CCWA Information Technology Guide

Welcome to the Community College Workforce Alliance's

Information Technology Program

infotech@ccwa.vccs.edu

Read through this entire guide as it contains important information for successfully completing the IT-FastFoward program and earning your certification.

This guide is should be kept for future reference.

CCWA IT FastForward Responsibilities and Expectations

CCWA offers IT Credential courses with CompTIA, AWS and Python Programming. It is the student's responsibility to understand the expectations and responsibilities of FastForward and each course you are enrolled in. Tuition for IT classes includes all required material and exam voucher(s).

All students with little to no IT work experience will start with the CompTIA IT Fundamentals+ class. The IT team wants nothing more than for our students to succeed, therefore we have made this class the starting point for all students seeking to enroll and complete the IT Certification pathway. The CompTIA ITF+ class will help ensure your success in your IT continuing certification journey.

In agreeance with FastForward Grant funding, students agree to successfully complete the program they are registered for. Successful completion of program means the following:

- Attendance of at least 70% of all class scheduled hours. Students are expected to be present, on time and prepared to participate in classes.
  - As all sessions are recorded, it is highly advised that if you miss class to watch the recordings so you do not fall behind. Following-up with your instructor is required for missed class time.
- Completion of **ALL** assignments/labs provided by the instructor.
- Students must participate in class; such as discussions, assignments, labs and any other items assigned by the instructor.
- Exam attempt with results provided to IT team. Exams must be taken within the deadline provided for each class.
  - You are expected to schedule and take your certification exam(s) within the designated time frame set by the course. Research shows that students who take their exams within 15 days of their class end date have a much higher pass rate.

Student attendance is extremely important for student success. Students must attend a minimum of 70% of scheduled classes. Being more than 30 minutes late for class may result in an absence, please be sure to communicate with your instructor in advance of a tardy or absence from class. Be sure to communicate with your instructor on work you may have missed. Missing more than 70% of class could result in an unsuccessful completion of class.

All Information Technology classes include required materials for students to be successful in completion of the program. Instructors may include supplemental materials; however, these are supplemental and are not required.

Students must have a personal computer or laptop to complete CCWA Information Technology classes. Should you need a laptop, Brightpoint Community College does offer loaner laptops though the Library. Students must reach out to BCC's Library prior to registering for class to secure a laptop. Let the IT team know that you need a laptop, infotech@ccwa.vccs.edu and we will provide you with the Libraries contact information page.

CompTIA – e-materials, labs and Canvas are provided prior to the start of class. Physical books are available and may be picked up from any of our CCWA locations. Scheduling a pick-up is required infotech@ccwa.vccs.edu, as we may only have a limited number of books at certain locations.

- **Recommended Computer Hardware/OS for CompTIA classes (A+, Network+ and Linux+)**
    - Processor - I5 or greater processor
    - Installed Memory (RAM) - 16 GB of RAM or greater
    - Hard Disk Drive - 500 GB **SSD** Hard Drive or greater
- To check your computer to see if you meet the recommended computer hardware; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uacK-xbi7E4

AWS – e-materials and labs are provided by the instructor though the AWS/Canvas platform. Students are given access 24-48 hours prior to the start of class from the instructor.

Python Programming – e-materials, labs and access to Canvas are provided prior to start of class.

Earning a credential in Information Technology requires dedication and a serious commitment. Students will need to dedicate hours outside of scheduled class time for required reading and studying. Attendance of **Hands-On Training** sessions are strongly encouraged and are available for registration at no additional costs and self-registration is available on our website. Courses - Community College Workforce Alliance (augusoft.net). Hands-On Training sessions are currently held 1-2 times a month at the Brightpoint Midlothian Campus.

Brightpoint Midlothian Campus
CCWA – Elaides Hall 2nd floor
800 Charter Colony Parkway
Midlothian, VA 23114

Certification Exam Information- **ALL TEST SCORES** must be submitted to the IT Team. infotech@ccwa.vccs.edu

- Students will take their certification exam as directed by program schedule. Program schedule for each course will be provided in Canvas.
- The course exam(s) are taken through Pearson VUE and must be taken at an approved testing center or can be taken at home in a "live remote" setting. Exam details will be given to you, via email at completion of class. Please allow 24-48 hours to receive testing information.
  - Should you decide to test at home your **MUST** do a 'systems check' prior to scheduling the exam. A 'systems check' will ensure that you will be able to take your exam without issue. Failure to do so may result in loss of exam voucher.
    - https://home.pearsonvue.com/
  - Should you decide to test at Brightpoint Community College, you must follow their directions before you can schedule your exam.
    - https://www.brightpoint.edu/services/testing-center/
- One additional exam voucher may be given to students who provide their attempted exam results to the IT team within 30 days of the last day of class. More information about additional vouchers can be found under the certification information.
- Any student who does not take the exam prior to expiration will be responsible for paying their own exam fee. Additional exam vouchers may be purchased through CCWA.

