

CIT, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST, ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE



Information

The Information Technology Specialist Associate of Applied Science (AAS) program is designed for students seeking comprehensive skills to build, support, and manage IT systems in today's dynamic technology landscape. This degree program can typically be completed in four semesters, and for students who already hold industry certifications such as CompTIA A+, Network+, or Server+, it may be possible to finish even sooner. It is generally recommended that students complete the 27 semester credit hour Computer Information Technology (CIT) Foundations Certificate of Technology before enrolling in this program, as many of those courses provide essential groundwork and apply toward this degree, as well as other CIT certificates and advanced programs like the Bachelor of Applied Technology (BAT).

The Information Technology Specialist AAS program equips students with advanced technical knowledge and practical experience in IT, preparing them for specialized roles depending on their chosen area of focus. After completing foundational courses, students can choose one of three specializations to tailor their education to their career goals:

- **Systems Administration:** Focused on managing IT systems, servers, and virtualization technologies to ensure operational efficiency and reliability.
- **Cloud Administration:** Emphasizing cloud-based infrastructure deployment, management, and optimization, with platforms like AWS and Microsoft Azure.
- **Cisco Networking and Security:** Specializing in network design, implementation, and security using Cisco technologies and certifications.

This program places special emphasis on:

- Configuring and maintaining IT systems, servers, and networks to ensure security and reliability.
- Supporting advanced IT environments, including virtualization and cloud computing platforms.
- Gaining experience in IT project management and incident response to address real-world challenges effectively.
- Preparing for industry-recognized certifications, including CompTIA A+, CompTIA Network+, CompTIA Security+ and more.

The Information Technology Specialist AAS degree provides a direct pathway to a variety of IT careers. Upon completion, students may qualify for positions such as:

- IT Support Specialist
- Systems Administrator
- Cloud Support Specialist
- Cisco Network Administrator

Graduates will find opportunities in industries that require robust IT systems and infrastructure management, including healthcare, finance, education, government, 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 Specialist Associate of Applied Science, you gain a versatile and comprehensive education that prepares you to succeed in a variety of IT roles. Whether you are looking to launch a new career or build on existing skills, this program positions you for success in the evolving world of information technology.