401 — Security Solution Expert

ABOUT THE *401 – SECURITY SOLUTION EXPERT* EXAM

The *401 – Security Solution Expert* exam is required to achieve Certified F5 Solution Expert status in Security.

Successful completion of the *401 – Security Solution Expert* exam acknowledges the skills and understanding of designing, maintaining, and troubleshooting using F5 technology to solve security problems. Candidates can define security requirements based on technical and business needs, apply and modify security architectures utilizing F5 technology, and articulate the value of the solution.

WHAT IS THE *401 – SECURITY SOLUTION EXPERT* EXAM BLUEPRINT?

F5 Certified exam blueprints list all the objectives an exam has to measure, much like a syllabus for the exam itself. Blueprints provide a detailed breakdown of the skills and knowledge a candidate should have to pass the exam. They contain section levels, objectives and examples, and can be used to identify areas for additional study. The examples are illustrative, not exhaustive.

F5 Certification exams are designed to test the knowledge, skills, and abilities of the candidate. These exams are not designed to test version-specific TMOS features, but rather assess knowledge and understanding of F5 technology solutions for which the exam is developed. Refer to individual exam blueprints for exam publication date.

PREREQUISITE:

F5 Certified BIG-IP Administrator (F5-CA)
F5 Certified Technology Specialist, LTM (F5-CTS, BIG-IP LTM)
F5 Certified Technology Specialist, ASM (F5-CTS, BIG-IP ASM)
F5 Certified Technology Specialist, APM (F5-CTS, BIG-IP APM)

CREDENTIAL AWARDED:

F5 Certified Solution Expert, Security
(F5-CSE, Security)

401 – Security Solution Expert

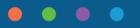| Section 1 : THREAT ANALYSIS	
Objectives	**CC***
1.01 Analyze external threat research to determine the potential impact to an organization	A/E
1.02 Analyze threat modeling data to determine risk profiles of the infrastructure and applications	A/E

Section 2 : ARCHITECT SOLUTIONS	
Objectives	**CC***
2.01 Determine the correct solution to mitigate a given threat	A/E
2.02 Determine the correct control to address a compliance or business requirement	A/E
2.03 Determine the appropriate security framework for an application	A/E
2.04 Explain the justification for a proposed solution	A/E
2.05 Determine when BIG-IQ is required for centralized management and visibility	U/A

Section 3 : OPERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION	
Objectives	**CC***
3.01 Apply procedural concepts required to configure F5 technology to provide network layer DOS protection	U/A
3.02 Determine the appropriate protection against known bad actors	A/E
3.03 Determine the appropriate settings to mitigate web fraud	U/A
3.04 Articulate architectural requirements for outbound SSL visibility	U/A
3.05 Apply procedural concepts to configure network firewall protection	U/A
3.06 Troubleshoot F5 technology to address functionality or performance issues	A/E
3.07 Verify a configuration is functioning as intended to mitigate a vulnerability	U/A

Section 4 : SECURITY RESPONSE	
Objectives	**CC***
4.01 Analyze logs or other data sources for security incidents	A/E
4.02 Determine the appropriate proactive security response plan	A/E
4.03 Determine the appropriate incident response plan given specific attack details	A/E

* Cognitive Complexity Key: **R** = Remember, **A/E** = Analyze/Evaluate, **U/A** = Understand/Apply

Exam Details

HOW MUCH DO F5 EXAMS COST?

All F5 exams are currently priced at US$180 (not including local taxes and fees) per exam, per attempt.

HOW LONG ARE F5 EXAMS?

This exam is 105 minutes long (not including any non-native English or other accommodations).

WHAT IS THE PASSING SCORE FOR F5 EXAMS?

F5 exams require a passing score of 245 out of a range between 100 and 350.

SCALED SCORING

Scaled scores ensure that the reported scores across exam forms and versions have the same meaning regardless of difficulty. Fair and consistent decisions can then be made about exam results regardless of the exam form or version. More information ›

HOW MANY QUESTIONS ARE THERE?

This exam has 70 questions (65 items that are scored, 5 pilot/beta items).

WHAT FORMAT ARE F5 EXAMS?

F5 exams are all computer-based, multiple-choice-response exams. Some questions contain exhibits or scenarios that you will need to view in order to answer the question.

WHAT IS THE F5 RETAKE POLICY?

1st failure: Exam hold for 15 days (You cannot take the exam again for 15 days.)
2nd failure: Exam hold for 30 days
3rd failure: Exam hold for 45 days
4th failure: Exam hold for 365 days
5th and subsequent failed attempts: 90 days

Cognitive Complexity Descriptions

Lower Order Thinking Skills $\longrightarrow$ Higher Order Thinking Skills

Remember	Understand/Apply	Analyze/Evaluate	Create
Information retrieval	Knowledge transfer	Critical thinking and reasoning	Innovation or creative thinking
Rote memorization	Comprehension or ability to apply knowledge to a standard process	Determine how parts relate to whole or knowledge integration and application to new situations	Forming an original work product
Retrieve relevant knowledge from long-term memory	Construct meaning from information	Make judgments based on criteria	Combine or reorganize parts to form a new pattern or structure
E.g., recall, retrieve, recognize	E.g., interpret, classify, compare, explain, implement	E.g., troubleshoot, attribute, diagnose, critique	E.g., generate, plan, produce

Alpine Testing Solutions' suggested cognitive complexity levels and associated verb references consider multiple approaches to defining cognitive processing (e.g., Anderson et al., Webb, Bloom, Frisbie). Above material created with assistance from Alpine and distributed with Alpine's permission as an attachment to certification test

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