

# Microsoft IT Academy

EMPOWERING ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS TO HELP STUDENTS ACHIEVE INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED SKILLS AND REACH THEIR HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAREER POTENTIAL THROUGH HIGH-QUALITY TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION.

## TRAIN STUDENTS IN SKILLS REQUIRED BY TODAY'S COLLEGES AND CAREERS

Skills that enable them to collaborate, communicate, and be critical thinkers, innovators, problem solvers and citizens of a global economy. More than 50% of today's jobs require some technology skills, and experts say that percentage will increase to 77% in the next decade (source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics).

Several studies suggest there will be a significant gap in the next 5 to 10 years between the demand for and supply of IT professionals with the right technical skills (source: IDC). IT employment will rise by 5.8 million jobs in 4 years; and 51% of total IT employment will be software related; creating 75K new businesses (source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics).

"The power behind the Microsoft IT Academy Program name has helped us recruit more quality students, which allows us to do what we do best: train them."

— Professor Terry Hand

Ogeechee Technical College, Statesboro

Technical skills are key to the prosperity of nations and to better lives for individuals in the 21st century. These skills contribute to economic growth both directly, through increased productivity, and indirectly, by creating greater capacity to adopt new technologies, ways of working, and to spur innovation (source: OECD 2011).

Microsoft IT Academy is designed to support the development of skills that will help students succeed in future school, life and work.

## MEANWHILE, TEACHERS NEED A FLEXIBLE SOLUTION FOR TEACHING IT SKILLS...

that meets the needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century workplace. Teachers need to engage their students by differentiating instruction. And despite shrinking budgets, teachers need professional development to keep pace with industry demands and trends.

# THE MICROSOFT IT ACADEMY PROGRAM IS A COMPLETE TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION SOLUTION...

connecting students, teachers, employers and local communities through a life-long learning model of leading-edge technology skills development.

IT Academy was developed to bridge the gap between education and the real-world by equipping students with the IT skill sets they need for college as well as successful careers in today's technology centered job market, and by providing professional development resources for educators.

"In today's economy, providing the Microsoft IT Academy to high school students just makes sense"

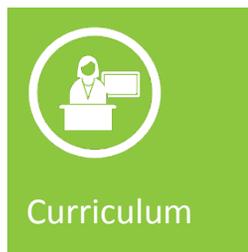
— Jane Atkinson

North Carolina State Superintendent

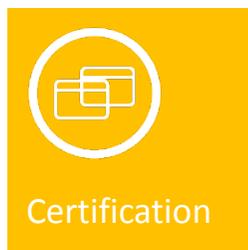
Membership is open to public or private K-12/primary and secondary schools, vocational schools, correspondence schools, junior colleges, colleges, universities, or scientific/technical schools that are institutionally accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education.

## MICROSOFT IT ACADEMY PROGRAM BENEFITS

Join the IT Academy Program to engage students with innovative courses and learning tools. IT Academy offers basic technology skills that will help them throughout their education and career as well as technical courses for those interested in IT careers after graduation.



IT is one industry that continues to thrive despite the current economic climate; there is a global need for people highly skilled in Microsoft technologies. Our world-class Microsoft IT Academy curriculum will help you offer the hands-on skills and experience that today's graduates need to succeed in technology careers. The IT Academy program enables classroom and online learning, hands-on labs, and access to hundreds of courses, books, cutting-edge resources, and collaboration tools.



Educators and other staff members have the opportunity to improve their own knowledge base with complimentary resources and online courses, plus discounted software and certifications.

Find out more



The Microsoft IT Academy provides students with the future ready technology skills they need to be successful in college and in their career. Visit [www.microsoft.com/itacademy](http://www.microsoft.com/itacademy) to find out more.