

Overview

The Microsoft Certified IT Professional (MCITP) credential validates that an individual has the comprehensive set of skills necessary to perform a particular job role, such as database administrator or enterprise messaging administrator. MCITP certifications build on the technical proficiency measured in the Microsoft Certified Technology Specialist (MCTS) certifications. Therefore, you will earn one or more MCTS certifications on your way to earning an MCITP credential.

MCITP candidate profile

MCITP candidates are capable of deploying, building, designing, optimizing, and operating technologies for a particular job role. They make the design and technology decisions necessary to ensure successful technology implementation projects.

Why get certified?

Earning a Microsoft Certification validates your proven experience and knowledge in using Microsoft products and solutions. Designed to be relevant in today's rapidly changing IT marketplace, Microsoft Certifications help you utilize evolving technologies, fine-tune your troubleshooting skills, and improve your job satisfaction.

- Whether you are new to technology, changing jobs, or a seasoned IT professional, becoming certified demonstrates to customers, peers, and employers that you are committed to advancing your skills and taking on greater challenges. In addition, certification provides you with access to exclusive Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP) resources and benefits, including opportunities to connect with a vast, global network of MCPs.

Frequently Asked Questions



Q. [Is there a recertification policy for the MCITP credential?](#)

A. We no longer require a "refresh" or recertification of the MCITP credential within three years. To better meet our customers' needs, we now retire a certification when mainstream support for the related technology phases out. If you earned an MCITP certification before the policy change, no action is required—the updated policy applies to your certification, which will remain valid until mainstream support for the related technology ends.

Q. [Does MCSA equate to MCITP: Server Administrator and does MCSE equate to MCITP: Enterprise Administrator?](#)

A. No, not exactly. The MCITP on Windows Server 2008 certification requires a new skill set—in some cases, a more robust one—that differs from the skill set needed for MCSA and MCSE certifications.

- MCITP: Server Administrator certification covers more operations-related job skills than the MCSA certification.
- MCITP: Enterprise Administrator maps to an actual job role profile, whereas the MCSE certification does not. The latter combines technology and job skills.

Q. [Are the MCTS and MCITP certifications replacing the MCSA and MCSE credentials?](#)

A. No. The MCSA and MCSE certifications are not being replaced. There is no change to the Microsoft Windows 2000 Server and Windows Server 2003 tracks and certifications. The MCTS and MCITP certifications are for Windows Server 2008.

Q. [Am I a Microsoft Certified Professional \(MCP\) if I earn an MCITP certification?](#)

A. Yes and no. The term MCP is used both as a general term for all Microsoft Certified Professionals and as the name of a credential. As an MCITP, you become part of the Microsoft Certified Professional community, with access to all related benefits, information, and activities. You do not earn a credential titled "MCP." You should use the MCITP credential on your resumé and in business collateral, which

indicates your specialty and shows that you are a member of the MCP community.

Q. [How long will my certification be valid?](#)

A. All Microsoft Certified Technology Specialist (MCTS), Microsoft Certified IT Professional (MCITP), and Microsoft Certified Professional Developer (MCPD) certifications retire when Microsoft discontinues mainstream support for the related technology. After a credential retires, it still appears on your transcript but is listed as "inactive." In most cases, an upgrade path is available for people who have that credential, which allows them to demonstrate their skills on the newest version of the technology without completing all exams associated with the new credential. The following credentials will not be retired: Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer (MCSE), Microsoft Certified Systems Administrator (MCSA), Microsoft Certified Desktop Support Technician (MCDST), Microsoft Certified Database Administrator (MCDBA), Microsoft Certified Solution Developer (MCSD), and Microsoft Certified Applications Developer (MCAD).