

CNPA or CNPE?

Roles, Skills & Which One is Right For You!

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What is Platform Engineering?

It's the “art” of building an **IDP** (Internal Developer Platform)

Opinionated “Golden” Paths: Establishing standards for how developers use resources, set RBAC, etc in Kubernetes

Reusable Abstractions: Creating templates that define how development environments look and behave (CRD-like)

Self-Service Environments: Providing developers with fast, disposable, and highly available environments. No more waiting time

In summary: Opinionated, reusable, self-service environments

CNPA (Multiple choice) - June 2025

Target Audience: Platform Architects, Engineering Managers, CTOs

Goal: Understand the self-service tools, automation, and infrastructure that empower developers to deploy and manage applications efficiently

Preparation Hints:

- CNPA Curriculum page ([link](#))
- Kubernetes fundamentals
- GitOps (CGOA, CAPA)
- Governance and Observability (PCA, OTCA, CKA)
- Service Mesh and Cost Management (ICA, CCA, FinOps)



CNPE (Hands on) - November 2025

Target Audience: Platform Engineers or Platform Architects

Goal: Architect, secure, and optimize cloud native platforms to create scalable self-service infrastructure

Preparation Hints:

- CNPE Curriculum page ([link](#))
- Hands on experience with PE tools ([list](#))
- Killercoda scenarios ([link](#))
- RT*M - (now seriously, read the man/docs)



CNPE (Hands on)



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Software Engineer | Cloud & Platform Architecture • Kubernetes • Obser...
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If I had to describe my CNPE experience, I'd say it's like a single-player version of Super Mario Party for platform engineering tasks. Lots of different scenarios, lots of context switching while the clock keeps running down to zero - it definitely does not make for a boring two hours. It was a fun experience trying out the newest performance-based certification from the Linux Foundation, and I believe they created something great here.

Thank you!