Tips to be successful

- Start with the basic fundamental class; CompTIA IT Fundamentals+
- Time management
- Attend scheduled classes and ask questions
- Be organized
- Make a study plan. Plan out your week, each week
- Communicate with your instructor

Stay motivated and stick to it!

Earned certifications can count as **<u>Credit for Prior Learning</u>** towards an Associate's Degree at any Virginia Community College. A credential can be awarded as Credit for Prior Learning within 5 years of successfully completing the class and earning the credential. CCWA is the Workforce Division of Brightpoint and Reynolds Community Colleges and the following Credit for Prior Learning is specific for the following classes with each of the two colleges.

- CompTIA IT Fundamentals+
    - Brightpoint – ITE 221 – PC Hardware and OS Architecture (3 credits)
- CompTIA A+
    - Brightpoint – ITE 221 – PC Hardware and OS Architecture (3 credits)
    - Reynolds – ITN106 - Microcomputer Operating Systems (3 credits) or ITN107 - Personal Computer Hardware and Troubleshooting (3 credits)
- CompTIA Linux+
    - Brightpoint – ITN 170 – Linux System Administration (3 credits)
    - Reynolds – ITN170 - Linux System Administration (3 credits)
- CompTIA Network
    - Brightpoint – ITN 101 – Introduction to Network Concepts (3 credits)
    - Reynolds – ITN101 - Introduction to Network Concepts (3 credits)
- CompTIA Security+ -
    - Brightpoint – ITN 260 – Network Security Basics (3 credits)
    - Reynolds – ITN260 - Network Security Basics (3 credits)
- AWS Cloud Practitioner
    - Brightpoint – ITN 257 – Cloud Computing: Infrastructure and Services (3 credits)
    - Reynolds – ITN 257 - Cloud Computing: Infrastructure and Services (3 credits)
- AWS Solutions Architect Associate
    - Reynolds - ITN 254 - Virtual Infrastructure: Installation and Configuration (4 credits)

this information is subject to change based on the requirements of the credit programs

CompTIA IT Fundamentals+ Certification Course

Interested in a career in Information Technology but not sure where to start or if IT is right for you? Start here with the CompTIA IT Fundamentals+ course.

This introductory course provides foundational instruction for basic IT knowledge and skills. ITF+ focuses on the essential IT skills and knowledge needed to preform commonly used tasks by advanced end-users and entry-level professionals. The CompTIA ITF+ Certification is good for life and does not need to be renewed.

CompTIA ITF+ is a 30-hour class, is taught over Zoom by a live instructor with content held in Canvas and through the CompTIA e-learning material.   CompTIA ITF+ certification is the pre-requisite to the CompTIA certification pathway. This class does not have any pre-requisites.

CCWA Information Technology courses are very fast paced and will require additional study time outside of the scheduled class hours.

Structure of CompTIA IT Fundamentals+ class

- Weeks 1-4 or 6 cover content of course, classes are 2 to 3 nights/day per week for 26 total hours (classes that meet only twice a week will be a few weeks longer).
- Weeks 5-6 or 7-8 will have 1 night of review sessions, 2 hours each – all students must schedule their exams with in this time frame (classes that meet only twice a week will be a few weeks longer).
- Week 7 or 9, students will complete the exam and report the results to the CCWA IT team – infotech@ccwa.vccs.edu.
  - Should any student require an additional voucher, you must provide a copy of your exam results and be within 100 points of passing to be eligible. Maximum of 2 vouchers can be provided per student.

The CompTIA IT Fundamentals+ Certification course is a mandatory first step to the CompTIA Certification pathway. This class the starting point for all students seeking to enroll and complete the CompTIA Certification pathway as well as other IT certifications with CCWA and will help ensure your success in your IT continuing education path.   As the title suggests, Fundamentals, you cannot understand the acronyms and terms if you do not have a clear understanding of the fundamentals.

