

Career Path

Concrete Learning Path (6-12 months)

Month 1-2: Containerization

- Docker deep dive
- Deploy Kamailio/FreeSWITCH in containers
- Build your own voice lab in Docker Compose

Month 3-4: Kubernetes

- CKA study and certification
- Deploy stateful telecom apps on K8s
- Learn persistent volumes, StatefulSets, load balancing

Month 5-6: Observability

- Instrument a voice platform with Prometheus
- Build Grafana dashboards for SIP metrics
- Set up distributed tracing for call flows

Month 7-8: Infrastructure-as-Code

- Terraform for multi-cloud voice infrastructure
- Ansible/Salt for configuration management
- GitOps workflows

Month 9-10: Programming

- Python or Go for building automation tools
- Build APIs that abstract telecom complexity
- Write operators or controllers for K8s

Month 11-12: Portfolio Projects

- Auto-scaling SIP proxy based on CPS metrics
- Multi-region voice infrastructure with failover
- Internal developer platform for telephony services

Resume Positioning

Reframe your experience:

- "Maintained Avaya PBX" → "Managed high-availability voice infrastructure serving 10K users with 99.99% uptime"
- "Configured SIP trunks" → "Designed and scaled SIP routing infrastructure handling 500K daily call sessions"
- "Troubleshoot call quality" → "Performance analysis and optimization of real-time media streams, reduced jitter by 40%"

Red Flags to Avoid

Don't: Just add cloud certs without building things - employers can tell

Don't: Try to jump straight to architect roles without hands-on modern infrastructure experience

Don't: Ignore programming - even infrastructure roles now expect scripting/automation skills

Do: Build public proof of your skills (GitHub repos, blog posts about scaling Kamailio on K8s, etc.)

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