Certification Success Guide

In this guide we'll cover everything you need to consider as you make a decision about getting certified. You'll discover the benefits of certification, how it validates, differentiates and ultimately compensates you for your IT skills.

Table of Contents

Introduction

Welcome to the Certification Success Guide. If you're interested in getting highly effective software skills training that will prepare you for certification, then please read on. In this guide we'll cover everything you need to consider as you make a decision about getting certified.

You'll discover the benefits of certification, how it validates, differentiates and ultimately compensates you for your skills.

However, certification is not an end in itself. When we're done speaking to the benefits of certification we'll explain how the slip of paper you earn isn't what truly matters. What truly matters is that certification should be a byproduct of competency. You must learn to perform tasks, not just pass tests.

And, if you believe as we do, that certification should be the result of true competency you'll learn how Hands On Technology Transfer, Inc. can help you on your way. We offer unparalleled flexibility and convenience. You can train at your site or at any of our regularly scheduled, open-enrollment classes in more than 75 cities across the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada. There are no penalties for rescheduling or switching study-tracks. We give you total control of when, where and what you study.

Our certification training classes include Microsoft, Java™ and Linux.

The Benefits of Certification

Why become certified at all? There are a number of reasons. Whether you're trying to further your career or break into a new one, certification validates the level of skill you've attained through experience and training. Certification helps to differentiate you when you're looking for a job. It helps keep your resume on top of the heap. And of course, there is the most obvious reason of all: the money. Of course, salary increases are also generally contingent upon an individual's competency and experience, which often goes hand in hand with certification.

Validation
Certification is the best way to earn official recognition of your new skill set, outside of going back to school for another degree. It may even be a better option for some.

We must emphasize that you need the experience to back those validators up. **Validation won't matter if you can't do the job once you've obtained it.**

Differentiation
Certification may well be the item on your resume that gets you a promotion or new job over the plethora of others jockeying for the position. Certifications help to quickly identify your areas of expertise and signal appropriate matches for job placement.

It's important to be savvy in the latest technologies and it may help to validate your knowledge with a certification. Multiple certifications may indicate and validate that you are competent in multiple technologies. Finally, certification testing can help identify previously undetected gaps in your skillset. By filling those gaps, you'll become a more well rounded and valuable employee.

Passing a Test vs. Preparing for a Career

HOTT training is never strictly product-oriented and we never "teach to exams." The goal is not to just prepare you to pass a test. We're preparing you to competently perform in an industrial environment and successfully complete complex tasks. **Certification should be a byproduct of competency.** If the tests are well constructed, then competent people will pass the tests.

When it comes to computer training, you need to develop true competence in new skills, not just receive an overview of syntax and techniques. A certification will be a meaningless slip of paper if you don't. It may get you in the door, but once you're in, you'll have to prove you can do what the slip of paper says. That's why **all of our training is task-oriented and employs hands on practice for at least 50% of the time in class**. Your experience in directly applying new skills leads to clarity, confidence and true competence.

Customers who have come to us after training disasters elsewhere often complain that the self-styled Certification Boot Camps they've attended provide as little as 30 minutes a day of facilitated hands-on practice, and use valuable class time to run through lengthy exam simulations.

We feel that boot camps should focus on making people competent. It's a disservice to claim that certification by passing a test will in and of itself change someone's career or make an industry better. Increased competence should be the goal. And when certification results from hands on, competency-based training, it truly means something.

Keeping It Simple

HOTT offers unparalleled flexibility and convenience when it comes to preparing you for certification. In addition to serving you at your location, we offer regularly scheduled open-enrollment classes at frequent intervals in more than 75 cities across the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada. And, at HOTT there are no penalties for rescheduling or switching study tracks. **You are in control of when, where and what you study.**

HOTT also strives to make every student comfortable within their newly learned skill-set. We want you to pass your exams, but we also want you to feel confident you can do the job once you have passed. Any student who is not confident of their grasp of the material has the option to retake all or part of the course again at no additional charge.

We don't charge extra for the word "certification" in the course track. Our certification tracks are software skills training courses so they're priced in accordance with our other software skills courses. That makes them anywhere from 15% to 40% less expensive than most certification offerings from other vendors. In fact, we guarantee to price match any comparable offering from other providers as part of our "unbeatable guarantees."