If you already hold the CompTIA ITF+ certification of have proven IT work experience, you may qualify for an exemption from this course. To qualify for the exemption, you will need to supply one of the following:

➢ Copy of CompTIA ITF+ Certification.
➢ Current job description with duties listed from employer.
➢ College transcript from an accredited institution in which basic computer classes were taken, with a minimum grade of a C or better.

Exam information

• The CompTIA IT Fundamentals+ exam focus on the knowledge and skills required to identify and explain the basics of computing, IT infrastructure, software development and database use.
• Exam is multiple choice, 60 minutes, maximum of 75 questions per exam. Passing score is 650 (on a scale of 0-900).
    o Should any student require an additional voucher, you must provide a copy of your exam results and be within 100 points of passing to be eligible. Maximum of 2 vouchers can be provided per student.
• Earned Certification never expires.

For a full description of the A+ certification and exams, visit the CompTIA® website at
https://www.comptia.org/certifications/it-fundamentals

CompTIA A+ Certification

The CompTIA A+ Certification is The Industry Standard for establishing a career in today's digital world. This certification emphasizing the technologies and skills IT professionals need to support a hybrid workforce.

CompTIA A+ is a 64-hour class, is taught over Zoom by a live instructor with content held in Canvas and through the CompTIA e-learning material. CompTIA A+ certification is the next step in the CompTIA certification pathway. This course covers hardware and software components to prepare students for entry-level positions in IT.

CCWA Information Technology courses are very fast paced and will require additional study time outside of the scheduled class hours.

Structure of CompTIA IT Fundamentals+ class

- Weeks 1-5 cover Core 1, Lessons 1-9, 3 nights/days per week
- Weeks 6-7 will have 1 night of review sessions, 2 hours each– all students must schedule their exams with in this time frame.
- Week 9 students will complete the Core 1 exam and report the results to the CCWA IT team –infotech@ccwa.vccs.edu.
    - Should any student require an additional voucher, you must provide a copy of your exam results. Maximum of 3 vouchers provided per student, 2 vouchers towards Core 1 if needed.
- Weeks 9-14 cover Core 2, Lessons 10-20, 3 nights per week
- Weeks 15-16 will have 1 night of review sessions, 2 hours each– all students must schedule their exams with in this time frame.
- Week 17 students will complete the Core 2 exam and report the results to the CCWA IT team – infotech@ccwa.vccs.edu
    - Should any student require an additional voucher, you must provide a copy of your exam results and be within 100 points of passing to be eligible. Maximum of 3 vouchers provided per student, with a maximum of 2 vouchers towards Core 1 or Core 2. Three vouchers cannot be used for 1 exam.

Pre-requisites are the CompTIA IT Fundaments+ Certification or have proven 9-12 months of IT experience. Students must supply **ONE** of the following for CompTIA A+ registration:

- ➢ Copy of CompTIA ITF+ Certification.
- ➢ Current job description with duties listed from employer.
- ➢ College transcript from an accredited institution in which comparable computer classes were taken, with a minimum grade of a C or better.

Exam Information

- Students must successfully complete 2 exams in order to earn the CompTIA A+ Credential.
- CompTIA A+ Core 1 Exam 220-1101, covers mobile devices, networking technology, hardware, virtualization and cloud computing.
    - Passing score is 675 (on a scale of 100-900)
- CompTIA A+ Core 2 Exam 220-1102, covers operating systems, security, software and operational procedures.
    - Passing score is 700 (on a scale of 100-900)
- Both Core 1 and 2 exams are multiple choice, maximum of 90 questions per exam, 90 minutes per exam. Should a student require a third exam voucher, they must be with 100 points of passing to eligible or need for Core 2 exam.
    - Should any student require an additional voucher, you must provide a copy of your exam results and be within 100 points of passing to be eligible. Maximum of 3 vouchers provided per student, with a maximum of 2 vouchers towards Core 1 or Core 2. Three vouchers cannot be used for 1 exam.

 For more information on the A+ certification and exams, visit the CompTIA® website @ https://www.comptia.org/certifications/a

Career Outlook – once you have successfully earned your CompTIA A+ certification, you may be eligible for some of the jobs listed below:

- ❖ IT Specialist
- ❖ Help Desk Technician
- ❖ Technical Support Specialist
- ❖ IT Server Technician
- ❖ Field Service Technician

Job growth in this field is above the national average at 28%.

