



## The Value of IT Certifications

In an increasingly competitive marketplace, it's harder than ever for job candidates to impress their employers. Gaining industry-recognized certifications can help differentiate yourself in a challenging job market.

It's essential for aspiring IT Students, like yourself, to validate your skills and add valuable credentials to your resume.

### WHY GET CERTIFIED?

The opportunity for students pursuing an IT career is enormous. In Q2 2014 there were more than 648,000 IT jobs open in the US.

Yet many businesses are struggling with IT hiring due to large skills gaps in the workforce. Employers are disparately seeking skilled IT professionals. Close to 85% of IT job postings currently list certification as a requirement.

As a certified individual, you can distinguish yourself with proof that you have the specialized skills employers are seeking.

CompTIA IT certification can grant you:

1. A competitive edge in a highly technical job market
2. Heightened career advancement opportunities
3. Increase in salary
4. College credit

*"For an entry level position, we look for the technicians to possess the CompTIA A+ certification. Without that we aren't even granting them an interview."*

ANGEL PINEIRO, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT,  
ASI SYSTEM INTEGRATION, INC.

### 1. A COMPETITIVE EDGE

As a certification holder, you can distinguish yourself from the competition with proof that you have specialized skills.

More than 7 in 10 HR professionals say that IT certifications will grow in importance over the next two years.

As part of the *CompTIA IT Training and Certification study*, certified individuals reported that:

- It helped them get a foot in the door for an interview. (80%)
- It helped them with future promotion/career opportunities. (75%)

*"If you can put certification on your resume, you'll have a competitive advantage over another individual who doesn't have it."*

MARK MILTON, DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE SERVICES/  
CAREER ACADEMY, GOODWILL INDUSTRIES

## 2. CAREER ADVANCEMENT

IT certifications make you more competitive and employable. In addition they help verify your skills, paving the way for career advancement.

- 44% of those earning CompTIA certifications were preparing for career advancement.
- 8 in 10 employers reward their staff after certifying with a salary increase, public recognition, bonus, or promotion.



## 3. SALARY INCREASE

Having an IT credential makes you more valuable, increasing your chances for earning more than non-certified individuals. For example, 32% of CompTIA certified professionals receive a salary/pay increase, promotion or some other type of reward from their employer for achieving certification.

Notable average salaries for CompTIA certified employees include:

- CompTIA Network+	\$74,644
- CompTIA Project+	\$80,354
- CompTIA Cloud+	\$99,071

Professional IT certifications significantly enhance your earning potential.

- High school graduates with a professional certification have median earnings **22% higher** than high school graduates without.
- Associate degree holders with a certification have median earnings **18% higher** than those without.

*"As soon as I received the CompTIA A+ certification, I got multiple job offers."*

BRYANT NOVAS, FIELD TECHNICIAN

## 4. COLLEGE CREDITS

Many schools offer college credit for CompTIA certifications. If so, you can save time and money. Check to see if this applies to your course of study.

*"Passing the exam made it possible for me to earn 17 college credits."*

CHRISTIAN JOHNSON, A+ CERTIFIED STUDENT

## WHY CompTIA

As the global IT industry association, CompTIA builds certifications that show employers a person has the skills to do the job. CompTIA certifications are a trusted global credential. The vendor-neutral certifications allow individuals to work on a wide variety of hardware and software. Built with the knowledge of experts and industry leaders, CompTIA certifications are a great choice when choosing an IT career path.

## LEARN MORE

For more information about the value of IT certifications and how to earn them, visit [Certification.CompTIA.org](https://www.certification.comptia.org)

### Sources

Burning Glass Technologies *Labor Insights*, 2014

CompTIA's *2nd Annual IT Career Insights study*

CompTIA *Employer Perceptions of IT Training and Certifications*

CompTIA *IT Employment Snapshot- Q2 2014*

Global Knowledge, January 2012

www.census.gov - *Measuring Alternative Educational Credentials*, January 2014

