

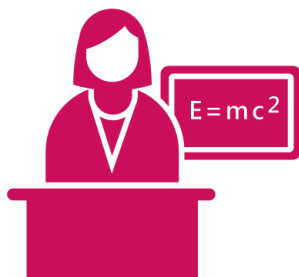
Microsoft IT Academy Program: Get College Credit for your Certifications



Microsoft Certification Exams: A Great Start to an IT Career *and* Students Receive College Credit

Credit Now Available to Your Students for Selected Microsoft Certifications

Microsoft Certification exams recognize and validate real-world IT skills, offer a lifelong career path of IT skills development, and support the certified community by providing access to unique resources. Microsoft Certifications help your students with continuing studies and help them build outstanding résumés. In fact, Microsoft Certification exams are continually measured and updated against real-life business challenges to ensure that they reflect the skills and expertise required to get ahead as a student.



Tell your students that the value of certification combined with the Accreditation Program is the best way to bridge the gap between classroom training and the workforce by helping them reach their academic goals and increasing their employability. Additionally, certification gives students the opportunity to get a solid start on their careers as well as college credit. Obtaining a Microsoft Certification before they graduate and start their careers can make their résumés stand out, and impresses employers with a sense of readiness. Explore the resources available to help you understand and share with your students the benefits of Microsoft Certification by visiting <https://www.microsoft.com/education/itacademymembers/student-employability.mspx>.

Microsoft and the American Council on Education

After a deep dive into Microsoft Learning certifications, the American Council on Education (ACE) has reviewed and recommended college credit for selected Microsoft certifications. Approved certifications are eligible for one to six semester hours of college credit in bachelor's degree or associate degree classes on computer applications, information technology, or computer information systems. The Accreditation Program helps your students achieve employability and academic goals, as well as bridging the gap between workforce training and the classroom.

To qualify for this opportunity, your student must have passed a selected Microsoft Certification within the last three years. Receiving a college equivalency recommendation on a Microsoft Certification from ACE also makes your student eligible for corporate tuition assistance. (Employers have differing policies; have your student contact the employer's human resources department for more information). The college or university your student attends (or plans to attend) will decide whether to grant credit and waive associated tuition requirements.

Note College credit recommendations are intended for the United States only. However, if you have students overseas—this is a great way for them to get credit if they want to study in the United States!

- Learn more about earning college credit for Microsoft Certifications by visiting <http://www.microsoft.com/learning/en/us/certification/mos-college-credit.aspx>.

Talking to Parents About Certification and College Credit

When discussing the value of the Accreditation Program with parents of students, it's essential for them to know the importance of their children getting a Microsoft Certification and receiving college credit in order to reach their academic goals and increase their employability once they graduate. When their children obtain a Microsoft Certification, they can gain relevant skills that employers respect and will have the opportunity to connect with a global community of other certified professionals. Parents will also like to know that obtaining selected Microsoft Certifications will be the most cost-effective way to earn college credit.

Your Students Can Receive up to a 55 Percent Discount with Academic Pricing!

Students, faculty, and IT support staff of academic institutions and Microsoft IT Academy programs are eligible to receive academic pricing on selected Microsoft Certification exams. In some regions, the academic pricing can be up to 55 percent off the commercial price. Take advantage of the cost savings today and become certified to demonstrate knowledge on the latest Microsoft technologies.

Prices vary by country. Contact Prometric at <http://www.prometric.com/Microsoft/default.htm> for exact pricing or your IT Academy representative if your school is part of the IT Academy program. The global academic discount calculator at <http://75.101.146.158:81/Calculator.htm> will help you calculate the academic pricing in your country.

Acquiring an ACE Transcript

In order for your students to obtain a record that verifies their Microsoft Certifications, have them follow these steps:

1. Enroll in the ACE Transcript Service.

An American Council on Education (ACE) transcript is a secure, universally accepted document with easy-to-read descriptions, ACE college credit recommendations, and suggested transfer areas. Students can list all of their educational achievements, including certifications, on the transcript. It can be sent at any time to the college or university of their choice.

- Register for the ACE Transcript Service by visiting <https://www.acenet.edu/transcripts/register/>.

2. Submit your exams for verification.

After you register with ACE, you can search the ACE Course Catalog for the exams that you have passed. Add these exams to your ACE course list. You must enter the date that you received each certification. When you finish adding exams, select **Send Your Record for Review**. Your information will be sent to Prometric or Certiport (the third-party organization that administers the exams) for verification.

After your courses have been verified, you will receive confirmation from ACE by email. You can then access your updated ACE transcript.

3. Send the ACE transcript to your school.

Visit the ACE website and submit a transcript request. Sign in by using the account you created when you registered. ACE will send your official ACE transcript to the college or university of your choice. You must pay a one-time fee (US\$40) to activate your ACE transcript account; the fee covers the cost of your first transcript. Additional transcripts can be requested for a nominal fee.

- Sign in to the ACE website by visiting <https://www.acenet.edu/transcripts/register/>



Learn more about accreditation, questions and answers, and which Microsoft Certifications ACE recommends for college credit by visiting <http://www.microsoft.com/learning/en/us/certification/college-credit.aspx#ace>.