For more information on the Career Roadmap for IT Support;
https://www.comptia.org/content/it-careers-path-roadmap/it-support-specialist

CompTIA Network+ Certification

The CompTIA Network+ Certification helps take your IT infrastructure knowledge to the next level, covering troubleshooting, configuring and managing networks.

CompTIA Network+ is a 44-hour class, is taught over Zoom by a live instructor with content held in Canvas and through the CompTIA e-learning material. CompTIA Network+ certification prepares students to support networks on any platform. CompTIA Network+ certification is also a step in the CompTIA Security+ certification pathway.

CCWA Information Technology courses are very fast paced and will require additional study time outside of the scheduled class hours.

Structure of CompTIA Network+ class

- Weeks 1-6 cover all content of course, typically 3 nights per week for 40 total hours
- Weeks 7-8 will have 1 night of review sessions, 2 hours each – all students must schedule their exams with in this time frame.
- Week 9, students will complete the exam and report the results to the CCWA IT team – infotech@ccwa.vccs.edu.
  - Should any student require an additional voucher, you must provide a copy of your exam results and be within 100 points of passing to be eligible. Maximum of 2 vouchers can be provided per student.

Pre-requisites are the CompTIA Fundamentals+ Certification or have proven 9-12 months of IT experience. Students are strongly encouraged to consider the CompTIA A+ Certification to ensure successful understanding of Network terminologies. Students must supply **ONE** of the following for CompTIA Network+ registration:

- Copy of CompTIA ITF+ Certification with CompTIA A+ Certification/Transcript.
- Current job description with duties listed from employer.
- College transcript from an accredited institution in which comparable computer classes were taken, with a minimum grade of a C or better.

Exam Information

- CompTIA Network+ Exam N10-008, network connectivity and maintaining documentation, basic data center, identifying performance and availability issues troubleshooting network infrastructure.

- Exam is multiple choice and performance-based questions, maximum of 90 questions, 90 minutes per exam. Should a student require a second exam voucher, they must be with 100 points of passing to eligible.
    - Passing score is 720 (on a scale of 100-900)
    - Should any student require an additional voucher, you must provide a copy of your exam results and be within 100 points of passing to be eligible. Maximum of 2 vouchers can be provided per student.

For more information on the Network+ certification and exams, visit the CompTIA® website @ https://www.comptia.org/certifications/network

Career Outlook – once you have successfully earned your CompTIA Network+ certification, you may be eligible for some of the jobs listed below:

- ❖ Network Support Technician
- ❖ Jr. Systems Administrator
- ❖ Tier II Support Technician
- ❖ IT Specialist
- ❖ Network Administrator

Job growth in this field is above the national average at 3%.

- For more information on the Career Roadmap for Network Specialist; https://www.comptia.org/content/it-careers-path-roadmap/it-networking-specialist

CompTIA Security+

The CompTIA Security+ is a global certification that validates the baseline skills necessary to perform core security functions and pursue and IT security career.

CompTIA Security+ is a 44-hour class, is taught over Zoom by a live instructor with content held in Canvas and through the CompTIA e-learning material. CompTIA Security+ certification is the most widely adopted ISO/ANSI-accredited early cybersecurity certification on the market. CompTIA Security+ is compliant with ISO 17024 standards approved by the U.S. DoD to meet directive 8140/8570.01-M requirements.

CCWA Information Technology courses are very fast paced and will require additional study time outside of the scheduled class hours.

Structure of CompTIA Security+ class

- Weeks 1-6 cover all content of course, typically 3 nights per week for 40 total hours
- Weeks 7-8 will have 1 night of review sessions, 2 hours each – all students must schedule their exams within this time frame.
- Week 9 students will complete the exam and report the results to the CCWA IT team – infotech@ccwa.vccs.edu
  - Should any student require an additional voucher, you must provide a copy of your exam results and be within 100 points of passing to be eligible. Maximum of 2 vouchers can be provided per student.

Pre-requisites are the CompTIA Fundamentals+ Certification or have proven 9-12 months of IT experience. Students are required to complete CompTIA A+ and or Network+ certification training class(es) to ensure successful understanding of Network and Security terminologies. CompTIA A+/CompTIA Network+ Certifications are NOT required to register, if you have earned them please forward. Students must supply **ONE** of the following for CompTIA Security+ registration:

- Copy of CompTIA ITF+ Certification and CompTIA A+ Certification/Transcript and/or Network+/Transcript or all of the aforementioned.
- Current job description with duties listed from employer.
- College transcript from an accredited institution in which comparable computer classes were taken, with a minimum grade of a C or better.

