

THE CISCO NETWORKING ACADEMY PROGRAM



A survey conducted by *Certification Magazine* of more than 19,000 certified IT professionals from 136 countries concluded the following:

“Investing in learning specialized job skills, and validating those skills by passing certification tests, can lead to career advancement, even when the economic outlook for hiring is bleak.”

Cisco Networking Academy® Program offers students and workers who want to expand their IT knowledge or consider a career in the high-tech industry valuable networking and IT skills. The Academy program offers courses online using the same high-quality Web-based format that has proven successful to more than one million students in more than 150 countries.

THE WORLD NEEDS A WORKFORCE WITH IT SKILLS

If you are reading this, you like to stay current with new learning opportunities that prepare you for future challenges. You, better than anyone, know that IT is an integral element in everyone’s life.

There is a worldwide demand for networking and Internet skills and only a limited number of people who have the needed qualifications. As the global economy expands, the number of IT-related jobs increases. Companies in all types of industries worldwide will need employees with IT skills.

IDC (forecasting IT growth for 2004 to 2008) predicts IT spending will increase by 35.2 percent worldwide over a five-year period*. This is a positive indicator that a progressive IT education can be highly valuable as potential employers look for candidates with skills in the latest foundation and integrated advanced technologies.

Even if you are not planning a career in IT, introductory courses such as HP IT Essentials are good starting points for nontechnical professionals to build a base of knowledge about networking, the Internet, and math that can enhance careers and marketability.

PASSPORT TO A REWARDING IT CAREER

The Cisco Networking Academy Program is your path to an IT-related career. Combining instructor-led and online education with hands-on laboratory exercises, the Networking Academy program prepares you for employment opportunities in the real world. Increasing your knowledge and expanding your skills prepares you to take advantage of future career opportunities.

In a recent worldwide survey of former Academy students who had completed at least one Academy course, approximately 67 percent said that their participation in the Networking Academy program helped them gain at least one job position. In addition, about 20 percent said they received a better or higher status job. Other career opportunities validated by students included starting an IT or non-IT business, meeting influential IT contacts, obtaining additional industry certifications, and receiving awards or recognition in the IT-networking field because of their affiliation with the Networking Academy program.**

* source: IDC, *Worldwide Black Book*, Q2 2004.

** These results were based on a pilot exit survey conducted by Cisco Worldwide Education in April and May 2004. Only students who were 3 to 5 months out of a CCNR course completed the survey. Approximately 1500 students participated. The sample was taken from students worldwide but a slightly higher number of students in the United States participated compared to the overall U.S. population of CCNA students participating in the Academy Program.



As a Networking Academy student, you will be working toward Cisco, CompTIA, Sun, Panduit, or any combination of these industry-recognized certifications. These highly rated, globally recognized and respected certifications can benefit you, your family, and the community in which you live.

Because every student uses the same high-quality curricula and assessment programs, your Academy education is globally recognized. Not only will you be able to take advantage of opportunities within your home country, but you can travel worldwide and know that your skills are transferable.

PATH TO CONTINUED EDUCATION

The Networking Academy curriculum teaches a broad range of Internet technology skills, from planning and building networks to applying advanced troubleshooting techniques. Additional courses sponsored by IT industry leaders broaden the Academy program

offerings and provide you with more choices to improve your skills and marketability.

The program is designed to provide a strong foundation for higher education degree programs in electrical engineering, computer science, or management information systems. Past Academy students understand that the rigorous curriculum is a stepping stone to advanced IT coursework.

FIND A HIGH-TECH JOB AND STAY CONNECTED

Cisco understands that one of your main goals is starting a new career and offers job development programs to assist you. For example, some Academies work with community employers to sponsor field trips and job shadowing to give you an insider's view of how professionals work together and companies operate.

The Networking Academy program recognizes the importance of staying connected beyond the classroom and offers an alumni program for those who have successfully completed a full course of study. Alumni members have access to the Alumni Connection career development and job placement resources, as well as other benefits such as admission to global discussion boards where alumni can chat with other former Academy students and IT professionals worldwide.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the following Websites for more information:

Cisco Networking Academy Program Overview:
<http://www.cisco.com/go/netacad>

Course Catalog:
<http://www.cisco.com/go/academycourses>

Find an Academy Near You:
<http://locators.netacad.net/cnams/locators/AcademyClassLocator.jsp>



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