

## Certification Program Model FAQ

# Certification Program Model

## Your Journey to Cyber Security Mastership



## Core Certifications



### Check Point Certified Security Administrator

Exam #  
156-215.82

This core 3-day technical certification course provides an understanding of basic concepts and skills necessary to configure and manage Check Point Security Gateways and Management Software Blades.



### Check Point Certified Security Expert

Exam #  
156-315.82

This advanced 3-day security engineering course provides an in-depth explanation of Check Point technology and an understanding of skills necessary to effectively design, maintain, optimize, and protect your enterprise network from aggressive cyber threats.

## Security Master Certifications



### Check Point Certified Security Master

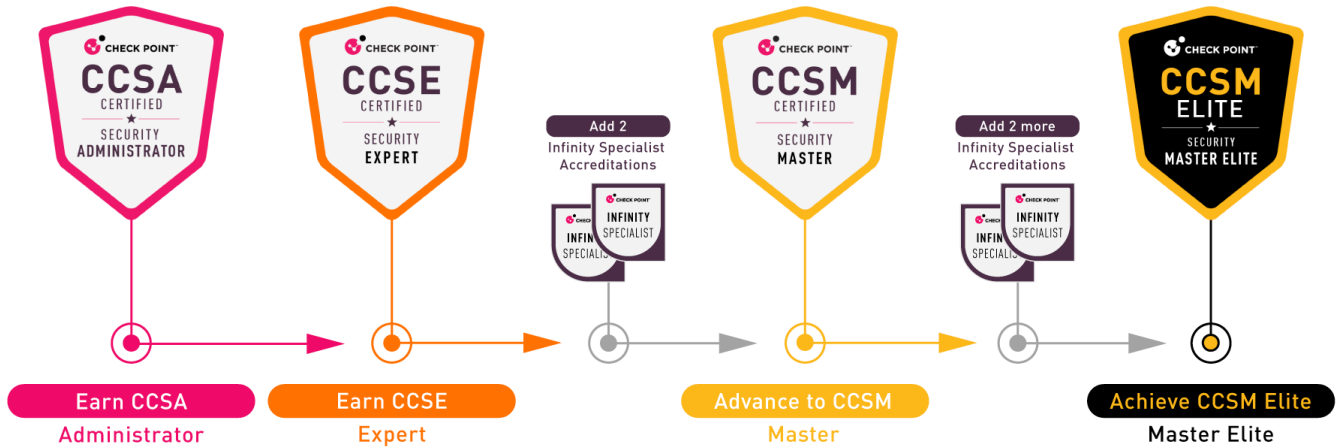
The CCSM certification recognizes and validates technical mastery of the Check Point Infinity architecture. It is awarded to Cyber Security professionals with advanced knowledge and expertise in configuring, deploying, managing, and troubleshooting Check Point products and services.



### Check Point Certified Security Master Elite

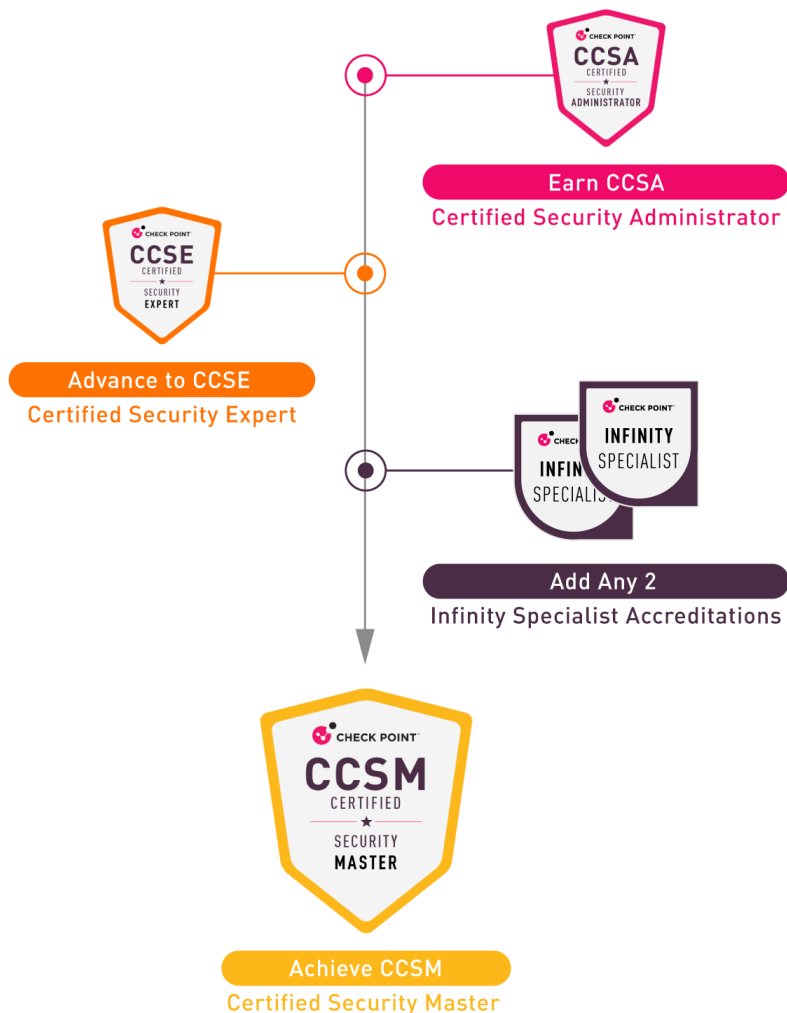
The **CCSM Elite** certification validates the highest achievement of technical mastery and consists of an elite club of Check Point Certified Security Masters.

