For more than 20 years, Microsoft Certification has been the IT industry’s most respected validation of skills. Today, technology is everywhere and there is a need to provide students the appropriate business productivity and technology skills necessary in everyday life, whether it is basic computing skills or advanced technical skills. Almost every job today requires some form of technology skills. Students who hold a Microsoft Certification can prove their proficiency.

A thriving industry
Worldwide, Microsoft Office holds 94% of the market share (500 million customers). Students need skills on Microsoft Office whether they are moving toward advanced education or looking for a business career.

A lifetime of benefits
By earning a Microsoft Certification, students will:
• demonstrate their skills on the latest technologies
• have a firm measure and increased confidence in their skills
• achieve a higher degree of success in their pursuit of higher education or a career in technology
• gain recognition among peers and employers, and a distinct edge in the competitive job market
• chart a career development path for ongoing advancement of Microsoft technology skills

Microsoft Office Certification: the global standard in productivity
Educators can help students validate their skills through the Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) Certification Program. For students whose sights are set on a career, Microsoft Office Certifications are offered at three levels:

Microsoft Office Specialist
MOS Certification is the recognized standard for core Microsoft Office skills.

Microsoft Office Specialist–Expert
MOS Expert Certification recognizes an authority on advanced Microsoft Office functionality.

Microsoft Office Specialist–Master
MOS Master Certification is the pinnacle distinction for outstanding proficiency with the Microsoft Office suite.

Microsoft IT Academy and Certification
With Microsoft Certification, educators are able to validate their students’ technology skills, which helps them stand out from the crowd and enhance their education and career prospects.

91% of hiring managers consider employee certification as a criterion for hiring.¹

81% of hiring managers believe certified individuals perform better than non-certified peers.¹

“...I am beaming with pride at what they accomplished!”
Marty Roettgen
Teacher, Green Hope High School, Cary, North Carolina, USA

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Microsoft Technology Certification: A clear path to success

Microsoft's certification program is straightforward and helps students acquire the technology skills they need to be successful in college and a career.

Start with Microsoft Technology Associate

Microsoft Technology Associate (MTA) is Microsoft's entry level training and certification on the fundamentals of IT Infrastructure, Database and Software Development. Pass just one exam and you'll earn an MTA Certification, taking your first step toward building a career in technology—or enhancing your career in business. MTA tracks prepare you for hands-on product learning, whether it's in an entry level job, in the classroom, or through self-study.

Microsoft Certified Professional

Microsoft Professional Certifications are designed to demonstrate a comprehensive set of job-related skills, such as project management, system design, and operations management. These certifications include Microsoft Certified Solutions Expert (MCSE), Microsoft Certified Solutions Associate (MCSA), Microsoft Certified IT Professional (MCITP), and Microsoft Certified Professional Developer (MCPD) certifications.

Microsoft Certified Technology Specialist Series (MCTS) certifications are designed to demonstrate in-depth knowledge of a key product or technology, validating the ability to implement, build, troubleshoot, and debug a particular Microsoft technology.

Microsoft Certifications complement institution curriculum, programs, and reputation. Through certifications, educators can help students get recognized by peers and hiring managers.

Getting Started

The Microsoft IT Academy program provides all the curriculum discounts and lab resources an educator needs to prepare students for certification. IT Academy program members who qualify can order Microsoft Certifications through a Microsoft Academic Volume Licensing agreement. Using the same reseller and convenient tools you use for your other Microsoft software and services, you can get a complete technology education solution to help train and certify your students and enhance their education and career prospects.

How do I get started?

You can order your annual Microsoft IT Academy membership and Microsoft Certification through Microsoft Academic Volume Licensing programs.

For more information, contact your Academic Licensing Reseller or visit: www.microsoft.com/licensing/licensing-options/for-industries.aspx

Learn more about IT Academy by visiting our online communities:

- Keep up with the latest updates from IT Academy: aka.ms/ITABlog
- Or join the conversation on Twitter at: twitter.com/MS_ITAcademy
- Keep current on IT Academy through the monthly webinar series at: aka.ms/ITAWebinar

For more information go to www.microsoft.com/ITAcertification

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