



7 most valuable IT certifications today



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Introduction

Lost in the sea of IT certifications?

In the constantly evolving tech landscape, staying up to date with the latest industry trends and technologies is a no-brainer. One of the best ways to do this is by obtaining IT certifications that demonstrate your expertise and knowledge in a particular area.



One survey found 63% of US companies with advanced tech utilization consider IT certifications to be valuable in their hiring process.¹ And, a Skillssoft report found IT professionals experience higher quality outcomes, faster resolution times, and sharper focus after earning a certification.²

So, if you haven't yet, now might be a good time to consider getting an IT certification. But with all the choices out there, which would be worth your time? That's why we've put together this eBook - to help you navigate the world of IT certifications and identify the most valuable ones for your career. We've researched and compiled a list of the top 7 IT certifications that are in high demand today.

Whether you're looking to enhance your skills in cloud computing, cybersecurity, or project management, this eBook will provide you with valuable insights and guidance on the certifications that matter most in today's tech industry.

So, if you're ready to take your career to the next level and stay ahead of the competition, let's dive into the world of IT certifications together!

1. Statista: Rating of value of IT certifications for validating skills and supporting hiring process in United States as of 2019

2. Skillssoft: IT Skills & Salary Report

Where and when can you most benefit from IT certifications?



So, you're interested in obtaining an IT certification - but you might wonder about the right timing and place where this can make the most impact. The answer is: in almost any stage of your career.

If you're looking for ways to increase your salary, earning IT certifications is one way. IT professionals with certifications tend to earn higher salaries than those without, having been able to make an immediate and meaningful impact in their jobs. A Global Knowledge report states that 20% of these people either received a raise or promotion after getting certified, as well as earning 8% more than the worldwide average if they hold six or more certifications.³ Additionally, certifications can help you stand out in a crowded job market and increase your chances of getting hired.

Whether you're just starting out in your career or have years of experience under your belt, IT certifications can help you improve your skills, advance your career, and stay relevant in a constantly changing industry. Here are some key moments in your career where obtaining an IT certification can be particularly beneficial:

Starting out

If you're new to the IT field, obtaining a certification can help you gain credibility and demonstrate your knowledge to potential employers.

Advancing your career

If you're looking to move up the ladder or transition to a new role, obtaining a certification can help you stand out among other candidates and demonstrate your qualifications.

Keeping up with industry trends

In a constantly changing industry, it's important to refresh your knowledge and learn the latest technologies and trends. Obtaining a certification can help you stay current and relevant in your field.

Changing industries

If you're looking to transition to a new industry or specialty within IT, obtaining a certification in that area can help you make the switch and demonstrate your expertise.

No matter where you are in your career, obtaining an IT certification can be a valuable investment in your future.

3. Global Knowledge: 2020 IT Skills and Salary Report

The IT skills that matter the most right now

Before you jump on to the first certification you come across, it's worth knowing the IT skills that are sought after in today's world and their relevance in the coming years. Things change fast, so it's hard to know what capabilities will matter in the long term, but it's worth keeping an eye on what businesses and organizations are looking for in terms of their tech initiatives and how you can contribute.

Cloud computing

As more and more businesses shift their operations to the cloud, expertise in cloud computing is becoming increasingly valuable. In fact, Gartner forecasted that spending on public cloud services is expected to reach nearly \$600 billion in 2023.⁴

Network

With the rise of remote and hybrid working, this meant organizations had to embrace wireless network infrastructure to enable seamless collaboration and communication between workers, wherever they are. Alongside the increasing importance of data security, network skills to build and manage these developments remain high in demand.

Programming

The ability to code and develop software is a foundational IT skill that continues to be highly sought after across all industries. Python, JavaScript, and C++ are just some of the languages that are consistently needed by organizations.⁵

AI and machine learning

As businesses seek to leverage data to gain a competitive advantage, expertise in AI and machine learning is becoming increasingly important. Currently, AI and ML specialist is the fastest-growing job, with employment growth estimated at around 39% between 2023 and 2027.⁶

Data analytics

Data is one of the most important resources a business can have. So, with the increasing amount of data being generated by organizations, expertise in data analytics is becoming more and more valuable. In the US alone, the number of data scientist roles is expected to grow 36% between 2021 and 2031, making it one of the fastest-growing occupations in the country.⁷

Cybersecurity

With the increasing prevalence of cyber threats and data breaches, cybersecurity expertise within organizations is a necessity. Cybersecurity Ventures projects that global costs of cybercrime will reach \$10.5 trillion by 2025.⁸

Project management

Finally, with numerous projects IT departments need to juggle at the same time, the ability to manage projects and teams is a crucial skill for IT professionals. A Project Management Institute report in 2021 predicted 25 million project professionals will be needed globally by 2030.⁹

By developing expertise in one or more of these areas, you can position yourself as a valuable asset to any organization.