Exam Information

- CompTIA Security+ Exam SY0-601/SY0-701, assess security posture of an enterprise environment, awareness of applicable regulations and policies, identify, analyze and respond to security events and incidents.

- Exam is multiple choice and performance-based questions, maximum of 90 questions, 90 minutes per exam. Should a student require a second exam voucher, they must be with 100 points of passing to eligible.
  - Passing score is 750 (on a scale of 100-900)
  - Should any student require an additional voucher, you must provide a copy of your exam results and be within 100 points of passing to be eligible. Maximum of 2 vouchers can be provided per student.

For more information on the Security+ certification and exams, visit the CompTIA® website @ https://www.comptia.org/certifications/security

Career Outlook – once you have successfully earned your CompTIA Security+ certification, you may be eligible for some of the jobs listed below:

- ❖ IT Support Manager
- ❖ Security Administrator
- ❖ Tier II Support Technician
- ❖ Cybersecurity Analyst

Job growth in this field is above the national average at 253%.

- For more information on the Career Roadmap for Security Specialist; https://www.comptia.org/content/it-careers-path-roadmap/cybersecurity-specialist

CompTIA Linux+

CompTIA Linux+ ensures that IT professionals, software developers, cybersecurity engineers and penetration testers have the necessary skills to support today's tech systems.

CompTIA Linux+ is a 44-hour class, is taught over Zoom by a live instructor with content held in Canvas and through the CompTIA e-learning material. CompTIA Linux+ certification validates the competencies required of an early career system administrator supporting Linux systems. Linux supports cloud computing and is heavily used in AWS.

CCWA Information Technology courses are very fast paced and will require additional study time outside of the scheduled class hours.

Structure of CompTIA Linux+ class

- Weeks 1-6 cover all content of course, typically 3 nights per week for 40 total hours
- Weeks 7-8 will have 1 night of review sessions, 2 hours each – all students must schedule their exams within this time frame.
- Week 9 students will complete the exam and report the results to the CCWA IT team – infotech@ccwa.vccs.edu.
  - Should any student require an additional voucher, you must provide a copy of your exam results and be within 100 points of passing to be eligible. Maximum of 2 vouchers can be provided per student.

Pre-requisites are the CompTIA Fundamentals+ and A+ Certifications or CompTIA Network+ Certification or have proven 12 months of hands on experience with Linux servers. It is highly recommended that students looking to obtain the CompTIA Linux+ Certification, be certified in in A+, Network+ and Security+.

Students must supply **ONE** of the following for CompTIA Linux+ registration:

- Copy of CompTIA ITF+ Certification and CompTIA A+ Certification and/or CompTIA Network+ Certification.
- Current job description with duties listed from employer.
- College transcript from an accredited institution in which comparable computer classes were taken, with a minimum grade of a C or better.

Exam Information

- CompTIA Linux+ Exam XK0-005, covers an evolving job role that focuses more on how Linux powers the cloud. Exam includes cutting edge technologies that help automate and orchestrate business processes.
- Exam is multiple choice and performance-based questions, maximum of 90 questions, 90 minutes per exam.
  - Passing score is 720 (on a scale of 100-900)
  - Should any student require an additional voucher, you must provide a copy of your exam results and be within 100 points of passing to be eligible. Maximum of 2 vouchers can be provided per student.

For more information on the Linux+ certification and exams, visit the CompTIA®
https://www.comptia.org/certifications/linux

Career Outlook – once you have successfully earned your CompTIA Security+ certification, you may be eligible for some of the jobs listed below:

- ❖ Solutions Architect
- ❖ Network Administrator
- ❖ Data Scientist
- ❖ Linux Engineer
- ❖ Cloud Engineer

- For more information on the Career Roadmap for IT & Networking;
  https://www.comptia.org/content/it-careers-path-roadmap/it-support-specialist
  https://www.comptia.org/content/it-careers-path-roadmap/it-networking-specialist

Python Programming PCAP

In learning Python Programming, you will accomplish tasks related to the basics of programming in the Python language and the fundamental notions and techniques used in object-oriented programming. This is a two-part course; Python Essentials, Part 1 – PCEP Certified Entry-Level Python Programmer and the Python Essentials, Part 2 – PCAP Certified Associate in Python Programming.

