

Assessment Tip Sheet
Information Technology Assessment Alternative
CompTIA Certification

Career Cluster: Information Technology

Programs: 11.0901 Computer Systems, Networking, and Telecommunications

Assessment Name: CompTIA A+

Assessment Description: CompTIA A+ certification validates understanding of the most common hardware and software technologies in business and certifies the skills necessary to support complex IT infrastructures. You must take (and pass) both exams from the same series, 901 and 902. Mixing exams from different series will NOT earn you the CompTIA A+ certification.

Test Vendor Website

Visit the [CompTIA website](https://certification.comptia.org/certifications/it-fundamentals) (https://certification.comptia.org/certifications/it-fundamentals) to find certification test information, including ordering information.

Content Areas Covered by the Assessment:

CompTIA A+ 220-901 covers PC hardware and peripherals, mobile device hardware, networking and troubleshooting hardware, and network connectivity issues. CompTIA A+ 220-902 covers installing and configuring operating systems including Windows, iOS, Android, Apple OS X, and Linux. It also addresses security, the fundamentals of cloud computing, and operational procedures.

Frequently Asked Questions: View the [CompTIA A+ 900 FAQ](https://certification.comptia.org/certifications/a/comptia-a-900-faq) page at https://certification.comptia.org/certifications/a/comptia-a-900-faq.

How many Questions are on the assessment, and is the assessment timed?

The CompTIA A+ certification exams consist of a maximum of 90 multiple choice questions (single and multiple response), drag and drops and performance-based, and are timed tests with a total administration time of ninety (90) minutes.

Who must take the assessment?

Students enrolled in the state-approved CTE programs listed above whom either:

- 1) Completed the program in the current school year (have completed all 12 segments) and earned at least a 2.0 in each course section.

-OR-

- 2) Are program concentrators (completed more than half the program – 7 or more segments) and who will leave school at the end of the current school year.

Any student who wishes to achieve an industry recognized certification upon completion of the program.

What is the procedure to order assessments?

Schools can only obtain **academic pricing** for CompTIA exams by registering the school's contact information at [CompTIA's website](http://www.comptia.org/academy) (www.comptia.org/academy). A+ has a regular price of \$205 vs. an academic price of \$94.

Academic Pricing:

Single exam \$94

Exams are valid for one year from date of purchase and may not be renewed.

Exams are ordered from the [Pearson VUE website](https://partners.comptia.org/how-to/purchase-vouchers). Voucher purchasing instructions can be found at this website (https://partners.comptia.org/how-to/purchase-vouchers).

OCTE DISCOURAGES THE USE OF THE ONLINE MARKETPLACE AS IT DOES NOT OFFER ACADEMIC PRICING

Orders may be placed using CompTIA's online marketplace. Orders placed in this manner will be at full price, not the academic price. Below are account and order details to assist with implementation.

- Orders are through the CompTIA website
 - Create a username and password to establish an account
- Select the A+ certification and add to cart
 - Select the number of test vouchers you wish to purchase
 - i. Test vouchers are good for 12 months
 - A credit card is required for purchase
- A confirmation email is sent after the order is placed
- Plan carefully. Test vouchers are good for 12 months, but are not eligible for return.

How is the assessment administered?

A+ exams must be delivered at a [Pearson VUE test center](http://www.vue.com) (www.vue.com).

What is the testing window?

The assessment dates are district-determined.

Orders for online assessments are processed in two business days if payment is rendered via credit card or for schools with a pre-approved line of credit. POs can take several weeks to clear.

All testing must be completed by May 18, 2018. If an extension is needed, please contact Valerie Felder at 517-335-1066 FelderV@michigan.gov

Information about Exam Accommodations:

At times, it may be necessary to allow accommodations when administering assessments. For students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) with assessment accommodations visit [Person Vue](#).

(http://www.pearsonvue.com/accommodations/pv_review.asp?clientName=CompTIA)

Non-English Languages Available:

The certification test is available in English, Japanese, Portuguese, Spanish, German, Korean, traditional Chinese, and simplified Chinese.

How are reports accessed?

Score reports are printed at the testing site. Test candidates may also print a duplicate score report by accessing their online candidate profile at [Person Vue](#) (www.vue.com).

What is a passing score on the assessment?

The cut score for the A+ certification exams 220-801 and 220-901 is 675 (on a scale of 900); the cut score for the A+ certification exams 220-802 and 220-902 is 700 (on a scale of 900).

Who should teachers contact with questions about instruction?

The state program consultant for Information Technology is Tom Knight. He can be reached at 517-373-8545 or KnightT@michigan.gov.

Who should assessment coordinators contact with State of Michigan Technical Skills Assessment policy questions?

Valerie Felder at 517-335-1066 FelderV@michigan.gov