

2021 CSA Guidance on Critical Areas of Focus in Cloud Computing v5

CSA Guidance on Critical Areas of Focus in Cloud Computing is the core guidance for cloud security best practices in the Enterprise and a foundation of the Certificate of Cloud Security Knowledge (CCSK). The Fifth Version of the Guidance will be developed in 2021 and will look to align with the latest advances in cloud, security, and supporting technologies while reflecting on real-world cloud security practices and integrating with the latest Cloud Security Alliance research projects.

The following proposals are for updating the structure of a fifth version of Guidance to integrate the latest research and best practices in cloud security and aligning with security control domains in the latest Cloud Controls Matrix (CCM v4) being released in Q1 of 2021.

CSA Security Guidance v4

Version 4 is structured in three high level areas with 16 domains covering best practices in cloud security.



CSA Security Guidance v5 Proposals

Option 1:

An approach aligning with the domains in the Cloud Controls Matrix (CCM v4). Relevant CSA Research Working Groups are added.

Addition to the CCM Domains, we would also add two domains to cover:

- Cloud concepts
- Cloud related technologies.

Option 2:

A hybrid approach that would generate a Guidance that is structured in five high level areas and aligning with CCM v4 Domains and CSA Research Working Groups:

- Governance, Risk, Compliance and Assurance
- Security Architecture
- Infrastructure and Platform Security
- Application and SaaS Security
- Operational Security

Addition to these areas, we would also add two domains to cover:

- Cloud concepts
- Cloud related technologies.

Option 3:

A hybrid approach that would generate a Guidance that is structured in four high level functional areas and aligning with CCM v4 Domains and CSA Research Working Groups:

- Governance, Risk, Compliance and Assurance
- Security Architecture
- Secure Development and Delivery
- Operational Security

Addition to these areas, we would also add two domains to cover:

- Cloud concepts
- Cloud related technologies

