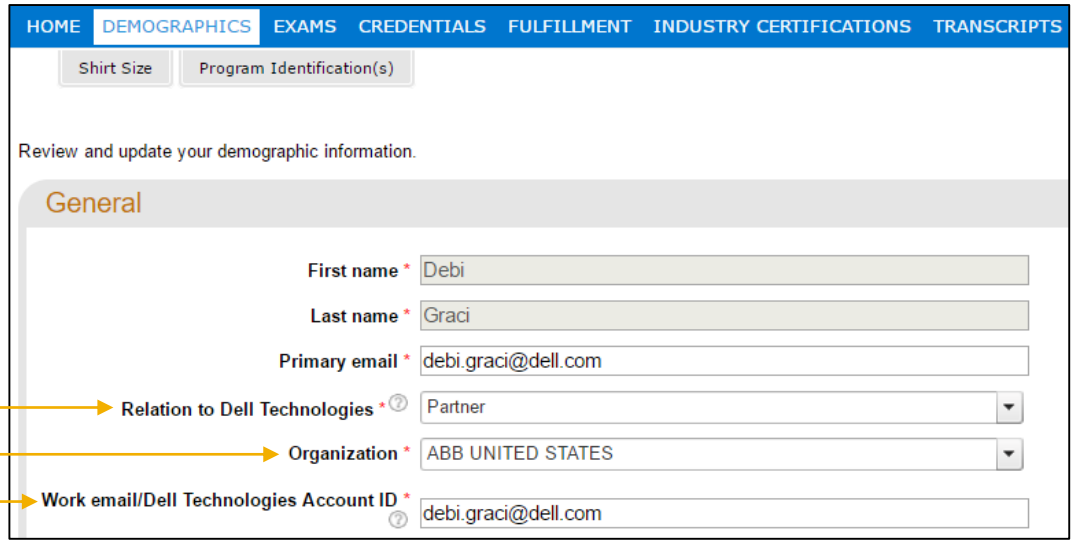
Updating your Demographics in CertTracker

- Log in to **CertTracker**
- Click on the **Demographics** menu option

- On the Demographics screen, in the General section at the top of the page, make sure:
  - **Relationship to Dell Technologies** is set to **"Partner"**
  - **Organization** name is correct (or select "other_partner" if not found)
  - **Work email/Dell Technologies Account ID** is set to your work or company e-mail address.
  - **You MUST scroll to the bottom of the page and click on Update/Confirm to save your changes!**



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Certification Data Shared to Program Tracker

- Certification data is shared from CertTracker to Program Tracker only when you have affiliated your CertTracker account as a “Partner” as per the instructions provided in the previous slide.
- Only data for achieved certifications is provided to Program Tracker.
- Program Tracker utilizes the Work email/Dell Technologies Account ID e-mail address value from CertTracker to associate your certification data to Program Tracker data.
- It takes approximately 3 business days for your certification data to be visible in Program Tracker.
- If you have questions about Program Tracker, please consult the nominated contact at your company.

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Support

- If you have questions about **Dell Technologies Proven Professional** certifications, exams, certification requirements, vouchers, etc., please:
  - visit the Certification Overview page; or
  - go to the Education Services Support > Contact Us page and submit a case under the Dell Technologies Proven Professional Program option.
- If you have **Partner Program** requirements or other program-related questions, please:
  - review the Accepted Proven Professional Certifications page;
  - consult with your Partner Account Manager; or,
  - engage the program via the Support menu option on the Partner Portal.

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