When deciding on a training provider, you want to compare total costs including tuition, travel and time away from work. HOTT concentrates on efficiency through condensed training. We take less time to teach you the skills you need to be effective on the job. To minimize travel costs, HOTT classes are offered at major metropolitan locations across North America. For those who cannot travel, we offer remote attendance with full duplex audio, video, and hands on lab support as the next best thing to being there. Remote attendees fully participate in live instructor-led classses, interacting with the instructor and the students who are sitting in the classroom.

Getting You There

Small Class Sizes

Large classes assure some students will not receive an excellent training experience. HOTT's open-enrollment classes are kept small, generally 8-12 students and never more than 16, assuring each student gets personal attention.

Quality Instructors

HOTT's instructors are experienced professionals, cross-trained in several technologies. They can relate the strengths and weaknesses of products and present alternative solution strategies when they are warranted. All of our instructors have years of industrial training experience (most have over ten years) as well as direct experience applying the technologies they teach in industrial environments.

Competence

True competence is achieved in technical training when every student performs tasks in the form of realistic, well-structured hands-on exercises, facilitated by an expert instructor. And, our instructors provide the opportunity to discuss how the topic at hand affects the student's own work. With HOTT, you'll receive a truly personalized training experience.

Cost Effectiveness

Our tuition fees remain among the lowest available for instructor-led IT training. **You pay no registration fees and no cancellation fees.** We minimize travel expenses with regularly scheduled, open-enrollment classes in more than 75 cities across the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom. You aren't required to take a multi-course track in a continuous block. You take the courses you want to take, at the pace you want. Our travel packages and remote attendance options allow you to attend training cost effectively no matter where you live.

We Build
Competence

GUARANTEED

50% Hands
On Labs

Certification Training Programs

Microsoft Certifications

Windows Administration Certification Training
▶ MCTS: Windows Server 2008 Active Directory Configuration
▶ MCTS: Windows Server 2008 Network Infrastructure
▶ MCITP: Server Administrator
▶ MCSA Windows Server 2008

SQL Server Certifications
▶ MCSA: SQL Server
▶ MCSE: Business Intelligence
▶ MCTS: SQL Server 2008, Implementation and Maintenance

.NET Certifications
▶ Programming in C# Specialist
▶ MCTS: .NET Framework 4 Windows Applications
▶ MCTS: .NET Framework 4 Web Application

SharePoint Certifications
▶ Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS): SharePoint 2010
▶ MCTS: Microsoft SharePoint 2010 Application Development

Web Development
▶ Programming in HTML5 with JavaScript and CSS3 Specialist

To learn complete details about Microsoft certification training please visit:
www.mcse-training-classes.com

Certification Training Programs   *cont'd*

Linux Certification Training
- LPI Level 1
- LPI Level 2
- Brainbench Linux Administration (General)
- Brainbench Linux Administration (SuSE)
- Brainbench Linux Administration Unix Korn Shell Scripting

To learn complete details about Linux certifications please visit:
www.hott-unix-linux-training.com

Java™ Certification Training
- Oracle Certified Associate, Java SE 7 Programmer
- Oracle Certified Professional, Java SE 7 Programmer
- Oracle Certified Professional, Java EE 5 Web Component Developer
- Oracle Certified Professional, Java EE 5 Business Component Developer
- Oracle Certified Professional, Java EE 5 Web Services Developer

To learn complete details about Java certifications please visit:
www.hott-java-certification.com

Conclusion

Certification is clearly beneficial, but is not an end in itself. You've read about the benefits. You've seen how a certification can validate, differentiate and compensate. And now you can see why certification training at HOTT is your best bet for a truly valuable experience and to achieve demonstrable results.

HOTT's certification training tracks emphasize a hands-on, task-oriented and skill-based approach. The most important aspect of any training curriculum is robust course content and quality delivery. HOTT courses are not simply product-based or certification-based. Our courses go well beyond normal certification tracks - meaning that you come out knowing how to perform useful job functions, not just pass tests.

Our certification training classes include Microsoft, Java and Linux. For a complete list of certification-related offerings from HOTT, visit www.traininghott.com and click on the Certifications tab. **Or, call 800-413-0939 and speak with a career counselor today.**

➡ Flexible scheduling in more than 75 cities across North America

➡ Small class sizes for personalized attention

➡ Instructors with extensive experience

➡ Money back satisfaction guarantee

➡ Development of real experience via significant hands on labs