

**Your skills have gotten you this far. A bachelor's could take you farther.**

**Live your life, and pursue an information technology degree.**



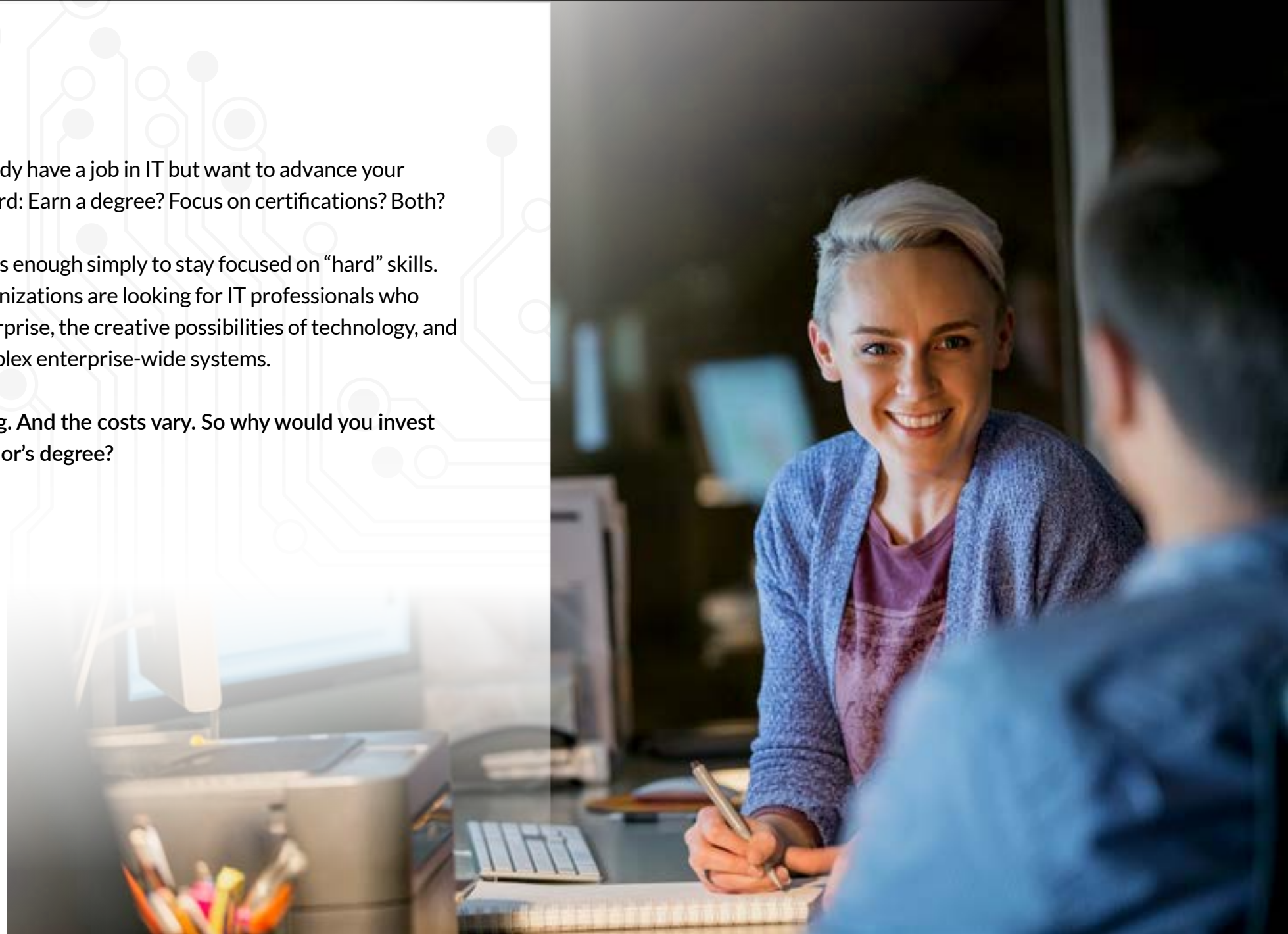


# Introduction

You want to work in IT. Or maybe you already have a job in IT but want to advance your career. What's the best way to move forward: Earn a degree? Focus on certifications? Both?

Before globalization and outsourcing, it was enough simply to stay focused on “hard” skills. But today, IT is full of new challenges. Organizations are looking for IT professionals who understand the business needs of the enterprise, the creative possibilities of technology, and how to integrate that technology into complex enterprise-wide systems.

