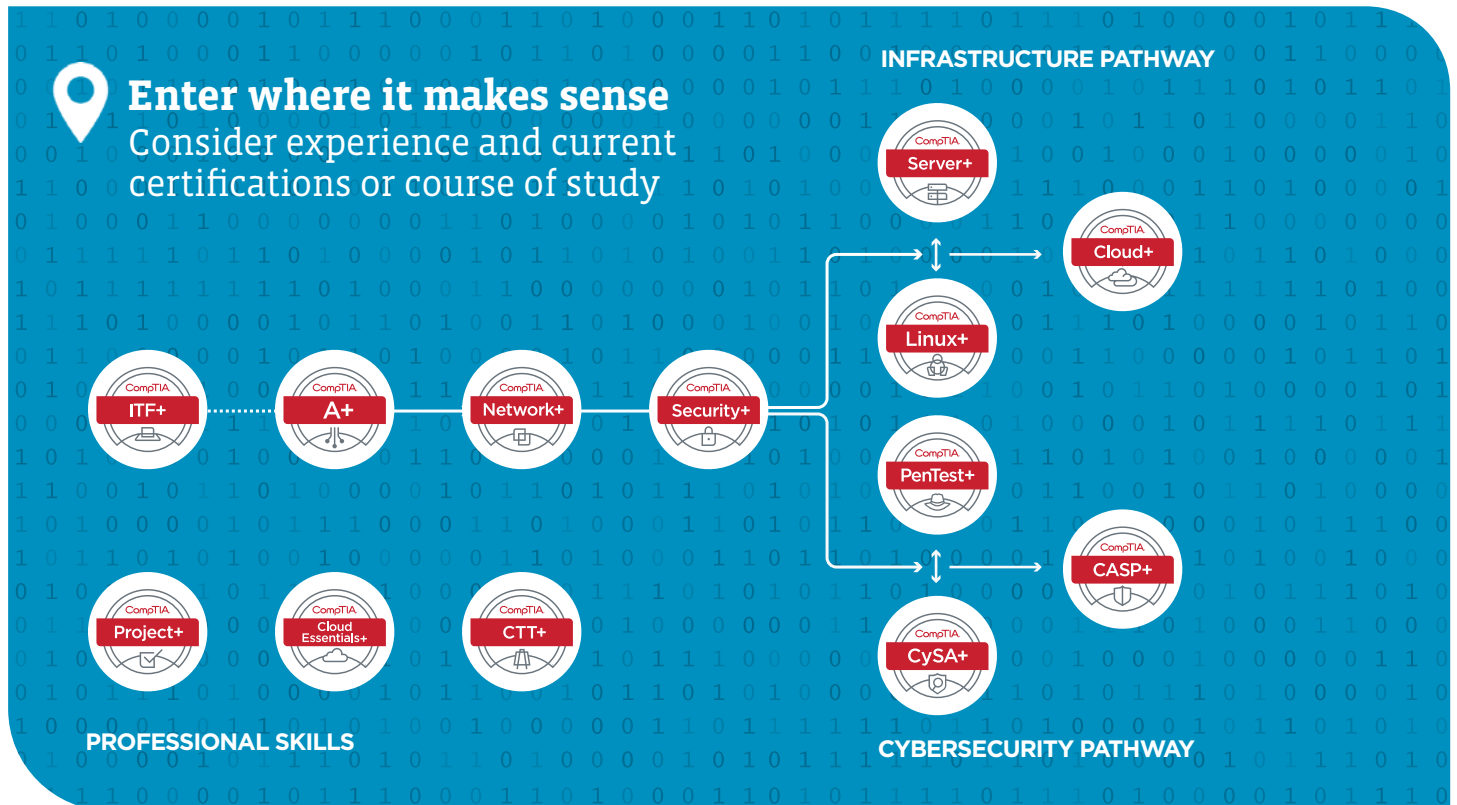


Introducing the CompTIA Career Pathways

A vendor-neutral pathway for IT professionals to achieve infrastructure and cybersecurity mastery, from beginning to end.



