



Fundamentals of UNIX Sponsorship Transition FAQs, v1.0

Overview

Sun Microsystems, Inc. has advised Cisco that they will be terminating their sponsorship of the Cisco Networking Academy Program Fundamentals of UNIX curriculum effective May 12, 2004. Even though there will no longer be funding from Sun for the implementation of this course, Cisco Systems will keep the **Fundamentals of UNIX curriculum and assessments available to Academies until July 1, 2006**. Academies may continue offering this course until that time.

These FAQs were created to answer questions about the retirement of Fundamentals of UNIX.

Key dates in the retirement of Fundamentals of UNIX

- May 12, 2004 - Sun sponsorship of Fundamentals of UNIX course ends.
- May 13, 2004 - Curriculum and Assessment support through the Helpdesk and Cisco field support for UNIX no longer available. CATC-SCs and Regional Academies continue to support Local Academies within their UNIX Academy hierarchies.
- April 1, 2006 – All UNIX instructor training classes must be completed.
- July 1, 2006 - Fundamentals of UNIX, v2.0 is retired – Classes may no longer be created (classes already in progress may finish after this date with complete use of assessments).
- July 1, 2006 – All rights provided to Academies by Cisco under the Course Material License for the Fundamentals of UNIX curriculum will terminate for active Academies on July, 1, 2006. Academies must cease to use all versions of this course, as well as additional course materials, and remove all versions from their local servers.

Q1. If I am currently offering Fundamentals of UNIX, how will the end of curriculum sponsorship for this course affect my current or future classes?

You will be able to create Fundamentals of UNIX classes and activate exams through the Academy Connection site until July 1, 2006.

The curriculum and assessments for Fundamentals of UNIX, v2.0 will not be updated. However, Cisco will be taking Linux content from Fundamentals of UNIX and adding it to IT Essentials II: Network Operating Systems, v3.0 (due to be released in early 2005). IT Essentials II, v3.0 will then prepare students for the CompTIA Linux+ exam.

Q2. If I am planning to offer Fundamentals of UNIX, but have not started yet, can I begin offering the course after May 12, 2004?

Yes. You may start offering Fundamentals of UNIX after May 12, 2004 but the curriculum will only be available through Academy Connection until July 1, 2006.

Please note: You may want to consider transitioning Fundamentals of UNIX into an IT Essentials II, v3.0 (due out in early 2005) course. IT Essentials II is not a prerequisite or a part of the Sun Sys Adm certification track, however, we will be adding Linux content so that IT Essentials II, without the Fundamentals of UNIX, will prepare students for the CompTIA Linux+ exam. With this 3.0 revision of IT Essentials we will be mapping to the Linux+ certification.

Q3. Are there any plans for updating the Fundamentals of UNIX?

No. There are no plans to update Fundamentals of UNIX, however, we will be taking much of the Linux content currently in the UNIX course and adding it to IT Essentials II: Network Operating Systems, v3.0. This new version of IT Essentials II is tentatively targeted for an early 2005 release date.

Q4. May I still attend instructor training for Fundamentals of UNIX after May 12, 2004?

Going forward, active CATCs and Regional Academies may still hold instructor training for Local Academy instructors on Fundamentals of UNIX. However, instructor training classes must end by April 1, 2006. Please go into the Learn section on your Instructor Home Page within Academy Connection to view available instructor classes for UNIX.

Q5. If an instructor would like to transition their Fundamentals of UNIX course over to IT Essentials II: Network Operating Systems, what must they do?

1. An Academy must be signed up to offer IT Essentials and an instructor at that Academy must be trained in that curriculum before they can start offering IT Essentials II classes.
2. If an educational institution is not yet signed up to offer IT Essentials II: Network Operating Systems, the Legal Main Contact (LMC) for the Cisco Networking Academy at that institution must establish a support relationship with either a CATC or Regional Academy for IT Essentials. The Support Academy your institution has for Fundamentals of UNIX may also support IT Essentials. If not, the Academy Locator on Academy Connection may be used to locate a support Academy for IT Essentials in your geographic area.
3. Once a support relationship has been established, your support Academy will give you access to the IT Essentials curriculum.

4. Once your support Academy has given you access to the curriculum, you may sign up through the Academy Connection Website for Instructor training – See the “Learn” section on your Instructor Home page.
5. Instructor training for IT Essentials II is a minimum of five days. Or, if you meet the Fast Track requirements for this course, you may go to a one or two day skills training. Check with your support Academy for Fast Track eligibility requirements.
6. After an instructor has successfully passed IT Essentials II instructor training, they will be able to create and conduct classes within Academy Connection for this course.

