

HPE Aruba Networking Certified Associate (HPE6-A86)

Build your Aruba networking skills with this entry-level HPE6-A86 training. You'll learn to deploy, configure, and manage HPE Aruba products, boost performance, and secure your network. After earning your HPE6-A86 certification, you'll be equipped to support intelligent, cloud-driven networks and stand out in environments that rely on Aruba solutions. Ideal for aspiring network admins or anyone looking to build practical, in-demand Aruba skills that lead to real career growth.

[CBT Nuggets course material](#) →

WEEK 1

Understand the OSI Model

What is the OSI Model?

Application, Presentation and Session Layers

The Transport Layer

The 3 Way Handshake

The Network Layer

The Data Link and Physical Layers

Validation

Understand Layer 2 Fundamentals

Introduction

Understanding Hex

Creating Unique MAC Addresses

ARP and CAM Tables

Multiple Switches

Testing the Theory

Validation

Understand IPv4 Addressing

Introduction

Working with Binary

The Network Mask

Network Classes

Public and Private Addresses

Validation

Understand IPv4 Subnetting

Introduction

Changing the Network Mask
More Networks but Smaller Sizes
Calculating the Network Ranges
Choosing the Correct Mask
Calculating the Mask's Decimal Value
Validation

WEEK 2

Implement Variable Length Subnet Masks

Introduction
Why do we need VLSM?
Designing an IP Address Scheme
Identifying the Network Ranges
Subnetting in the Third Octet
VLSM in the Third Octet
Validation

Understand IP Communication Modes

Introduction
Configuring IP Addresses on Aruba
Unicast Communications
Understanding Broadcasts
Multicast and Anycast Communication
Loopback Interfaces
Validation

Understand & Configure IPv6

Introduction
IPv6 Basics

Understanding the Shorthand
IPv6 Addresses
Understand EUI-64
Configuring IPv6 Addresses
Validation

Understand & Configure VLANs

Introduction
Understanding VLAN Basics
Working with VLANs on Aruba

WEEK 3

Creating New VLANs
Validation

Configure Trunks & Inter-VLAN Routing

Introduction
Understanding Trunks
Configuring Trunks
Native VLANs
VLAN Numbers and Names
Inter-VLAN Routing
Validation

Understand Layer 2 Loop Prevention

STP Overview
Root Bridge Election
Port Roles
Determining the Root Ports

Calculating Blocking Ports

Validation

Understand Spanning-Tree Configurations

Introduction

Creating the Topology

Multiple VLANS, Multiple Spanning Trees

Configuring Rapid Per-VLAN Spanning Tree

Configuring Multiple Spanning Tree

Understanding Edge Ports

Validation

WEEK 4

Understand Link Aggregation

Introduction

What is Link Aggregation?

Static LAG

Dynamic LAG

Layer 3 Interfaces

Validation

Understand Link Layer Discovery

Introduction

What is LLDP?

Getting Hands-On with LLDP

LLDP Neighbors

IP Addresses and Interface Configurations

Working with LAG

Validation

Understand & Configure Static Routes

Introduction

Routing Overview

Creating the Topology

Creating Static Routes

Establishing Full Connectivity

Default Static Routes

Validation

Understand Routing Decisions

Introduction

Understanding the Topology

The Longest Match

WEEK 5

Understanding Administrative Distance

Administration Distance Configuration

Validation

Understand OSPF Basics

Introduction

OSPF Overview

OSPF Configuration

Adjacencies

OSPF States and Elections

Validation

Configure OSPF Networks

Introduction

Distance Vector and Link State Routing

OSPF Network Types
Passive Interfaces
Path Selection and Cost
OSPF Areas & Link State Databases
Validation

Understand IPv6 Routing

Introduction
Configuring the Topology
Configuring IPv6 Static Routes
Configuring OSPFv3

WEEK 6

IPv6 Multi Area OSPF
Validation

Understand First Hop Redundancy

Introduction
FHRP Overview
Topology Configuration
VRRP Configuration
Working with Multiple VLANs
Validation

Understand Network Topologies

Introduction
Topology Types
Three Tier Hierarchical Model
The Access Layer

The Distribution Layer
The Core Layer
Additional Considerations
Validation

Configure Access Control Lists

Introduction
ACL Overview
Building the Topology
Creating Rules
Understanding Direction and Handling Responses
Targeting Ports
Copying ACLs
Validation

WEEK 7

Configure Port Security

Introduction
Configuring Port Security
Maximum MAC Addresses & Violations
Auto Recovery & Moving Devices
MAC Lockdown & MAC Lockout
Validation

Configure DHCP

Introduction
DHCP Overview
The DORA Process
DHCP Configuration

DHCP Relay

Validation

Understand Device Management

Introduction

In-Band vs Out-of-Band Management

The Management VRF

Console and Mobile App

SSH

HTTPS

ZTP

Validation

Understand DNS and SNMP

What is DNS?

How DNS Works

WEEK 8

Why Use Domains?

DNS Commands

SNMP Overview

SNMP Commands

Validation

Understand Aruba Switch Features

Planes of Operation

Understanding VSF

Understanding VSX

VSX Configuration

Exploring Aruba Switches and Products

Validation

Understand Quality of Service

Quality of Service Overview

Understanding Queues

Marking Traffic

QoS at Different Layers

Differentiated Services Code Point

Policing Traffic

Validation

Understand AAA & Checkpoints

RADIUS and TACACS+

Understanding 802.1x

Captive Portals

Understanding RBAC

WEEK 9

Checkpoints

Validation