

# Arista Academy Labs & Exams: Access Guide

## Overview

This document outlines the technical requirements and connectivity specifications necessary for successfully accessing the Arista Academy training labs and certification exams.

The lab environments are cloud-based platforms designed to provide hands-on experience with Arista's networking technologies. Note that the Arista Academy Certification Exams are also based on the same platforms. To ensure a smooth and uninterrupted learning experience, please review these requirements carefully before beginning your lab sessions or exams.

Proper preparation will help minimise technical difficulties and allow you to focus on developing your networking skills rather than troubleshooting connectivity issues.

## Access

Labs and exams are accessible via a web browser. However, to ensure proper access, the following technical requirements and connectivity specifications must be met.

### Supported Browsers

Google Chrome or any Chromium-based browsers (such as Microsoft Edge, Brave, or Opera) are required for optimal performance and compatibility.

### Other Access Types

SSH (Secure Shell) connectivity is available. Please verify that TCP port 22 is not blocked by your local firewall or network policies, as this is essential for establishing SSH connections to the lab environment.

### Unrestricted access to `\*.traininglabs.arista.com`

Your network environment must allow complete and unrestricted access to all subdomains of `traininglabs.arista.com`. This includes various services such as the lab portal, documentation resources, virtual device interfaces, and exam platforms. If you're connecting from a corporate network, please consult with your IT department to ensure that no firewall rules, proxy settings, or content filters will interfere with accessing these domains. Some lab components utilise WebSocket connections and other specialised protocols that may be affected by restrictive network policies.

## Potential Issues and Solutions

### CVP not loaded

Please allow sufficient time for the lab environment to complete its boot sequence. CVP typically requires only 10-15 minutes to fully initialise, however, due to the cloud-based nature of these lab environments, certain factors beyond our control may occasionally cause delays. It's worth noting that the network switches are generally accessible within the first 3 minutes of the boot process, allowing you to begin some preliminary work while waiting for the complete CVP interface to become available. If you experience an extended delay beyond 30 minutes, please contact technical support for assistance.

### Cannot access Studios or Dashboards within CVP

If you're experiencing difficulties accessing the Studios or Dashboards sections within CVP, this is most commonly related to security restrictions. Please verify that your organization's security devices, firewalls, or browser extensions are not blocking gRPC or WebSocket connections. These communication protocols are essential for the proper functioning of CVP's interactive components. You might need to consult with your IT department to temporarily adjust security settings or use an alternative network connection with fewer restrictions. Testing with a different browser may also help identify if the issue is browser-specific.

### WebSSH not working

WebSSH functionality relies heavily on specific communication protocols to establish secure terminal connections. If you find that WebSSH features are not operating correctly, please confirm that your security infrastructure is configured to allow WebSocket traffic. Many corporate firewalls block these protocols by default, which prevents WebSSH from establishing the necessary connections. Additionally, ensure your browser is updated to the latest version, as older browsers may have limited support for these technologies. If problems persist after verifying these settings, clearing your browser cache and cookies might resolve cached configuration issues. Alternatively you can use SSH.

## Pre-Lab Checklist

Before starting your Arista Networks lab or exam session, please complete the following checklist to ensure a smooth experience:

### Browser Compatibility

- Using Google Chrome or a Chromium-based browser (Edge, Brave, Opera)
- Browser is updated to the latest version
- Disabled any browser extensions that might interfere with lab functionality
- Test browser compatibility at: [BrowserTest](#)

### Network Connectivity

- Tested access to \*.traininglabs.arista.com domains
- Confirmed TCP port 22 is open for SSH connections
- Verified WebSocket connections are allowed: [WebSocket Echo Test](#)
- Tested gRPC connectivity.

- Connected to a stable internet connection (wired connection recommended)
- Verified network speed. Test at: [Speedtest.net](https://www.speedtest.net)

## Environment Setup

- Cleared browser cache and cookies
- Disabled any VPN services that might interfere with connectivity (unless required)
- Closed unnecessary applications to free up system resources
- Ensured your computer will not enter sleep mode during the lab/exam

## Firewall and Security

- Temporarily disabled or configured firewall to allow lab connections
- Checked if corporate security policies might block WebSockets. Test at: [websocketstest.com](https://websocketstest.com)
- Verified your network allows secure WebSocket connections (wss://) (test at: [WebSocket Test](https://websocket-test.com))

## Credentials and Access

- Bookmarked the lab portal URL for quick access

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