## Certification Path to Cyber Security Mastery



### Check Point Certified Security Master

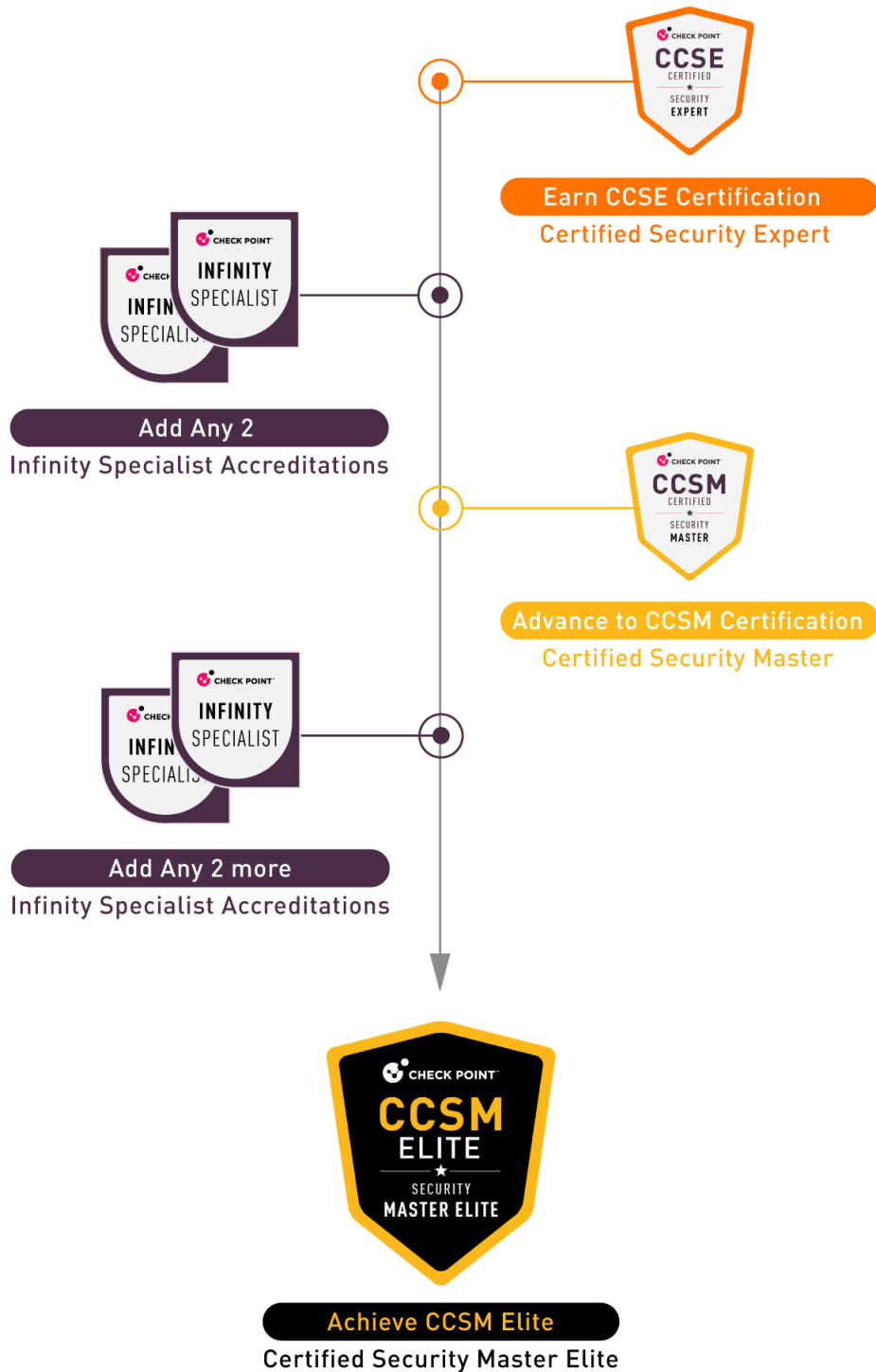
With Check Point's path to Security Mastery, you will need to achieve 2 Infinity Specialist Accreditations *after* the CCSE.



