



Certified Cloud Migration Specialist (CMGS)

Exam Objectives CMGS-001

About the exam

Item	Detail
Level	Advanced
Number of questions	120. A performance-based exam: each form can carry up to 5 to 12 performance-based questions alongside the multiple-choice questions.
Delivery model	Computer adaptive in 3 stages of 42, 39, 39 questions. Your score on each stage selects the difficulty of the next, so no two candidates sit the same paper.
Time limit	180 minutes
Scoring	You need a score of 700 out of 900 to pass. Results are reported on a scale of 100 to 900, and 700 corresponds to answering 72% of the exam correctly. Harder questions carry more weight, so a score means the same thing on any route. Multiple-response items and PBQs are scored all or nothing.
Delivery	Online, fully proctored (webcam, microphone and screen).
Prerequisites	No formal prerequisite. Candidates do best with two to three years of cloud or infrastructure experience and 50 to 90 hours of study.
Retakes	No waiting period after a failed first attempt. Candidates pay the exam price each time they attempt the exam. See the CertLabz Certification Retake Policy at certlabz.com/certification-retake-policy.html
Validity	3 years. Renew with 75 CEUs per cycle and the \$55 annual continuing-education fee, or by passing the current exam.
Language	English
Exam voucher	\$199 for one sitting, valid 12 months. Bundles add the study guide ebook and the All Access plan.

Domain weights

Domain	Questions
D1 Migration Strategy and Business Case (16%)	19
D2 Discovery, Assessment and Dependencies (16%)	19
D3 Planning, Landing Zone and Cutover Design (17%)	21

D4 Migration Execution and Data Migration (17%)

	21
D5 Application Modernization and Refactoring (17%)	20
D6 Cutover, Validation, Optimization and Governance (17%)	20
Total (100%)	120

Objectives by domain

Each objective may appear as knowledge, a scenario to judge, a circuit to trace or assemble, or a number to compute. Each form can carry up to 5 to 12 performance-based questions: drag-and-drop matching, sequencing and table completion, drawn fresh each attempt. The exam does not test any vendor's SDK syntax.

D1 Migration Strategy and Business Case

16% 19 questions

- D1.1 The migration strategies: rehost, replatform, refactor, repurchase, retain, retire
- D1.2 Choosing a strategy per application
- D1.3 Total cost of ownership and the business case
- D1.4 Migrate-then-modernize trade-offs
- D1.5 Stakeholders and downtime tolerance
- D1.6 The migration factory model

D2 Discovery, Assessment and Dependencies

16% 19 questions

- D2.1 Inventory and automated discovery
- D2.2 Dependency mapping
- D2.3 Portfolio and readiness assessment
- D2.4 Agent-based versus agentless discovery
- D2.5 Right-sizing from utilization data
- D2.6 Wave planning and licensing

D3 Planning, Landing Zone and Cutover Design

17% 21 questions

- D3.1 Landing zones and hybrid connectivity
- D3.2 Pilots and proofs of concept
- D3.3 Runbooks, rollback and acceptance criteria
- D3.4 Security guardrails from the start
- D3.5 Downtime windows and low-downtime cutover
- D3.6 Coexistence and communication planning

D4 Migration Execution and Data Migration

17% 21 questions

- D4.1 Server replication and cutover
- D4.2 Offline bulk transfer for large data
- D4.3 Database migration with change data capture
- D4.4 Homogeneous versus heterogeneous moves
- D4.5 Encryption in transit and validation
- D4.6 Big-bang versus phased cutover

D5 Application Modernization and Refactoring

17% 20 questions

- D5.1 Migrate then modernize
- D5.2 Managed services and containerization
- D5.3 The strangler fig pattern
- D5.4 Monolith to microservices trade-offs
- D5.5 Serverless benefits and lock-in
- D5.6 Value-based prioritization and measurement

D6 Cutover, Validation, Optimization and Governance

17% 20 questions

- D6.1 Cutover and rollback execution
- D6.2 Post-migration validation and overlap
- D6.3 Right-sizing and cost optimization
- D6.4 Decommissioning and handover to operations
- D6.5 Tagging and ongoing governance
- D6.6 Benefits realization and lessons learned

Continuing education

Renewal	Requirement
Validity	3 years from the date of issue
CEUs required per cycle	75
Annual CE fee	\$55
Alternative to CEUs	Pass the current version of the exam before the expiry date

Qualifying activities

Activity	CEUs
CertLabz labs, PBQs, courses and SkillTracker assessments	1 CEU per hour, up to 25 per cycle
Other industry certifications earned or renewed	10 to 25 each, depending on level
Conferences, webinars and training	1 CEU per hour, up to 20 per cycle
Cloud migration, platform or DevOps work experience	3 per year, up to 9 per cycle
Teaching, mentoring, publishing or open-source contributions	Up to 15 per cycle
College courses in computing or engineering	10 per completed course

CertLabz Certification Retake Policy

- **No waiting period after a failed first attempt:** If you fail your first attempt at any CertLabz certification examination, CertLabz does not require any waiting period between the first and second attempt.
- **Once you pass, you cannot resit the same exam code:** A candidate who has passed an exam and achieved a certification cannot take that exam again under the same exam code without prior consent from CertLabz. You will need to wait until a new series of the exam is published before attempting to recertify by examination.
- **Beta examinations, one attempt only:** A CertLabz beta examination may be taken one time by each candidate.
- **Violations invalidate the attempt:** A test found to be in violation of this policy will be invalidated, and the candidate may be subject to a suspension period. Repeat violators will be permanently banned from the CertLabz Certification Program.
- **Every attempt is paid for:** Candidates must pay the exam price each time they attempt the exam. CertLabz does not offer free retests or discounts on retakes.

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<https://certlabz.com/certifications/certified-cloud-migration-specialist.html>