Python Programming is an 84-hour class, taught over Zoom by a live instructor with content held in Canvas and through the OpenEDG e-learning material.   Python Programming PCAP certification is the start of pathway into software development testing and analytics. This course covers coding tasks related to the basics of programming in Python language and the fundamental notions and techniques used in object-oriented programming.

CCWA Information Technology courses are very fast paced and will require additional study time outside of the scheduled class hours.

Structure of Python Programming PCAP class

- Weeks 1-5 cover PCEP-Certified Entry-Level Python Programmer, typically 3 nights per week for a total of 38 hours.
- Weeks 6-7 will have 1 night of review sessions, 2 hours each. The PCEP exam is not proctored, you only need to set aside the day and time for the exam.
- Week 8 students will complete the PCEP exam and report the results to the CCWA IT team – infotech@ccwa.vccs.edu. Passing this exam will earn you a micro-credential.
- Weeks 9-13 cover PCAP Certified Associate in Python Programming, typically 3 nights per week for a total of 38 hours.
- Weeks 14-15 will have 1 night of review sessions, 2 hours each– all students must schedule their exams with in this time frame.
- Week 16 students will complete the PCAP exam and report the results to the CCWA IT team. –infotech@ccwa.vccs.edu
    - Should any student require an additional voucher, you must provide a copy of your exam results. Students will need to complete a Python Institute voucher request form and will need to wait 15 days before they can re-test.

Pre-requisites the CompTIA IT Fundaments+ Certification or proven IT work experience. Must have knowledge of Algebra. Students must supply **ONE** of the following for Python Programming registration:

➢ Copy of CompTIA ITF+ Certification.
➢ Current job description with duties listed from employer.
➢ College transcript from an accredited institution in which comparable computer classes were taken, with a minimum grade of a C or better.

Exam Information

- Students will complete 2 exams, PCEP-Certified Entry-Level Python Programmer and PCAP-Certified Associate in Python Programming, you <u>do not</u> have to pass PCEP exam in order to take the PCAP exam. Passing this exam will earn you a the PCEP Micro-credential.
- The Python Programming PCEP exam covers concepts like data types, functions, conditions, loops as well as Pythion programming language syntax.
  o Passing score is 70%
- The Python Programming PCAP exam covers intermediate-level coding tasks, design, develop, debug and execute, and refactor multi-mode Python programs.
- PCAP exam is single and multiple choice, 40 questions and 65 minutes.
  o Passing score is 70%
- Should any student require an additional voucher, you must provide a copy of your exam results, you must provide a copy of your exam results and be within 100 points of passing to be eligible. Students will need to complete a Python Institute voucher request form and will need to wait 15 days before they can re-test.

Career Outlook – once you have successfully earned your Python Programming PCAP certification, you may be eligible for some of the jobs listed below:

❖ Web Developer
❖ Junior Software Developer
❖ Data Analyst
❖ Tester

Job growth in Software and Web Development field is above the national average at 215%.

- For more information on the Career Roadmap for Software & Web Developers; https://www.comptia.org/content/it-careers-path-roadmap/software-and-web-developers

AWS Cloud Practitioner

Develop a fundamental understanding of the AWS Cloud platform. AWS Credentials are some of the most sought-after credentials in the industry. The AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner validates foundational, high-level understanding of AWS Cloud, services, and terminology.

AWS Cloud Practitioner is a 44-hour class, is taught over Zoom by a live instructor with content held in Canvas on the AWS Platform. The Cloud Practitioner Certification is a good starting point on the AWS Certification journey for individuals with no prior cloud experience switching to a cloud career or for line-of-business employees looking for foundational cloud literacy. AWS Cloud Practitioner certification validates the competencies required of an early career system administrator supporting Linux systems. This certification pairs well with CompTIA and PCAP-Python Programming certifications.

CCWA Information Technology courses are very fast paced and will require additional study time outside of the scheduled class hours.

Structure of AWS Cloud Practitioner class

- Weeks 1-6 cover all content of course, typically 3 nights per week for 40 total hours.
- Weeks 7-8 will have 1 night of review sessions, 2 hours each – all students must schedule their exams within this time frame.
- Week 9 students will complete the exam and report the results to the CCWA IT team. – infotech@ccwa.vccs.edu.
    - Should any student require an additional voucher, you must provide a copy of your exam results and be within 100 points of passing to be eligible. Maximum of 2 vouchers can be provided per student.

