

Understanding the Change: The Evolution of EvalExperience Licenses



For years, VMUG Advantage members accessed EvalExperience licenses to test and learn VMware technology. On November 30, 2024, the process changed. VMware, now under Broadcom, has introduced a new pathway for Advantage members to access VMware Cloud Foundation (VCF):

What's Different?

- Previously: Members could download various VMware product licenses through the EvalExperience program.
- Now: Access to a full-stack VMware Cloud Foundation (VCF) license is available exclusively to VMUG Advantage members who pass the VCP-VCF certification
- Instead of individual product licenses, certified Advantage members now gain access to a 128-core, 1-year, personal-use license without support. This license can be renewed annually for up to three years, provided the Advantage membership remains active.

FAQ – General Questions

What VMware licenses are now available through VMUG Advantage?

VMUG Advantage members who complete certain VMware certifications are eligible for:

✓ VMware Cloud Foundation (VCF) License – Available to members who pass the VCP-VCF certification

How long do the VCF licences last?

Each license is valid for one year and can be renewed annually for up to three years as long as you maintain an active VMUG Advantage membership.

How do I renew my VCF license after the first year?

Visit your [Broadcom Customer Support Portal](#) each year while your VMUG Advantage membership is active, and your license will be renewed automatically.

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I have a VMware certification, but it's not VCP-VCF. Do I qualify for a VCF license?

No. Only certifications in VMware Cloud Foundation (VCP-VCF) qualify for a free personal-use license through VMUG Advantage. If you hold a different VMware certification (such as VCP-DCV, VCP-NV, VCAP, or any other VMware certification), you will not be eligible for a VMware Cloud Foundation (VCF) through this program.

Can I take the VCP-VCF exam before joining VMUG Advantage?

Yes. If you already passed the exam, you can still join VMUG Advantage at any time and receive the VCF. However, we highly recommend joining before taking the exam to take advantage of the 50% discount on certification exams (one per year).

What happens if I do not pass a VMware certification exam?

If you don't pass a VMware certification exam, you can retake it; however, you will need to pay full price for the retake. VMUG Advantage members receive only one 50% discount voucher per year, which can be applied to any eligible VMware certification exam. If you wish to retake the exam within the same year, you must pay the full exam price.

What if I only want vSphere license?

As an Advantage member you have exclusive access to the full suite of VCF licenses for personal-use, which includes vSphere, vSAN, NSX, Aria and more, once you've successfully passed your VCP-VCF certification with the ability to renew for 2 additional years.

FAQ – For Current VMUG Advantage Members

How do I receive my free VCF license?

To receive your license, you must:

- ✓ Pass the VCP-VCF certification exam (no prerequisite courses required).
- ✓ Ensure the email on your VMUG Advantage account matches the email used for your VMware certification exam.
- ✓ Maintain an active VMUG Advantage membership.

Once these steps are complete, your Broadcom Support Portal will be provisioned with a

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VMware VCF 128-core, 1-year (personal-use) license.

What if my email on my VMUG Advantage account is different from my VMware certification email?

To avoid provisioning issues, your emails must match. If they don't, contact advantage@vmug.com to update your VMUG Advantage email.

Do I need to take VMware training courses before taking the VCP-VCF exam?

No, there are no prerequisite courses or certifications required. You can take the VCP-VCF exam at any time. However, Broadcom provides free study resources to help you prepare. [Access Free Study Resources](#)

How can I get a discount on my VCP-VCF exam?

VMUG Advantage members receive 50% off the exam, reducing the cost to \$125 (one per year). [Download Your Discount Voucher](#)

What happens to my previously downloaded EvalExperience licenses?

- ✓ Licenses downloaded before November 30, 2024, remain valid for 365 days from the download date.
- ✓ After November 30, 2024, no new licenses will be issued through the old EvalExperience platform.
- ✓ Going forward, VMUG Advantage members must earn their VCP-VCF certification to receive a full-stack VCF license under the new program.

FAQ – For Expired or Prospective VMUG Advantage Members

My VMUG Advantage membership has expired. Can I still get a VCF license?

If your membership has expired, you must renew to regain access to this benefit. [Renew VMUG Advantage Now](#)

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Once renewed, if you already passed the VCP-VCF exam, your Broadcom Support Portal will be provisioned with a VMware VCF.

What happens if I do not renew my VMUG Advantage membership?

If you do not renew, you will lose access to VMUG Advantage benefits, including:

- ✓ Certification discounts
- ✓ VMware training
- ✓ Webinars
- ✓ Exclusive VMUG content
- ✓ The ability to receive a VCF license once certified

Why should I join VMUG Advantage now?

By joining now, you gain immediate access to:

- ✓ 50% off the VCP-VCF exam (one per year)
- ✓ Free VMware Cloud Foundation or license upon certification
- ✓ Exclusive VMware training and resources

[Join VMUG Advantage Today](#)

If I don't join, can I still get a VMware Cloud Foundation license?

No. The only way to access a personal-use VCF license is by being both:

- ✓ A VMUG Advantage member
- ✓ A VCP-VCF certified professional

Still Have Questions?

For additional support, contact advantage@vmug.com.