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4. Gartner: Gartner forecasts worldwide public cloud end-user spending to reach nearly \$600 billion in 2023
 5. Indeed: 10 of the most in-demand coding languages and their uses
 6. World Economic Forum: Future of Jobs Report 2023
 7. US Bureau of Labor Statistics: Occupational Outlook Handbook
 8. Cybercrime Magazine: Cybercrime to Cost the World \$10.5 Trillion Annually by 2025
 9. PMI: Talent Gap: Ten-Year Employment Trends, Costs, and Global Implications

7 most valuable IT certifications today

In the previous section, we explored the top IT skills that are in high demand right now. Here are seven of the most popular IT certifications available today that you can use to refresh or enhance your knowledge in these subject matters.

1

Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL)

ITIL is a set of best practices for IT service management, helping align an organization's IT services with business needs. It's a global framework used by many enterprises, so holding this certification helps IT professionals demonstrate their expertise in ITIL concepts and practices.

2

PMP – Project Management Professional

The PMP certification is widely recognized as the gold standard in project management and was created by Project Management Institute. Currently, there are more than 1.2 million people globally with a PMP certification.

3

AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Associate

Amazon Web Services (AWS) is one of the most used platforms for designing and deploying cloud-based technology, so there is a great demand for IT professionals well-versed in this area. Getting this certification will undoubtedly enhance your career and showcase your expertise.

4

CISSP – Certified Information Systems Security Professional

If you want to delve into the world of information security, the CISSP certification is globally recognized in the field of cybersecurity. This provides a deep understanding of concepts within the field and the knowledge required to apply them in real-life situations.

5

Google Cloud – Professional Cloud Architect

Like the AWS certification mentioned earlier, this certification helps people demonstrate expertise in designing and managing cloud solutions, but on the Google Cloud Platform. Certification holders can then leverage the platform's many technical capabilities to achieve their organization's business goals.

6

VMware Certified Professional – Data Center Virtualization (VCP-DCV)

The VCP-DCV certification demonstrates expertise in VMware data center virtualization technologies. The ability to transform on-premises infrastructure through virtualization is beneficial for organizations looking to make the most of their existing technology.

7

Cisco Certified Network Professional (CCNP) Enterprise

The CCNP enterprise certification enables IT professionals to showcase their knowledge in designing and deploying enterprise-level networks using Cisco technologies. With companies having to adapt to changing demands, they'll need people that can manage and maintain their enterprise networks.

By earning one or more of these certifications, you can demonstrate your expertise in high-demand IT skills and stand out wherever you are in your IT career journey.



What's the right IT certification for you?

Choosing the right IT certification can be a daunting task, especially with so many options available. However, with careful consideration, you can make the right choice and take your career to the next level. Here are some tips to help you choose the right IT certification for you:

1 Consider your current role and future aspirations

Before selecting an IT certification, it's important to assess your current role and future career goals. Are you looking to specialize in a particular area, study a specific platform/tool or enhance your overall IT knowledge? Answering these questions can help you narrow down your options.

2 Research industry demand

We've touched upon some of the popular IT skills among businesses, but with the rapid pace of technology advancements, demands can shift quickly. It's important to keep an eye on what's happening not just in the IT world, but in the industry you're in or looking to be part of.

3 Assess your skillset

To get the most out of an IT certification, it's important to choose one that aligns with your existing skills. For example, if you have experience in cloud computing, then pursuing an AWS Certified Solutions Architect certification might be the best fit for you.

4 Look for relevant certifications

IT certifications are constantly evolving, and new ones are being added all the time. When selecting a certification, look for ones that are relevant to your industry and the specific skills you want to acquire.

5 Consider the certification's cost and requirements

IT certifications are constantly evolving, and new ones are being added all the time. When selecting a certification, look for ones that are relevant to your industry and the specific skills you want to acquire.

By considering these factors, you can choose the right IT certification that fits your needs and career goals. Remember, investing in your education and professional development is a smart way to stand out in a competitive job market and achieve success in your career.



Bonus: Sharpening service management skills

By now, you have a clear understanding of the benefits of getting certified, the most in-demand IT skills, and how to choose the right certification for your career goals.

But what's next? With companies increasingly spending time and money on building out capabilities to elevate the service experience, sharpening your knowledge in service management in conjunction can further increase your value in the job market.

Organizations are bringing all these technologies and IT skills together by leveraging IT Service Management (ITSM) best practices to streamline and improve other essential business processes and introducing Enterprise Service Management (ESM). Currently, about 70% of organizations starting or planning to launch ESM initiatives. And integral to the success of these initiatives is knowing how to utilize the right ITSM and ESM tools like IFS assyst.

IFS assyst is a comprehensive ITSM and ESM solution that streamlines IT operations, enhances service delivery, and improves end-user satisfaction.

Getting certified on a powerful system like IFS assyst not only strengthens your career portfolio but also enables you to drive real business value to your workplace.

Want to know more about IFS assyst? [Get started here.](#)

