

# Microsoft IT Academy Certification Roadmap

Microsoft IT Academy (ITA) Program provides students with the technology skills they need to be successful in college and a career. With Microsoft Certification, students can validate those skills and pursue a career path in business or technology. ITA Program members receive attractive price reductions on Microsoft Certification exams so they can enable skills development and certification for their students globally.

Start by choosing your certification and career path →

Secondary Students:

**Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS)**  
Students pursuing a career using client-side productivity applications for business or IT should pursue MOS certification. MOS certification validates mastery of Microsoft Office skills that all businesses require, setting students apart as they go on to higher education or enter the workforce.

**Microsoft Technology Associate (MTA)**  
For a technology career, students should start with MTA certification, which validates core technology concepts in infrastructure, database and development. MTA helps students explore technology for today's popular IT careers. MTA is recommended, but not required, prior to pursuing a deeper technical certification path. MTA certification may be earned in one semester and can be used to demonstrate capability and commitment for entry-level IT positions.

2-year Post-Secondary Students:

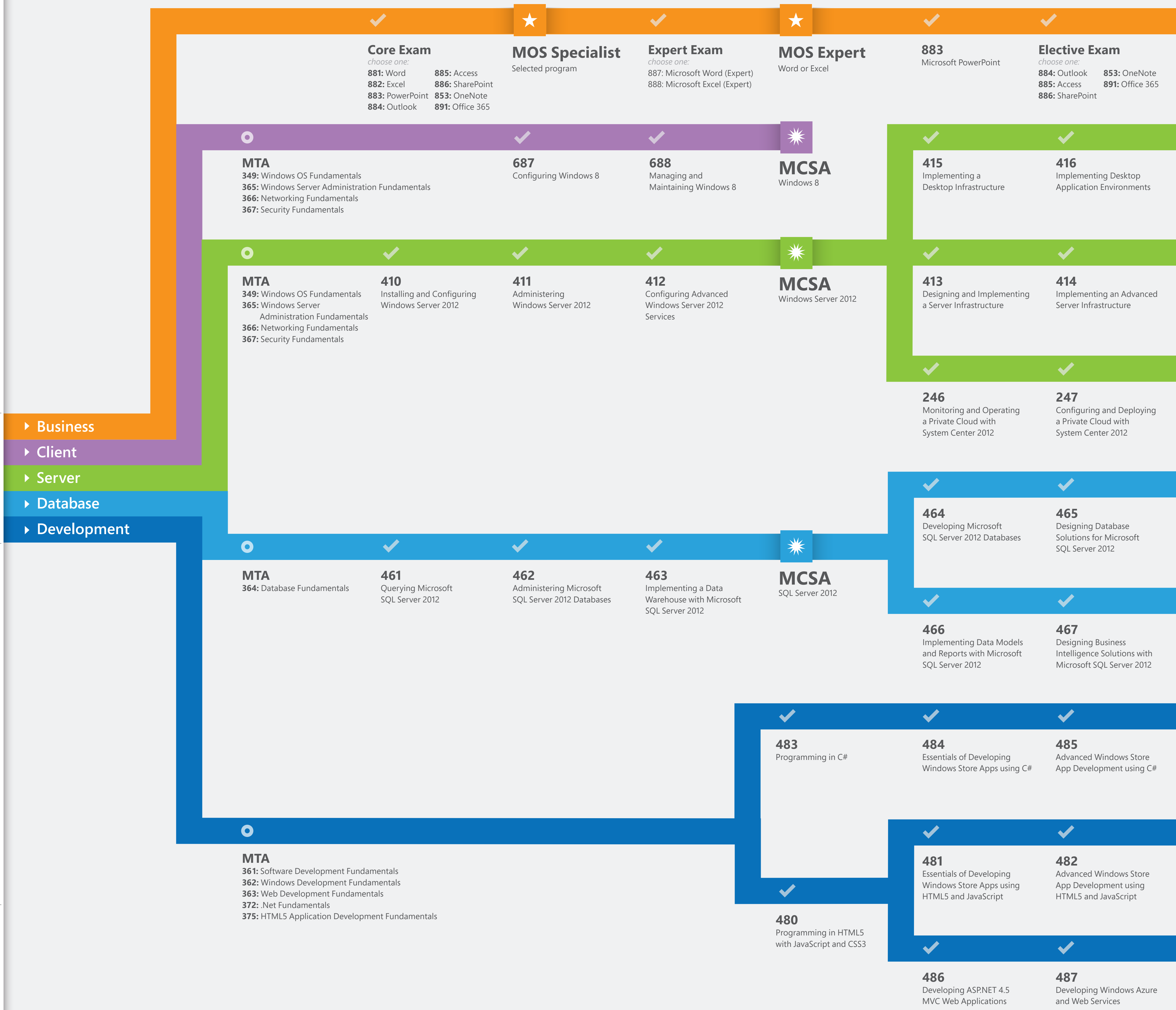
**Microsoft Certified Solutions Associate (MCSA)**  
The MCSA certification is recommended for 2-year program students and those who already have some knowledge of IT. MCSA validates deeper skills on Microsoft technology and cloud computing, and allows students to gain experience in a classroom setting versus on the job. MCSA is required for becoming an MCSE.

4-Year Post-Secondary Students:

**Microsoft Certified Solutions Expert (MCSE) / Microsoft Certified Solutions Developer (MCSD)**  
The MCSE and MCSD certifications are recommended for students in a 4-year program. The MCSE builds off of the experience gained while achieving the MCSA certification, and further develops an individual's expertise in cloud technologies. The MCSD builds off of MTA development fundamentals. MCSE and MCSD certifications allow students to acquire additional experience developing, deploying and maintaining full technology solutions in a classroom setting versus on the job. Upon graduation and certification, a student will be in a competitive position for a mid-level IT job.

For more information visit [www.microsoft.com/itacademy](http://www.microsoft.com/itacademy)

- **Microsoft Technology Associate**  
Non-compulsory training courses and exams that help prepare individuals for professional certification. MTA exams and classroom content are included as benefits within the Microsoft IT Academy Program subscription.
- ✓ **Microsoft Official Course and Exam Number**  
Official training courses and exams are available through Microsoft Learning Partners worldwide.
- ✳ **Microsoft Certified Solutions Associate**  
MCSA certification validates core platform skills and is required to achieve MCSE certification.
- ★ **Microsoft Office Specialist**  
MOS certification enables individuals to tap the full functionality of the Microsoft Office programs.



Certification Destinations:

**MOS Master**  
Microsoft Office 2010

**MCSE**  
Desktop Infrastructure

**MCSE**  
Server Infrastructure

**MCSE**  
Private Cloud

**MCSE**  
Data Platform

**MCSE**  
Business Intelligence

**MCSA**  
Windows Store Apps—C#

**MCSA**  
Windows Store Apps—HTML5

**MCSA**  
Web Apps