

Palo Alto Networks PSE Hardware Firewall Professional (Strata)

Data Sheet

JULY 2024

Audience and Qualifications

Target Audience

This exam is designed for individuals with the following job roles:

- Pre-Sales Engineers
- Systems Engineers / Solutions Architects
- Global Systems Integrator Engineers
- Customer Success Engineers

Skills Required

The successful candidate can:

- effectively and independently position the Palo Alto Networks network security solution
- match common network security use cases to customer requirements
- overcome customer technical objections, up to and including showcasing feature functionality
- proficiently deploy and configure a proof of concept (POC)

Exam Format

The exam consists of 60 multiple-choice questions, some of which will have one correct answer, while others will have multiple correct answers. Candidates will have five minutes to read and agree to the Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), 80 minutes (1 hour, 20 minutes) to complete the exam questions, and five minutes to complete an exit survey.

How to Take This Exam

The exam is available through the third-party Pearson VUE testing platform.

To register for the exam, visit: <https://home.pearsonvue.com/paloaltonetworks>.

To register for any PSE Professional exam on the Pearson VUE website, candidates must add a Private Access Code:

- **PSE-PAC-2024** (for taking the exam at a testing center)
- **PSE-OP-2024** (for taking the exam at home or in the office)

Full instructions for scheduling the exam can be found at:

https://www.paloaltonetworks.com/content/dam/pan/en_US/partners/marketing/docs/pse-exam-instructions.pdf.

This guide is intended to provide information about the objectives covered by this exam, as well as related resources and recommended courses. The material contained within this guide is not intended to guarantee that a passing score will be achieved on the exam. Palo Alto Networks recommends that candidates thoroughly understand the objectives provided in this guide and use the resources and recommended courses where needed to gain that understanding.

Blueprint

The blueprint table lists the domains covered and includes domain weighting. The percentage weights represent the portion of the exam score that is attributed to each domain. Many candidates find the table provides focus for studies during exam preparation. Also included in the blueprint table are the more specific tasks associated with each domain. Pay particular attention to these tasks, as they provide more targeted areas of study within the domains.

Exam Domain	Weight %
1. Business Value and Competitive Differentiators	30%
1.1 Identify the technical business value of Palo Alto Networks Next-Generation Firewalls (NGFWs)	
1.2 Identify the technical business value of management (i.e., Panorama and SCM)	
1.3 Identify the topics that matter to the customer and that apply our best answer	
1.4 Identify Strata key differentiators	
2. Architecture and Planning	30%
2.1 Explain customer requirements	
2.2 Identify deployment architecture types	
2.3 Describe Palo Alto Networks platform networking capabilities	
2.4 Handling sizing and tuning	
3. Deployment and Evaluation	30%
3.1 Identify the capabilities of the Palo Alto Networks NGFW	
3.2 Identify Palo Alto Networks NGFW features that can protect against unknown threats	
3.3 Identify Palo Alto Networks NGFW features that can protect against known threats	
3.4 Explain identity from a deployment and evaluation standpoint	
3.5 Describe the Palo Alto Networks NGFW evaluation and proof of value (PoV) process	
4. Network Security Strategy and Best Practices	10%
4.1 Describe the Palo Alto Networks five-step methodology to approach the Zero Trust model	
TOTAL	100%

Learning Path

Digital Learning

A library of free digital learning is available. These on-demand, self-paced digital-learning classes are a helpful way to reinforce the key information for those who have been to the formal hands-on classes. They also serve as a useful overview and introduction to working with our technology for those unable to attend a hands-on, instructor-led class.

Palo Alto Networks employees, go to FlexLearn, where you have access to our digital-learning portfolio: https://paloaltonetworks.exceedlms.com/student/catalog/list?category_ids=33927-flight-manual-ngfw. These online classes cover foundational material and they contain narrated slides, knowledge checks, and accessible demos (where applicable). In addition, employees can participate in SE bootcamp and access the Beacon courses found in the links noted below for partners.

Palo Alto Networks partners, access Beacon at: <https://beacon.paloaltonetworks.com/sl/5a73ef5a>. There you will find information and education resources for the PSE certifications, including Hardware Firewall specific information at: <https://beacon.paloaltonetworks.com/sl/48af98b6>.

New courses are being added often, so check the digital library when looking for new available curriculum.

Instructor-Led Training

Looking for a hands-on, instructor-led course in your area?

Palo Alto Networks ATPs are located globally and offer a breadth of solutions from onsite training to public, open-environment classes. Authorized training centers are delivering online courses in 14 languages and at convenient times for most major markets worldwide. For class schedule, location, and training offerings, go to: <https://www.paloaltonetworks.com/services/education/atc-locations>.

Learning Through the Community

You also can learn from peers and other experts in the field. Check out our communities site at <https://live.paloaltonetworks.com>, where you can find:

- reference material
- best practices
- trending topics



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