\*Each certification is valid for 2 years

## Check Point Certified Security Master Elite

To achieve Check Point's Security Master Elite you will need to pass 2 Infinity Specialist Accreditations *after* the CCSM.



\*Each certification is valid for 2 years

## Infinity Specialist Accreditations

Check Point's Infinity Specialist Accreditations are designed to enable Security professionals to demonstrate that they understand the concepts and skills needed to administer, deploy and manage specific Security solutions within the Check Point Infinity Cyber Security Architecture. Infinity Specialist Accreditations are also the building blocks to the Security Master and Security Master Elite certifications.

Accreditation	Infinity Specialist Courses	Exam #
CCAS	Automation Specialist - R81.20 (CCAS)	<a href="#">156-521</a>
CCME	Maestro Expert - R81 (CCME)	<a href="#">156-836</a>
CCCS	Cloud Specialist - R81.20 (CCCS)	<a href="#">156-561</a>
CCES	Harmony Endpoint Specialist - R81.20 (CCES)	<a href="#">156-536</a>
CCMS	Multi-Domain Security Management Specialist - R81 (CCMS)	<a href="#">156-541</a>
CCVS	Virtual System Extension Specialist - R81 (CCVS)	<a href="#">156-551</a>
CCTA	Troubleshooting Administrator - R82 (CCTA)	<a href="#">156-583</a>
CCTE	Troubleshooting Expert - R81.20 (CCTE)	<a href="#">156-587</a>
CTPS	Threat Prevention Specialist (CTPS)	<a href="#">156-590</a>

### HackingPoint Courses

CCPE – C	Cloud Security	<a href="#">156-406</a>
CCPE – I	Infrastructure Hacking	<a href="#">156-402</a>
CCPE – IoT	Hacking IoT	<a href="#">156-404</a>
CCPE – W	Web Hacking	<a href="#">156-403</a>
CCPE – AI	Advanced Infrastructure Hacking	<a href="#">156-409</a>

## Certification Extensions & Renewals

**Pass an Infinity Specialist Accreditation (ISA)  
to extend a **valid** CCSE, CCSM or CCSM Elite certification for 1-year.**

**The ISA must be achieved **after** a Core certification to qualify for the extension.**

- ✓ A CCSE may *be extended one time*. A second ISA will award the Accreditation and the **CCSM Certification!**  
(The CCSE must be current, not expired)
- ✓ A CCSM may *be extended one time*. A second ISA will award the Accreditation and the **CCSM Elite Certification!**  
(The CCSE must be current, not expired)
- ✓ A CCSM Elite may be extended for 1-year for each ISA passed. (The **CCSM Elite must be current, not expired**)
- ✓ An ISA is not eligible for any extensions. The ISA may be recertified 6 months before it expires, but it will not extend the ISA. The ISA will be valid as a new 2-year accreditation.

