Microsoft IT Academy program

Helping students achieve industry recognized skills and certifications on the latest technologies.

Microsoft IT Academy provides resources that benefit all students, faculty, and staff. Acquiring skills on the latest technologies helps students to become better collaborators, communicators, critical thinkers, innovators, problem solvers, and citizens of our global economy. More than 50% of today’s jobs require some degree of technology skills, and experts say that percentage will increase to 77% in the next decade.  

US Bureau of Labor Statistics

Studies suggest that in the next 5 to 10 years there will be a significant shortage in the supply of skilled IT professionals. Over the next four years, Information Technology (IT) employment will rise by 5.8 million jobs and 51% of all IT jobs will be software related, creating 75,000 new businesses. 

Microsoft believes that technology skills are essential to the prosperity of both individuals and nations. These skills contribute to economic growth through increased productivity and by creating greater capacity to adopt new technologies, ways of working, and new sources of innovation.

Microsoft IT Academy: the comprehensive technology education solution

Microsoft IT Academy helps bridge the skills gap by providing the curriculum, the training ground, and the validation of skills that college and career-bound students need to be successful. Today, Microsoft IT Academies around the world are preparing students, creating successful schools, and strengthening communities. The program also enables educators by providing the professional development resources they need to be successful in the classroom. 

Membership is open to all primary, secondary, post-secondary, preparatory schools, vocational and trade or technical accredited educational institutions, and those institutions who qualify under Microsoft’s academic volume licensing programs.

“The IT Academy program with Microsoft allows our young people, our trainers, and our companies to have quality skills so that our people can improve their economic and social situations.”

Larbi Bencheikh
General Director, OFPPT
Casablanca, Morocco
Microsoft IT Academy benefits for students, educators, academic institutions, and your community.

By joining the Microsoft IT Academy (ITA) program, your institution receives curriculum for teaching technology and learning tools that help students achieve success. ITA enables you and your institution to offer training not only on fundamental technology skills but also technical courses for your students who are interested in pursuing a career in IT after graduation.

## PROGRAM BENEFITS

### Curriculum

- The **Microsoft Digital Literacy curriculum** provides essential computing skills for learners new to computing.
- The **Microsoft E-Learning curriculum** provides unlimited access for more than 250 courses aligning with Microsoft Certifications.
- Ready-to-use, **customizable lesson plans** including links to relevant Microsoft E-Learning and free demos and videos.
- **E-reference** provides digital access for educators to over 700 technology books, searchable by topic, technology, and subject.
- The **Microsoft Official Academic Course (MOAC)** series for Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) and Microsoft Technology Associate (MTA) delivers a complete teaching framework developed specifically for use in an academic setting.
- **Microsoft Official Courseware (MOC)** academic discount on this instructor-led training intended for IT professionals and developers who build, support, and implement solutions using Microsoft technologies.

### Professional Development

- **Teacher Starter Kits** include exam vouchers for MOS, MTA, and Microsoft Certified Educator certification exams to enable educators to obtain globally recognized certification.
- The **Teaching with Technology Curriculum** is online learning that helps educators integrate Information and Communications Technology (ICT) into their practice.
- **Microsoft Certified Trainer (MCT)** provides tools, resources, and other benefits to support and help Microsoft IT Academy educators thrive as both technologists and educators.

### Certification

- Receive academic discounts for Microsoft Certification exams via volume licensing.
- **Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS)** exams prepare your students to be more productive in school and business careers.
- **Microsoft Technology Associate (MTA)** exams provide an entry-level opportunity to explore various technical careers.
- **Microsoft Certifications Solutions Associate/Expert (MCSA/MCSE)** exams provide steps to validation of a student’s ability to design and build innovative solutions across multiple technologies, both on-premise and in the cloud.
- **Second Shot**—Retake an exam for free via Second Shot if students do not pass the first time. Second Shot vouchers can be purchased direct or through volume licensing.
- **Microsoft Certified Educator (MCE)** exams measure educator’s foundational competency in the area of ICT integration into teaching and learning.
- **Testing Centers** can help you establish a Certiport or Prometric testing center on your campus. Microsoft IT Academy members receive academic discounts for Microsoft Certification exams.

### College Credit

- Pass a Microsoft Certification exam and apply for US college credit via the ACE College Credit Recommendation Service at [www.acenet.edu/credit](http://www.acenet.edu/credit).

### Resources and Partnership

- **Microsoft IT Academy Members-only website** with access to all program information, support, and resources in one place.
- **Microsoft IT Academy public website**.
- A listing in the **online Microsoft IT Academy locator** for discovery by millions of potential students.
- **Microsoft IT Academy blog** that can help you stay up to date on announcements and benefits.
- Quarterly **Microsoft IT Academy Newsletters** keeping Microsoft IT Academies up-to-date with offers and best practices.
- **Marketing materials**, press kits, and videos to help promote your Microsoft IT Academy to parents, communities, and governmental leaders. Available via the members-only website.
- **Marketing campaigns and special offers**.
- Access to the **Microsoft Regional Support Center** for program enquiries and assistance.
- A comprehensive **Welcome Kit** that includes immediate deployment resources and program membership plaque.
- **Microsoft IT Academy program members** are entitled to one DreamSpark subscription that offers an institution-wide annual membership providing professional developer software and designer tools available in labs, classrooms, and on student PC’s.

### 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](http://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/ITAcademy**