optimize

program effectiveness

IDAHO Microsoft Imagine Academy

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]

For more than 20 years, Microsoft Certification has been the IT industry's most respected validation of skills.

Technology is everywhere. There is a need to provide students the appropriate business software and technology skills necessary in every day life, whether it is basic computer 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)[2]. 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:

- 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
- demonstrate their skills on the latest technologies
- chart a career development path for ongoing advancement of Microsoft technology skills

The global standard in Microsoft Office 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 in business, 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.

The first step to a career in IT

For students considering a career in information technology, **Microsoft Technology Associate (MTA)** certification is the first step. MTA certification validates a student's knowledge of technology fundamentals, and helps them stand out when submitting college and internship applications. MTA proves their understanding of a variety of entry-level technology concepts.

Microsoft

MCSA MCSE MCSD MCSM

Microsoft Technology Associate

Microsoft CERTIFIED Solutions Master

Microsoft Technology Certification: A clear path to success

Attract new students by offering certification on the latest technologies. 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 MTA

Microsoft Technology Associate (MTA) certification is an optional first step to progressing on to more technical certifications. The MTA certification validates core technology concepts in infrastructure, database and development.

Progress with MCSA

Microsoft Certified Solutions Associate (MCSA) validates deeper skills on Microsoft technology and is a prerequisite for becoming an MCSE.

Earn your MCSE or MCSD

Microsoft Certified Solutions Expert (MCSE) and Developer (MCSD) certifications are the global standards for IT excellence and distinguish individuals with deep expertise.

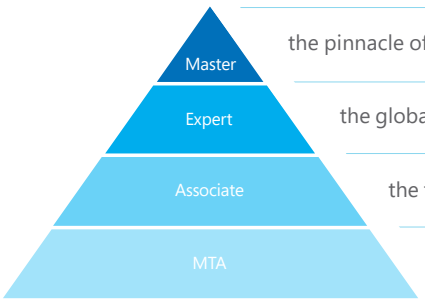
Microsoft Certifications complement institution curriculum, programs and reputation. Through certifications, educators can help students get recognized by peers and hiring managers.

Resources

The Microsoft IT Academy program provides all the curriculum and lab resources an educator needs to prepare students for certification. To learn more about the resources available visit, www.microsoft.com/itacademy

Microsoft Technology Certification Tracks

Note that MTA is recommended—but not required— for the Associate or Expert levels MCSA certification.



the pinnacle of distinction for experienced IT professionals › **Microsoft Certified Solutions Master (MCSM)**

the globally recognized standard for IT excellence › **Microsoft Certified Solutions Expert (MCSE), Developer (MCSD)**

the foundation for your career in Microsoft technology › **Microsoft Certified Solutions Associate (MCSA)**

the gateway to technology careers and certification › **Microsoft Technology Associate (MTA)**

Microsoft Office Certification Tracks

the pinnacle of recognition for Microsoft Office suite proficiency › **Microsoft Office Specialist—Master**

the authority in advanced Microsoft Office functionality › **Microsoft Office Specialist—Expert**

the recognized standard for proven Microsoft Office skills › **Microsoft Office Specialist**

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

[1] 2010 MCP Program Satisfaction Study
[2] 2010 report from the market research firm, Gartner

Microsoft