Citrix Certified Associate – App Delivery and Security (CCA-AppDS-Traffic Management) Exam Prep Guide

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Background

This guide will help you prepare for the Citrix Certified Associate – App Delivery and Security (CCA-AppDS-Traffic Management) certification. This certification validates the knowledge and skills required by network administrators and engineers to implement and manage Citrix ADC for traffic management, load balancing, content switching, and SSL offloading or to manage enterprise environments consisting of Citrix ADC and Citrix Gateway for secure remote access.

Exam: Deploy and Manage Citrix ADC 14.x with Traffic Management

The exam for this certification is the Deploy and Manage Citrix ADC 14.x with Traffic Management exam. This exam certifies that a candidate can configure and manage the traffic-handling features of a NetScaler environment.

Prerequisite

There are no prerequisites to take the CCA-AppDS exam.

Intended Audience and Prerequisite Knowledge

The primary audience for this certification includes Network Administrators, Network Engineers, and Citrix Administrators.

Before taking this exam, candidates should have:
- Intermediate knowledge of TCP/IP, HTTP protocols, and the OSI model.
- Experience with network devices (e.g., routers, switches) and networking protocols.
- Familiarity with web server software (e.g., Apache, IIS), Windows and Linux Server administration, DNS, and SSL.
- Basic knowledge of systems administration concepts, including logging and high availability.
- Knowledge of network security threats and site protection concepts.

Exam Structure and Format
- Number of items: 55-60 questions per form.
- Format: The exam is computer-based with multiple-choice and scenario-based questions.
- Minimum passing percentage: 61%
- Resources: No external reference materials or tools (e.g., calculator, Excel) are allowed during the exam.

Domains Covered by the Test

The exam content is based on the material covered in the associated course, NS-201 Citrix NetScaler ADC 14.x Administration. The exam topics are broken down into the following modules:
- Module 1: Getting Started with Citrix ADC: This covers an introduction to the Citrix ADC platform, architecture, and deployment options.
- Module 2: Basic Networking: Covers network topologies, IP addressing, and routing.
- Module 3: Citrix ADC Platforms: Discusses the different ADC platforms including MPX, VPX, CPX, BLX, and SDX.
- Module 4: High Availability: Focuses on setting up and managing a NetScaler High Availability (HA) pair, including management and troubleshooting.
- Module 5: Load Balancing: Explores load balancing entities, methods, and monitoring.
- Module 6: SSL Offload: Details SSL certificate management and SSL deployment.
- Module 7: Securing the Citrix ADC: Covers authentication, authorization, and auditing.
- Module 8: Troubleshooting: Teaches how to use logs, SNMP, and AppFlow to monitor and troubleshoot the environment.
- Module 9: Rewrite, Responder, and URL Transform: Covers how to use rewrite, responder, and URL transform features.
- Module 10: Content Switching: Explores content switching components, policies, and rule precedence.
- Module 11: Optimization: Covers implementing traffic compression and front-end optimization.
- Module 12: Global Server Load Balancing (GSLB): Discusses DNS, GSLB implementation, and metric exchange protocol.

Training and Study Resources

To prepare for this exam, you can utilize the following resources:

Instructor-Led Training: The recommended course is NS-201 Citrix NetScaler ADC 14.x Administration (formerly CNS-225).

Other Sources: You should also study the following sources for test questions:
- Technical documents in Citrix Docs.
- Relevant Knowledge Base Articles.
- White Papers.