CIT, COMPUTER INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATIONS, CERTIFICATE OF TECHNOLOGY

Overview

Are you interested in gaining a strong, all-around grasp of today's essential IT skills? Have you ever wondered how to install and manage computer hardware, configure operating systems, or even explore the fundamentals of networking, security, and cloud technologies? If so, San Jacinto College's Information Technology Foundations Certificate of Technology can set you on the right track. This program delivers a broad survey of critical IT disciplines, equipping you with the core knowledge and practical experience you need to launch a successful career or continue into more advanced, specialized IT certifications and degrees.

The San Jacinto College Information Technology Foundations program:

- Provides a well-rounded introduction to IT and will help you build a strong technical foundation by exploring essential concepts in hardware, operating systems, networking, virtualization, security, and introductory programming/scripting.

- Offers hands-on learning experiences allowing you to practice setting up computer systems and configuring virtual environments to gain practical skills that can be directly applied to real-world IT roles.

- Prepares you for industry-recognized certifications such as CompTIA A+ and Microsoft Certified Fundamentals.

- Sets the stage for further for seamless transition into specialized certificates or associate degrees in areas like cybersecurity, cloud administration, or network administration, or the Bachelor of Applied Technology in Information Technology Cybersecurity.

Career opportunities

The Information Technology Foundations Certificate of Technology offers an excellent starting point for further studies leading to a variety of entry-level IT careers, such as:

- IT Support Specialist
- Help Desk Technician
- Computer Support Technician
- Junior Network Technician
- Junior Systems Administrator

Earning Potential

IT Support Specialist (https://www.salary.com/research/salary/listing/it-support-specialist-salary/houston-tx/): $137,584 per year[1]

Computer Support Technician (https://www.salary.com/research/salary/offering/computer-support-technician-salary/houston-tx/): $61,051 per year[1]

[1] Source: salary.com (https://www.salary.com/), average salary for Houston, Tx as of May 1, 2025

For more information, students may contact Central Campus, 281-991-2608; North Campus, 281-998-6350, x7242; or South Campus, 281-922-3424.

CAMPUSES

Central Campus

North Campus

South Campus

Information

The Information Technology Foundations Certificate of Technology is designed for students seeking a broad, versatile introduction to IT concepts and skills that are foundational to today's technology landscape. This certificate can typically be completed in two semesters, and for students who have prior industry certifications or experience in IT, it may be possible to complete the program even sooner. It is recommended that students begin with this foundational certificate before pursuing more advanced programs like the Cloud Administration or Cybersecurity Certificates of Technology, as many of the courses provide essential groundwork and apply toward other CIT certificates, associate degrees, and bachelors degrees.

The Information Technology Foundations curriculum provides students with both theoretical knowledge and hands-on technical skills necessary for entry-level roles in IT and related fields. The program emphasizes a well-rounded approach to key IT disciplines, preparing graduates for a variety of career pathways or further studies. This certificate focuses on:

- Building technical skills in hardware and software support to install, troubleshoot, and maintain computer systems and basic networks.
- Developing an understanding of operating systems and integrated software applications for practical business environments.
- Introducing students to networking, cybersecurity, and cloud computing fundamentals, providing insight into the technologies driving modern IT infrastructures.
- Equipping students with basic programming and scripting skills, fostering problem-solving abilities applicable across IT roles.

The Information Technology Foundations Certificate of Technology provides a solid stepping stone for those new to IT or seeking to expand their foundational skills. Graduates may pursue entry-level IT positions or continue into advanced certifications and degree programs to

specialize in fields such as cybersecurity, network administration, or cloud computing.

The skills gained through this certificate prepare graduates for a variety of entry-level IT roles, including:

- IT Support Specialist
- Help Desk Technician
- Computer Support Technician
- Junior Network Technician
- Junior Systems Administrator

Graduates can expect to find opportunities across diverse industries that rely on IT expertise, such as education, healthcare, finance, and technology.

If your selected courses or program of study include clinical, practicum, externship, or cooperative learning components at external sites, you must meet all immunization or policy requirements outlined by the host facility. These requirements are determined by the external site's independent authority rather than by San Jacinto College. Failure to comply with these requirements can prevent you from completing your required external learning experiences and may delay graduation. Students seeking exemptions must address these directly with the external facility, as San Jacinto College does not process immunization exemptions.

By choosing the Information Technology Foundations Certificate of Technology, you take the first step toward building a successful career in IT. Whether you are exploring IT for the first time or looking to strengthen your foundational knowledge, this program offers the essential training and practical experience needed to advance in today's technology-driven job market.

Plan of Study

4IT-FNDLS

First Year

First Term		Credits
ITSC 1325	Personal Computer Hardware	3
ITSC 1305	Introduction to PC Operating Systems	3
ITSC 1309	Integrated Software Applications I	3
ITNW 1325 or ITCC 1314	Fundamentals of Networking Technologies or CCNA 1: Introduction to Networks	3
ITSE 1329	Programming Logic and Design	3
	Credits	**15**
Second Term		
ITSY 1342	Information Technology Security	3
ITNW 1309	Fundamentals of Cloud Computing	3
ITNW 1313	Computer Virtualization	3
ITSE 1359	Introduction to Scripting Languages	3
	Credits	**12**
	Total Credits	**27**

Capstone Experience: ITSC 1325 Personal Computer Hardware