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Microsoft IT Academy Program

The Microsoft IT Academy Program is a global IT learning solution that connects educators, students, and communities. The programme reaches students during their early IT experience and continues throughout their professional careers. It is a life-long learning model of continuous improvement.

Students gain experience in the latest technologies and have a wider range of career options. Institutions get the instant recognition and credibility of the Microsoft brand, along with comprehensive curriculum and online collaboration tools for students and faculty. Communities and businesses benefit by having access to a pool of local, highly-trained, employable individuals for the workforce.

Where We're Going

Our objectives are to:

- Offer a world-class Microsoft curriculum to educate students on vital technologies.
- Provide wide-ranging online resources for anytime, anywhere learning and collaboration.
- Give students the real-world abilities needed for career success.
- Support employers and communities with a workforce of skilled IT professionals.
- Offer a foundation for students and faculty that supports lifetime-career development.

Our Strategy

Microsoft IT Academy has a three-point strategy of IT Instruction, IT Validation, and IT Immersion.

IT Instruction is focused on providing a delivery platform for a world-class Microsoft training curriculum including online collaborative tools and an immersive learning experience. The goal is to develop the programme as a global learning community that aids students and instructors throughout their careers.

IT Validation assesses and certifies student performance at many different levels. The programme provides competency benchmarks whether or not students complete full certification, validating competency for prospective employers. Microsoft IT Academy also offers many benefits that helps make certification achievable and affordable.

IT Immersion surrounds students with real-world challenges and experiences to help with job placement and also support the needs of employers and the professional IT community. Microsoft IT Academy is directed toward a life-long learning model through its alumni programme.



Current Annual Programme Costs and Membership Cycle

| Annual membership costs | | Membership cycle |
|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| IT Pro Platinum | U.S.\$1,250 | January - December |
| Office Specialist | U.S.\$550 | July - June |

Microsoft IT Academy Program Benefits

Membership in the Microsoft IT Academy Program provides valuable benefits for learning institutions, faculty, students, and communities. Membership is available at two levels:

IT Pro Platinum and Microsoft Office Specialist.

The IT Pro Platinum Level provides members with comprehensive curriculum and workforce development resources, and includes courses for the IT Pro from Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP) through to premier certifications such as MCDST, MCSA, MCAD, MCSE and MCSD.

The Microsoft Office Level provides benefits designed to facilitate Microsoft Office skills preparing towards the Microsoft Office Specialist certification.

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| BENEFITS | IT Pro Platinum Membership Level | Microsoft Office Specialist Membership Level |
|---|----------------------------------|--|
| TRAINING | | |
| E-learning resources Online training in IT Pro, Microsoft Office Professional, and CompTIA courses. | ● | MS Office only |
| Online faculty training Access to online faculty training for the latest information about Microsoft technologies. | ● | ● |
| Academic pricing Special Microsoft IT Academy pricing for Official Microsoft Learning Products Curriculum—including courseware, seminars, workshops, and clinics. | ● | |
| Instructor Resource Centre (IRC) Anytime access to the IRC for software downloads, best-practice profiles, and industry news. | ● | ● |
| Speaker bureau Access to the Speaker Bureau for technical professionals offering in-person or online presentations. | ● | |
| Lab licences 100 licences for Microsoft server, desktop, and developer products and 50 licences for Microsoft Office Professional—limited to in-lab use only. | ● (Office not incl) | MS Office Professional only |
| TechNet Members receive TechNet at a promotional discount of 60 per cent | ● | |
| ASSESSMENT | | |
| Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP) exams Promotional pricing on selected academic exams of U.S.\$35. | ● | |
| Microsoft Certified Trainer (MCT) One MCT membership for a qualified instructor—25 per cent discounts for additional MCT memberships. | ● | |
| Microsoft Office Specialist exams Promotional pricing for Microsoft Office Specialist exams - U.S.\$30. | | ● |
| Online assessments Assessments available through online learning systems. | ● | ● |
| CompTIA exam discounts Discount pricing for CompTIA A+, .NET+, Security+, and Server+ exams. | ● | |
| WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT | | |
| Faculty and student mentorship IT professionals answer questions and provide insight on current issues and technologies. | ● | |
| Student internships Access to Web-based listing of internship opportunities for qualified students. | ● | |
| Alumni programme Ongoing career guidance and community to graduates of the IT Academy Program. | ● | |
| Training events Free or discounted pricing for in-person and online training events. | ● | |
| Student online campus Online student access to the portal for online training, community, mentorship, and other resources. | ● | |
| Resume and curriculum vitae service Student and faculty assistance with curriculum vitae writing (for a fee). | ● | |
| Job search assistance Web access to listings for paid opportunities. | ● | |
| Faculty community Access to faculty newsgroups and discussion forums. | ● | |
| MARKETING | | |
| Welcome kit Welcome letter, plaque, and posters demonstrating programme membership. | ● | ● |
| Microsoft IT Academy logo Access to the Microsoft IT Academy Program logo for marketing use. | ● | ● |
| Referrals Online tool to locate Microsoft IT Academies worldwide. | ● | ● |
| Quarterly newsletter The latest information about Microsoft IT Academy for programme administrators and instructors. | ● | ● |

For more information visit our Web site: www.microsoftitacademy.com

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