Core Skills Certifications

CompTIA's core IT skills certifications level the playing field and lay the foundation for a successful career in IT, no matter what path you take.

Infrastructure Pathway

IT infrastructure is the bedrock of IT operations and necessary for any business to function.

Cybersecurity Pathway

The CompTIA Cybersecurity Career Pathway helps technical specialists achieve cybersecurity mastery, from beginning to end.

Additional Certifications

CompTIA's professional skills certifications cover versatile skillsets that help take your career to the next level.

In general, the pathways follow a hierarchy of skills needed for a career in IT security or infrastructure; each certification builds upon the skills from the previous one. CompTIA certifications mirror the current job roles of IT professionals, so it makes sense to earn these certifications to gain the knowledge and hands-on skills currently being used in the workforce, whether you have job experience or not.

If you are an IT professional or an employer, you understand the value of on-the-job experience. IT certifications are a great place to start, but they are not a replacement. If you have CompTIA certifications and on-the-job experience, you have the best of both worlds.

CompTIA CERTIFICATION PORTFOLIO

CERTIFICATION	COMPETENCIES	JOB ROLES
CORE CERTIFICATIONS		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Install software• Establish basic network connectivity• Identify/prevent basic security risks• Explain troubleshooting theory and preventative maintenance of devices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sales Associate• Account Manager• Marketing Specialist• Customer Support
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support basic infrastructure• Configure and support devices and peripherals• Implement data backup and management best practices• Demonstrate baseline security skills• Troubleshoot and problem solve support challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Field Service Technician• Help Desk Technician• Technical Support Specialist• Desktop Support Administrator• Service Desk Technician• Associate Network Engineer• Data Support Technician
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement enterprise-level wired and wireless network solutions• Identify and troubleshoot network performance issues• Harden networks against threats to mitigate security vulnerabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Junior Network Administrator• Datacenter Support Technician• Network Engineer• System Administrator• NOC Technician• Telecommunications Technician• Cable Technician
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assess security posture and implement security solutions• Monitor and secure hybrid environments, including cloud, mobile and IoT• Operate with an awareness of applicable laws and policies• Identify, analyze, and respond to security events and incidents	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Systems Administrator• Security Administrator• Security Analyst• Security Engineer
INFRASTRUCTURE CAREER PATHWAY		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Configure kernel modules, network parameters and virtualization technologies• Manage software and services• Understand best practices for permissions and authentication• Analyze system properties and processes• Troubleshoot user, application and hardware issues• Execute basic BASH scripts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Linux Administrator• Network Administrator• Technical Support Specialist• Web Administrator• Systems Administrator
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Install, configure, and manage server hardware and server operating systems• Implement proper server hardening and security controls• Successfully troubleshoot common server problems• Demonstrate an understanding of key disaster recovery, high availability, and backup concepts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Systems Administrator• Data Center Technician• Server Administrator• Network Administrator• Field Service Technician or Engineer• IT Technician• Data Center Engineer
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understand cloud architecture and design• Deploy cloud services and solutions• Successfully maintain, secure, and optimize a cloud environment• Troubleshoot common issues related to cloud management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sr. Systems Administrator• Systems Engineer• Cloud Engineer• Sr. Network Administrator• Sr. Network Engineer• Cloud Specialist• Cloud Project Manager