Of course, the path to a degree seems long. And the costs vary. So why would you invest time, effort, and money in getting a bachelor's degree?



## Why earn a BS in Information Technology?

Information technology is a quickly expanding field, and over the last few decades it has become essential to the operations of almost every kind of business.

Success-minded IT professionals may choose to pursue a BS in IT for a variety of reasons:

They may want the **leadership and higher-pay opportunities** that come with having a degree on their resume.

They may want to make sure they're **eligible to apply for jobs** at companies where a bachelor's is required.

Or they may simply want the sense of **personal fulfillment** that comes with obtaining a degree.



# Why earn a BS in Information Technology?

## FIVE JOB TITLES TO EXPLORE INCLUDE:

1

### COMPUTER PROGRAMMERS

Computer programmers write and test code that allows applications and software to function properly. They turn program designs into instructions computers can follow.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Write, analyze, test, and rewrite programs
- Consult with managers and engineers as needed
- Document program development

**SKILLS:** Mathematics, communication, attention to detail, abstract thinking, problem solving

2

### DATABASE ADMINISTRATORS

Database administrators use specialized software to store and organize data. They ensure that data are available to users and secured from unauthorized access.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Direct database maintenance
- Write policies and procedures
- Manage security
- Train employees

**SKILLS:** Capacity planning, installation, configuration, database design, data migration, performance monitoring, security, troubleshooting



# Why earn a BS in Information Technology?

## FIVE JOB TITLES TO EXPLORE INCLUDE:

### 3

#### NETWORK AND SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATORS

Computer networks are critical parts of almost every organization. Network and systems administrators are responsible for the day-to-day operation of these networks.

##### RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Install and support networks
- Ensure security and integrity of networks
- Maintain servers
- Evaluate and install enhancements

**SKILLS:** Technical skills, collaboration, initiative, interpersonal communication

### 4

#### COMPUTER SYSTEMS ANALYSTS

Computer systems analysts study an organization's computer systems and procedures and design information systems solutions to help the organization operate more efficiently and effectively. They bring business and IT together.

##### RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Test, maintain, and monitor computer systems
- Assist users with solving computer-related problems

**SKILLS:** Teamwork, problem-solving, deployment of new systems and components

# Why earn a BS in Information Technology?

## FIVE JOB TITLES TO EXPLORE INCLUDE:

### 5

#### SOFTWARE DEVELOPERS

Software developers are the creative minds behind computer programs. Some develop applications that allow people to do specific tasks on a computer or another device. Others develop the underlying systems that run the devices or that control networks.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Install, test, and maintain software systems
- Recommend upgrades to existing systems

**SKILLS:** Knowledge of computer languages, analytical thinking, collaboration, analysis



# A Bachelor's + Certifications = A Win-Win

## Which is more important: certifications or a degree?

That depends on your ambitions. Or it hinges on the company that's doing the hiring. But in general, there are benefits to **BOTH IT CERTIFICATIONS AND IT DEGREE PROGRAMS**. Getting a bachelor's degree and certifications may qualify you for a career path in which one or the other by itself wouldn't suffice.

- You'll have expanded career choices when you earn a **BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN IT**. With a degree, experience, and additional certifications, you could be a candidate for significant advancement.
- **IT CERTIFICATIONS** can help your resume stand out by showing you have taken the initiative to build your professional credibility. They can also keep you on top of current standards and trends.

If you have both a certification and a degree, you're even better prepared for your current or next job. And in some cases, a degree program can help prepare you to sit for an essential certification exam.





## Why Capella?

**Education is changing.** It's not only about what you learn in a textbook; it's also about what you learn through interactive experiences, like virtual labs, that help you build the skills that are in current demand by today's employers.

A bachelor's in IT from Capella University will expose you to engaging coursework and virtual labs, provide you with the knowledge to sit for certification exams, and equip you with the skills and abilities to help you succeed in IT.