## General FAQs

- **If I pass an Infinity Specialist Accreditation exam before the CCSE will my certification be extended?**
  - No, the accreditation needs to be passed after the CCSE certification for an extension to be awarded.
- **I passed an Infinity Specialist Accreditation (ISA) exam, and it is soon to expire or has expired. Can I take that ISA again to extend my current certification?**
  - Yes, you are eligible to retake an ISA for an extension. You may retake an ISA exam up to six months prior to the expiration date and it can count towards an extension.
- **Where can I go to check on the expiration date of my certifications?**
  - Login to the [User Center](#)
  - Click "MY CHECK POINT"
  - Click "My Certifications" under the "My Info" option to see a list of your certifications and their expiration dates.
  - **Note:** Starting at 60 days before a core certification expires, our system will notify you by email several times on a regular interval to remind you of your expiring certification.
- **Why is my certification information not listed in my User Center account?**
  - Your certification information could not be listed in your User Center account for one of the following reasons:
    - Your email address for Pearson VUE is not the same as the User Center email address
      - If your email addresses do not match, contact our Account Services team by opening a [Non-Technical Ticket](#) to have the certification assigned to the correct email
    - We still need to receive the results from Pearson VUE. Please allow 24-48 hours.

## CCSA FAQs

- **I've passed the CCSA exam, what are my next steps to maintain an Active certification status?**
  - **Option 1** – You may proceed to the CCSE to continue in the certification path.
    - This will not extend the CCSA.
  - **Option 2** – You may retake and pass the CCSA exam for another 2-year certification.

## CCSE FAQs

- **I have a valid CCSE, what are my next steps to maintain an Active certification status?**
  - **Option 1** – You may extend the CCSE certification *while the certification is still valid* by passing one Infinity Specialist Accreditation (ISA) exam for a 1-year extension (You may do this one time for a 1-year extension on a valid CCSE)
    - Passing a second ISA exam will award you the *CCSM certification*.
  - **Option 2** – You may retake the CCSE for another 2-year certification.
- **My CCSE has expired. Can I still extend the certification for 1 year by taking an Infinity Specialist Accreditation?**
  - **Extensions are only awarded on valid certifications. It is important to be aware of certification expiration dates.**
    - Recertify your CCSE by retaking and passing the CCSE exam.
- **I had a 1-year extension added to my CCSE but now my CCSE has expired. Will I still get the CCSM if I take another Infinity Specialist Accreditation?**
  - **No, extensions are only awarded on valid certifications.** You will need to recertify your CCSE again and pass 2 more Infinity Specialist Accreditations to attain CCSM status.

## CCSM/CCSM Elite FAQs

- **I received the CCSM after getting my second Infinity Specialist Accreditation while CCSE certified. How long will the CCSM be valid?**
  - The CCSM certification will be valid for 2 years.
- **I have a valid CCSM, what are my next steps to maintain an Active certification status?**
  - You may extend the CCSM certification *while the certification is still valid* by passing one Infinity Specialist Accreditation (ISA) exam for a 1-year extension (You may do this one time for a 1-year extension on a valid CCSM)
    - Passing a second ISA exam will award you the *CCSM Elite certification*.
- **How long will the CCSM Elite be valid?**
  - The CCSM Elite certification will be valid for 2 years.
  - The CCSM Elite can be extended one year for each Infinity Specialist Accreditation. (**The CCSM Elite must be current, not expired**)
- **My CCSM has expired. Can I still extend the certification for 1 year by taking an Infinity Specialist Accreditation?**
  - **Extensions are only awarded on valid certifications. It is important to be aware of certification expiration dates.**
- **I have a valid CCSE, CCSM or CCSM Elite. Do I need to maintain the lower certification(s)?**
  - Your goal is to maintain your highest certification or progress to the next level. You are not required to recertify the lower certifications. You will only recertify on a lower certification if you allow your highest level of certification to expire.
- **When I reach the level of CCSM or CCSM Elite do any previous certifications get extended to match the CCSM or CCSM Elite?**
  - No, each certification has its own validity period. All previously obtained certifications will not be extended. Additionally, when the previous certifications expire, they will not affect the certifications that are valid.



<http://www.checkpoint.com/certifications>

**A Complete list of FAQs are posted to our Certification FAQ SecureKnowledge article - [SK163417](#)**

For Account-related questions please contact our Account Services team by opening a [Non-Technical Ticket](#)  
Additional questions can be directed to the Certification Team at [certification@checkpoint.com](mailto:certification@checkpoint.com)