CompTIA CERTIFICATION PORTFOLIO

CERTIFICATION	COMPETENCIES	JOB ROLES
CYBER SECURITY CAREER PATHWAY		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Plan and scope a penetration testing engagementUnderstand legal and compliance requirementsPerform vulnerability scanning and penetration testing using appropriate tools and techniques, and then analyze the resultsProduce a written report containing proposed remediation techniques, effectively communicate results to the management team, and provide practical recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Penetration TesterSecurity ConsultantCloud Penetration TesterWeb App Penetration TesterCloud Security SpecialistNetwork & Security SpecialistInformation Security EngineerSecurity Analyst
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Leverage intelligence and threat detection techniquesAnalyze and interpret dataIdentify and address vulnerabilitiesSuggest preventative measuresEffectively respond to and recover from incidents	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Security analystThreat intelligence analystSecurity engineerApplication security analystCompliance analystThreat hunter
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Architect, engineer, integrate, and implement secure solutions across complex environments to support a resilient enterpriseUse monitoring, detection, incident response, automation to proactively support ongoing security operations in an enterprise environmentApply security practices to cloud, on-premises, endpoint, and mobile infrastructure, while considering cryptographic technologies and techniquesConsider the impact of governance, risk, and compliance requirements throughout the enterprise	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Security ArchitectSenior Security EngineerSOC ManagerSecurity AnalystIT Cybersecurity Specialist/ INFOSEC SpecialistCyber Risk Analyst
PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Validates your skills in a traditional or virtual classroom environmentEnsures you can teach effectively and step up to the front of the class with confidenceDemonstrates that you have the necessary skills and knowledge to prepare, present, facilitate and evaluate a training session	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Training ConsultantTraining Developer/InstructorCareer TechnicalTraining InstructorAcademic Instructor
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Summarize the properties of project, phases, schedules, roles and responsibilities, and cost controls, as well as identifying the basic aspects of Agile methodologyPredict the impact of various constraint variables and influences throughout the project and explain the importance of risk strategies and activitiesUnderstand appropriate communication methods of influence and use change control processes within the context of a projectCompare and contrast various project management tools and analyze project and partner-centric documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Project Coordinator/ManagerProject Team MemberBusiness AnalystManagerDirectorTeam Leader
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Explain cloud principles, identify cloud networking concepts and storage techniques, and understand cloud design aspectsComprehend the financial aspects of engaging a cloud provider, as well as the business aspects of managing vendor relations in cloud adoptionsExplain aspects of operating within the cloud, such as data management, availability, and monitoringUnderstand how DevOps plays a role in cloud environments, such as with provisioning or API integrationUnderstand risk management concepts related to cloud services and identify the importance and impacts of compliance in the cloud	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Business Development staff that sell cloud servicesTechnical Sales SpecialistBusiness AnalystsBusiness Process OwnersTechnical Support Staff

LEARN MORE ABOUT STACKABLE CERTIFICATIONS

Stackable certifications demonstrate multiple CompTIA certifications have been earned and the certification holder has the knowledge and experience needed to grow in their IT career. Stackable certifications validate the skills of various IT roles and show a deeper mastery, opening up more job opportunities.

CompTIA Stackable Certifications follow the two CompTIA Career Pathways:

- **CompTIA Infrastructure Career Pathway**
- **CompTIA Cybersecurity Career Pathway**

CompTIA Stackable Certifications are categorized by experience level and certifications earned:

- **Specialist:** Early-career IT professionals with 0–2 years of experience
- **Professional:** Mid-level IT professionals with 2–5 years of experience
- **Expert:** Established IT professionals with more than 5 years of experience

STACKABLE CERTIFICATIONS

Infrastructure Career Pathway

Specialist



CompTIA IT Operations Specialist
(A+ / Network+)



CompTIA Systems Support Specialist
(A+ / Linux+)

Professional



CompTIA Cloud Admin Professional
(Network+ / Cloud+)



CompTIA Network Infrastructure Professional
(Network+ / Server+)



CompTIA Linux Network Professional
(Network+ / Linux+)

Cybersecurity Career Pathway

Specialist



CompTIA Secure Infrastructure Specialist
(A+ / Network+ / Security+)

Professional



CompTIA Secure Cloud Professional
(Security+ / Cloud+)



CompTIA Security Analytics Professional
(Security+ / CySA+)



CompTIA Network Vulnerability Assessment Professional
(Security+ / PenTest+)



CompTIA Network Security Professional
(Security+ / PenTest+ / CySA+)

Expert



CompTIA Security Analytics Expert
(Security+ / CySA+ / CASP+)



CompTIA Security Infrastructure Expert
(Security+ / CySA+ / PenTest+ / CASP+)

CompTIA

Learn more at [Certification.CompTIA.org](https://www.certification.comptia.org)