Q6. After the Sun sponsorship is terminated (May 12, 2004), how will I get support for Fundamentals of UNIX?

The Following Support Will Remain Available:

Cisco Systems, Inc. will continue to make the following support available to Academies offering Fundamentals of UNIX until July 1, 2006:

1. Help Desk support on Academy Connection regarding functionality such as creating classes, grade book, etc.
2. Help Desk support for any program related issues
3. Full use of the knowledge base will be available through July 1, 2006. This database contains answers to frequently asked questions on program design, class management, instructor training, as well as curriculum and assessment. To access this knowledge base login to Academy Connection, select the “Help” link in the top hand navigation, select Program Support and then select “Find Answers”.
4. Even though instructional support for UNIX is not available directly through Cisco, Regional and Local Academies may still be able to obtain support by going through their CATC or Regional Academy. Please check with your Support Academy to discuss continued assistance.
5. Instructors are encouraged to provide peer support through the UNIX Discussion Boards on Academy Connection.
6. Instructional support materials such as the Instructor Guide, Lab Solutions, Instructor PowerPoint Presentations, etc. will continue to be available in the Tools area of the Academy Connection until July 1, 2006.
7. The FTP center will still house instructional support materials which have been developed and posted by Academy instructors for Fundamentals of UNIX. These files typically consist of items such as lesson plans, optional labs, and homework assignments. Instructors may download these files through the Community FTP Center (right hand navigation) on Academy Connection until July 1, 2006.

The Following Support Will No Longer Remain Available

Due to the lack of a sponsorship funding for the UNIX course, the following support will no longer be available as of May 12, 2004:

1. Curriculum and Assessment support for UNIX will no longer be available through the Helpdesk. However, information that is already stored in the knowledge base will continue to be accessible. Academy instructors are encouraged to go to their Support CATC or Regional Academy for assistance on UNIX curriculum and assessment questions.
2. UNIX Curriculum and Assessments will no longer be updated.
3. Printed marketing material regarding UNIX will no longer be available through the Academy Marketplace. Academies may still download and print these documents from pdf files available on Academy Connection.
4. Cisco staff will no longer facilitate the online Discussion Board for UNIX, however, you are encouraged to use the boards for peer support.

Q7. Will Cisco Press books continue to be available?

We have been advised by Cisco Press that they will continue to make the Companion Guides, and Lab Companions available for Fundamentals of UNIX unless it is no longer feasible due to low demand. If Cisco Press did stop production of the Fundamentals of UNIX books, then they would make the electronic version available at no cost to the Academy Community.

We thank Cisco Press for their support during this curriculum transition process.

Please note: Cisco Press just released the second edition of the Companion Guide (Fundamentals of UNIX: Focusing on Solaris and Linux) and Lab Companion. The second edition has been updated to include Solaris 9 and Red Hat 9. In addition, all labs have been rewritten to be more generic so all but the CDE specific labs can be completed using any version of Linux or Solaris.

Q8. If my Academy only offers the Fundamentals of UNIX course, but no other Academy curriculum, what is my status in the Academy Program after July 1, 2006?

If you are offering only the UNIX curriculum through the Academy Program, then your educational institution will cease to be a member of the Program after July 1, 2006 . This will cause your institution's Academy Connection accounts to be cancelled after classes have ended and gradebooks are closed. All rights provided to Academies by Cisco under the Course Material License for UNIX curriculum will terminate for active Academies on July, 1, 2006.

However, if you choose to add any other active Academy curriculum to your institution before July 1, 2006, your educational institution will remain in the Academy Program.

Q9. Am I allowed to use the Fundamentals of UNIX curriculum or additional course materials, previously downloaded from the Cisco Academy Connection site, after July 1, 2006?

No. Since the UNIX curriculum is copyrighted by Cisco Systems and will officially be retired from the Academy program, you must remove the curriculum and additional course materials from all your servers.

Q10. Does Sun's discontinuation of the sponsorship change the delivery of UNIX in any way?

The Fundamentals of UNIX is owned and copyrighted by Cisco Systems and is part of the Academy curriculum offerings. All guidelines for delivery and use as defined in the Cisco Quality Assurance Plan (QAP) remain the same.

We will be removing the Sun logo from the curriculum after their sponsorship termination date. We will send out a notice so that you may download this new version when it becomes available.