

**Assessment Tip Sheet**  
**Information Technology Assessment Alternative**  
**CompTIA Certification**

**Career Cluster:** Information Technology

**Programs:** 11.0901 Computer Systems, Networking, and Telecommunications

**Assessment Name:** CompTIA Security+ SY0-401

**Assessment Description:** CompTIA Security+ certification covers network security, compliance and operation security, threats and vulnerabilities, as well as application, data, and host security. Also included are access control, identity management, and cryptography.

**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 Security+ Certification Exam Objectives: Identify risk; Participate in risk mitigation activities; Provide infrastructure, application, information and operational security; Apply security controls to maintain confidentiality, integrity and availability; Identify appropriate technologies and products; Troubleshoot security events and incidents; Operate with an awareness of applicable policies, laws and regulations.

**Frequently Asked Questions:** To view the CompTIA [performance-based questions](https://certification.comptia.org/testing/about-testing/performance-based-questions-explained), go to https://certification.comptia.org/testing/about-testing/performance-based-questions-explained.

**How many Questions are on the assessment? Is the assessment timed?**

The CompTIA Security+ certification exam consists of a maximum of ninety (90) multiple choice and performance-based questions, 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). Network+ has a regular price of \$320 vs. an academic price of \$203 per exam.

#### **Academic Pricing:**

Single exam        \$203

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 Security+ 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?**

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

**Non-English Languages Available:**

The CompTIA Security+ certification test is available in English, Japanese, and Portuguese.

**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](http://www.vue.com)).

**What is a passing score on the assessment?**

The cut score for the CompTIA Security+ certification exam is 750 (on a scale of 100-900).

**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](mailto: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](mailto:FelderV@michigan.gov)