



CLOUD NATIVE COMPUTING FOUNDATION

To Whom It May Concern,

As the CNCF Kubestronaut program manager, I am writing this statement to recommend **Owais Abbasi** and describe the value of the Kubestronaut badge they hold, along with the level of proficiency they have demonstrated to achieve it.

What Owais Abbasi's Kubestronaut badge represents

The CNCF Kubestronaut badge is awarded to individuals who have earned **and concurrently maintain** all five Kubernetes-related CNCF certifications:

- [Kubernetes and Cloud Native Associate \(KCNA\)](#)
- [Kubernetes and Cloud Native Security Associate \(KCSA\)](#)
- [Certified Kubernetes Administrator \(CKA\)](#)
- [Certified Kubernetes Application Developer \(CKAD\)](#)
- [Certified Kubernetes Security Specialist \(CKS\)](#)

To qualify **Owais Abbasi** must have **all five certifications current and active (in good standing and not expired) at the same time**.

As of early **2026**, CNCF program records indicate that **3,095** individuals worldwide held the Kubestronaut title —underscoring the designation's selectivity.

What it takes to earn (and keep) the badge

Earning the Kubestronaut badge requires passing a combination of knowledge-based and hands-on, performance-based exams:

- **KCNA** and **KCSA** are **online, proctored, multiple-choice** exams that validate foundational Kubernetes/cloud native knowledge (KCNA) and foundational cloud native/Kubernetes security knowledge (KCSA).
- **CKA**, **CKAD**, and **CKS** are **online, proctored, performance-based** exams requiring candidates to complete practical tasks from the command line in a live Kubernetes environment under time constraints.

Because Kubestronaut status depends on holding **all five credentials concurrently active**, it reflects not only breadth and depth across Kubernetes domains, but also an ongoing commitment to keeping those validated skills current.

Competence level typically associated with Kubestronaut badge holders

In professional terms, a Kubestronaut badge holder is generally expected to demonstrate **intermediate-to-advanced, job-relevant competence** across the Kubernetes lifecycle—spanning cluster operations, application delivery, and security. While individual backgrounds vary, the combined certification requirements typically indicate the ability to:

- **Operate and troubleshoot Kubernetes clusters** under realistic constraints (core administration, reliability fundamentals, networking/storage basics, and operational workflows).
- **Build, deploy, configure, and debug Kubernetes workloads** in a production-oriented manner (resource definitions, services/networking, configuration, observability/troubleshooting).
- **Apply Kubernetes security practices** for both clusters and workloads (hardening, secure configuration, and security-focused operational tasks).
- **Demonstrate broad Kubernetes and cloud native fundamentals**, including the vocabulary and core concepts expected of practitioners working in the Kubernetes ecosystem.

Summary

In summary, the Kubestronaut badge held by **Owais Abbasi** is a credible indicator of significant, verified achievement across Kubernetes knowledge: administration, application delivery, and security. It represents a high bar because it requires both **hands-on, performance-based validation** and **breadth of knowledge**, and because continued eligibility depends on keeping the full certification set concurrently active.

Sincerely,

Christophe Sauthier

Cloud Native Computing Foundation (CNCF) Training and Certification Lead