

# Announcing DES-9131 Specialist – Infrastructure Security Exam Update

The Proven Professional program will be announcing a new certification framework on February 6, 2023. As a part of the new framework, certifications will be aligned to a specific set of skills versus a singular track and will include new outcome-based solutions certifications.

To align, on February 6<sup>th</sup> we will be replacing the **Specialist - Infrastructure Security** certification (DES-9131) with **NIST Cybersecurity Framework 2023** (D-CSF-SC-23). There will be NO CHANGE to the training or exam content aligned to the original certification. We are leveraging the existing training and exam content for the new certification.

## How will this impact me?

If you are currently scheduled to take the exam for the **Specialist - Infrastructure Security** certification (DES-9131), we will continue delivery through February 28, 2023.

[View the Exam Description and Practice Test »](#)

Once achieved, your credential, **Specialist - Infrastructure Security** (DES-9131), will not expire.

If you have not yet scheduled your exam, be sure to register for **NIST Cybersecurity Framework 2023** (D-CSF-SC-23) on or after February 6, 2023.

[View the Exam Description and Practice Test »](#)

## NIST Cybersecurity Framework 2023 Certification Description



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### Certification Overview

Successful completion of the Infrastructure Security Exam validates the candidate's ability to implement the NIST framework components to drive improved cybersecurity practices into the data center.

### 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
  - Associate – Information Storage and Management Version 3.0
  - Associate – Information Storage and Management Version 4.0
  - Associate – Information Storage and Management Version 5.0
  - Associate – Data Protection and Management Version 1.0
  - Associate – Cloud Infrastructure and Services Version 2.0
  - Associate – Cloud Infrastructure and Services Version 3.0
  - Associate – Cloud Infrastructure and Services Version 4.0
  - Associate – Converged Systems and Hybrid Cloud Version 1.0
  - Associate – Converged Systems and Hybrid Cloud Version 2.0
  - Associate – PowerEdge Version 1.0
  - Associate – PowerEdge Version 2.0
  - Associate – Networking Version 1.0
2. Pass the following Implementation Exam  
[DES-9131 Specialist – Infrastructure Security Exam](#)

Note: These details reflect certification requirements as of November 21, 2018.

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.

**Dell Technologies Partners:** Achieving a certification validates capability; however, it does not imply authorization to deliver services. Services Delivery Competencies provide partners with the ability to deliver services under their own brand or co-deliver with Dell Technologies. Tiered partners are eligible to obtain Services Delivery Competencies upon completing the specific requirements outlined in the [Services Competencies Matrix](#). Only partners that have met these requirements should be delivering their own services in lieu of Dell Technologies Services.

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## NIST Cybersecurity Framework 2023 Exam Exam Description



### Exam Overview

This exam is a qualifying exam for the **NIST Cybersecurity Framework 2023 exam**.

The exam covers high level framework topics as well as detailed underlying processes that support framework implementation. This includes the framework core, tiers and profiles which allow CSIRT staff to evaluate risk and prioritize feature changes based on business needs and changes in the security landscape.

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.

### Products

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

- No Specific products

### Exam Topics

Topics likely to be covered on this exam include:

#### **NIST Framework Overview (10%)**

- Describe the NIST Framework architecture and purpose including the Core, Tiers, and Profiles
- Describe the topics associated with the Category layer and explain how they align to the NIST Framework functions

#### **NIST Framework: Identify Function (18%)**

- Describe what constitutes an asset and which assets need to be protected
- Describe the "who/what/why" of a continuously updated inventory
- Describe how discovery and inventory facilitates the planning efforts associated with Disaster Recovery, Incident Response, Communications, and Business Impact Analysis
- Describe the controls for the inventory classification and explain the KPIs developed around these controls

#### **NIST Framework: Protect Function (23%)**

- Describe the need for creating and documenting a baseline configuration
- Explain how the Business Impact Analysis is integral to the protect function
- Describe the role of the Business Continuity Plan and Business Impact Analysis
- Describe the maintenance and access control subcategory controls for the protect function
- Describe the awareness training, data security and protective technology subcategory controls of the protect function

### Duration

90 Minutes  
(~60 Questions)

Pass Score: 63%

### Practice Test

[D-CSF-SC-23](#)

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**NIST Framework: Detect Function (17%)**

- Describe the anatomy of a breach, including what constitutes a breach, why and how it happens, and the steps to avoid a breach
- Identify the methods of detection and how detection can be implemented
- Describe the concept and benefits of continuous monitoring
- Identify and explain the subcategories associated with detection and analysis

**NIST Framework: Respond Function (17%)**

- Describe how to quantify the extent of a security breach
- Describe how to contain a security breach
- Understand and construct an effective Incident Response Plan
- Describe the purpose and details of an effective Communications Plan
- Describe the after action plan and review

**NIST Framework: Recover Function (15%)**

- Determine and describe the considerations when implementing a Disaster Recovery Plan (DRP)
- Describe how the BCP (Business Continuity Plan) supports “timely recovery to normal operations to reduce the impact from a cybersecurity incident.”
- Assess and describe the requirements and processes to return to "business as usual"
- Describe the process of understanding the impact to the business, including reputation and revenue

**Recommended Training**

The following curriculum is recommended for candidates preparing to take this exam.

**Please complete all of the following courses**

Course Title	Course Number	Mode	Available
Introduction to Cybersecurity Frameworks (pre-requisite)	ES101DSY00354/ ES131DSY00354	eLearning	10/1/2022
Implementing the NIST Cybersecurity Framework	ES102DSY00786/ ES132DSY00786	eLearning	10/1/2022

Note: These exam description details reflect contents as of November 21, 2018.

The Proven Professional Program periodically updates exams to reflect technical currency and relevance. Please check the Proven Professional website regularly for the latest information.

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