Pre-requisites CompTIA ITF+ Certification or Cloud IT work experience.
Students must supply one of the following for AWS Cloud Practitioner registration:

- CompTIA IT Fundamentals+ Certification
- Current job description with duties listed from employer.
- College transcript from an accredited institution in which comparable computer classes were taken, with a minimum grade of a C or better.

Exam Information

- AWS Cloud Practitioner, basic global infrastructure, architectural principals, basic security and compliance, identifying sources of documentation.
- Exam is multiple choice or multiple response questions, 65 questions, 90 minutes.
  - Passing score is 700 (on a scale of 100-1000)
  - Should any student require an additional voucher, you must provide a copy of your exam results and be within 100 points of passing to be eligible. Maximum of 2 vouchers can be provided per student.

Career Outlook – Earning this certification validates high-level understanding of AWS Cloud, services, and terminology. This certification serves as an entry point to a cloud career for candidates from non-IT backgrounds switching to cloud. Job listings requiring AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner have increased 84% (Oct 2021 - Sept 2022) per Lightcast™ October 2022. This certification is also ideal for line-of-business employees (sales, product management, project management, etc.) who want to gain cloud literacy and communicate more effectively with technical teams and customers. [AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner Certification | AWS Certification | AWS (amazon.com)](https://aws.amazon.com)

Once you have successfully earned your AWS Cloud Practitioner Certification, you may be eligible for some of the jobs listed below:

- ❖ Cloud Developer
- ❖ Cloud Software Engineer
- ❖ Cloud Systems Administrator

AWS Certified Solutions Architect - Associate

The AWS Solutions Architect certification is among the most valuable and highly sought-after cloud computing certifications in the world. AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Associate certification showcases knowledge and skills in AWS technology, across a wide range of AWS services.

AWS Certified Solutions Architect - Associate is a 70-hour class, is taught over Zoom by a live instructor with content held in Canvas on the AWS Platform. This certification focuses on the design of cost and performance optimized solutions, demonstrating a strong understanding of the AWS Well-Architected Framework.

CCWA Information Technology courses are very fast paced and will require additional study time outside of the scheduled class hours.

Structure of AWS Solutions Architect Associate class

- Weeks 1-12 cover all content of course, typically 3 nights per week for 66 total hours
- Weeks 13-14 will have 1 night of review sessions, 2 hours each – all students must schedule their exams within this time frame.
- Week 15 students will complete the exam and report the results to the CCWA IT team – infotech@ccwa.vccs.edu.
    - Should any student require an additional voucher, you must provide a copy of your exam results and be within 100 points of passing to be eligible. Maximum of 2 vouchers can be provided per student.

Pre-requisites are the AWS Cloud Practitioner Certification or AWS Cloud work experience. Familiarity with basic programming concepts would be highly beneficial.
Students must supply one of the following for AWS Solutions Architect registration:

- Copy of AWS Cloud Practitioner Certification.
- Current job description with duties listed from employer.
- College transcript from an accredited institution in which comparable computer classes were taken, with a minimum grade of a C or better.

Exam Information

- AWS Certified Solutions Architect - Associate, covers demonstrated knowledge of design secure architectures, design cost-optimized architectures, database solutions as well as AWS Identity and Access Management.
- Exam is multiple choice or multiple response questions, 65 questions, 130 minutes.
    - Passing score is 720 (on a scale of 100-1,000)

o   Should any student require an additional voucher, you must provide a copy of your exam results and be within 100 points of passing to be eligible. Maximum of 2 vouchers can be provided per student.

Career Outlook – Organizations need individuals with cloud skills to help transform their business. AWS Training and Certification delivered a 234% ROI, as quantified by Forrester, by upskilling your existing workforce.

*_The Total Economic Impact™ of AWS Training and Certification_, a commissioned study conducted by Forrester Consulting on behalf of AWS, May 2022_ [Cloud Computing Training & Classes - Training and Certification - AWS (amazon.com)](#)

Once you have successfully earned your AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Associate Certification, you may be eligible for some of the jobs listed below:

❖ Cloud Architect
❖ Cloud Developer
❖ Certified Solutions Architect
❖ Cloud Systems Administrator