

IT PROFESSIONAL+ CERTIFICATE

Total Credits: 16

Catalog Edition: 2026-2027

Program Description

This career certificate is designed to provide students with technical understanding of computer technology, networking and security, as well as the communication skills and professionalism required of all entry-level IT professionals. Skills included software and hardware installation, network configuration and diagnosing, and preventive maintenance and security fundamentals. This certificate program is more of a "hands-on" orientation focused on scenarios in which troubleshooting and tools must be applied to resolve problems. It also prepares students to take professional CompTIA A+, Linux +, Network+, and Security+ certificates. **This program can be completed either on campus or online.**

Program Outcomes

Upon completion of this program, a student will be able to:

- Demonstrate solid foundation skills and competency in a range of microcomputer hardware and software configuration and troubleshooting techniques.
- Demonstrate safe practices in the use of microcomputer hardware and software.
- Demonstrate ability, verbally and in writing, to think critically and analyze network structures.
- Demonstrate problem solving that employs technical skills and comprehension of networking with application to current industry.
- Demonstrate and employ the skills and concepts used to secure networks.
- Demonstrate constructive and organized work habits.

Program Advisors

- **Email:** networkingprogram@montgomerycollege.edu
- **Phone:** 240-567-2438

For more information, please visit <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/academics/programs/network-and-wireless-technologies/it-professional-plus-certificate.html>

2026-2027

Program Advising Guide

An Academic Reference Tool for Students

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Program Requirements

A suggested course sequence for full-time students follows. All students should review this advising guide and consult an advisor.

Program Requirements

NWIT 127 - Microcomputer Essentials *3 semester hours*

NWIT 170 - Network and Cloud Infrastructure *3 semester hours*

OR

NWIT 151 - Introduction to Networking *3 semester hours*

NWIT 173 - Network Security *3 semester hours*

CMSC 253 - UNIX/LINUX System Administration *4 semester hours*

NWIT or CMSC Elective *3 semester hours*

Total Credit Hours: 16

This program can be completed either on campus or online.

Transfer Opportunities

Montgomery College has partnerships with multiple four-year institutions and the tools to help you transfer. To learn more, please visit <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/transfer> or <http://artsys.usmd.edu>.

Get Involved at MC!

Employers and Transfer Institutions are looking for experience outside the classroom.

MC Student Clubs and Organizations: <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/life-at-mc/student-life/>

Related Careers

Some require a Bachelor's degree.

Computer Systems Analyst, Computer Programmer, Software Developer, Network and Computer Systems Administrator, Computer Network Architects, Software Quality Assurance Engineer and Tester.

Career Services

Montgomery College offers a range of services to students and alumni to support the career planning process. To learn more, please visit <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/career>

Career Coach

A valuable online search tool that will give you the opportunity to explore hundreds of potential careers or job possibilities in Maryland and the Washington D.C. metropolitan area. Get started today on your road to a new future and give it a try. For more information, please visit <https://montgomerycollege.emsicc.com>

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