# 8 Reasons to Choose Capella

1

## YOU HAVE TWO ONLINE LEARNING FORMAT OPTIONS.

	<b>GuidedPath</b> : The original online-learning format that's flexible for your schedule and guides you along	<b>FlexPath</b> : Complete all the courses you can, up to two simultaneously, and pay one flat fee every 12 weeks
<b>Course Structure</b>	<b>Interactive</b> Weekly online discussions with faculty and classmates, plus end-of-week assignment deadlines	<b>Work independently</b> Complete courses at your own pace, with no preset deadlines or wait time to move to the next course
<b>Support</b>	<b>Regular check-ins</b> Faculty feedback in your courses, plus academic coaches and program advisors to keep you on track	<b>1:1 engagement</b> Get learning support from tutors, detailed feedback from faculty, and personalized planning from coaches
<b>Assignments + Deadlines</b>	<b>Predictable path from start to finish</b> Courses will have consistent deadlines, so you can form homework habits around your schedule	<b>Set your own deadlines</b> Work with your FlexPath coach to plan when you'll complete each assignment based on your schedule
<b>Course Materials</b>	<b>Guided learning</b> You'll have required reading material to help with discussions and assignments	<b>Recommended resources</b> You'll receive suggested resources to use—videos, articles, or your own work experience



# 8 Reasons to Choose Capella

## 1 YOU HAVE TWO ONLINE LEARNING FORMAT OPTIONS. *(continued)*

**GuidedPath** : The original online-learning format that's flexible for your schedule and guides you along

**FlexPath** : Complete all the courses you can, up to two simultaneously, and pay one flat fee every 12 weeks

### Maximum Course Load

**Up to three courses per quarter** With the freedom to change course load every quarter

**No limit** With a maximum of two courses that can be taken at one time

### Grading

**Traditional grading system** Receive grades from faculty based on assignment or project quality

**Demonstrate competency** Complete authentic assessments to demonstrate mastery of competencies

### Tuition Model

**Pay-per-credit** The familiar way to pay for tuition, with credit price varying by courseload or term

**Pace determines price** Complete all the courses you can, up to two simultaneously, and pay one flat fee every 12 weeks

### Available Programs

**All programs** Our original online format is available in all of our degree programs

**Selected programs** Currently available for select bachelor's, certificate, and master's programs in business, health care, IT, nursing, and psychology



# 8 Reasons to Choose Capella

## 2 YOU CAN EARN CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING.

Capella values the knowledge you bring to your degree program and will give you course credit when you demonstrate relevant, college-level knowledge gained through:

- Formal and informal work training
- Continuing education programs
- Self-instruction
- Professional certifications
- Other learning experiences

For example, you could potentially save **\$11,047** in tuition costs with a PgMP® certification or **\$18,445\*** with a PMP® certification.

\*Savings inclusive of fees charged by Capella to evaluate and award academic credit for your prior learning. The documented credit fee of \$50 is assessed each quarter you request documented credit. Capella reserves the right to change fees at any time.

## 3 YOU CAN LEARN IN A VIRTUAL LAB.

Capella's virtual-lab platform allows you to develop skills by practicing with tools used in the real world. You'll experience practical, hands-on learning such as working with Cisco tools, developing a database using Oracle, or creating Android apps using Android development tools.

Get a **SNEAK PEEK.**

# 8 Reasons to Choose Capella

## 4 YOU CAN GAIN CERTIFICATIONS ALONG THE WAY...

Capella not only gives you the skills and knowledge you need to take certification exams—it also provides vouchers to take them for free. Applicable certifications include:

- CompTIA A+
- CompTIA Linux+
- CompTIA Network+
- CompTIA Security+
- CompTIA Project+
- Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA): Routing and Switching
- Microsoft Certified Solutions Associate (MCSA): Windows Server 2012
- Microsoft Certified Solutions Expert (MCSE): Server Infrastructure
- PMI's Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM)® (GuidedPath only)
- PMI's Project Management Professional (PMP)® (GuidedPath only)
- PMI's Agile Certified Practitioner (PMI-ACP)® (GuidedPath only)

## 5 ...AND AN NSA DIGITAL BADGE.

BS in IT students specializing in information assurance and security can earn an NSA digital badge during the program. The digital badge illustrates your mastery and skills in information security and can be shared with potential employers and peers through your social networks.





## 8 Reasons to Choose Capella

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### YOU CAN IMMERSE YOURSELF DEEPLY IN A SPECIALIZATION.

You'll learn in-demand technical and business skills that allow you to pursue a wide range of IT opportunities. You can map out a broad program that touches on several IT disciplines or focus on deepening your knowledge in a particular specialization, among them:

- General Information Technology\*
- Health Information Management
- Information Assurance and Security\*
- Minor in Data Analytics
- Minor in Data Management
- Minor in Network Technology: Cisco
- Minor in Network Technology: Microsoft
- Project Management\*
- Software Development

\*Available in both GuidedPath and FlexPath learning formats.

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### YOU CAN STAY AHEAD IN IT WITH SKILLSOFT AT NO EXTRA COST.

Students will have unlimited access to Skillsoft, a comprehensive eLearning resource to help develop IT and business knowledge and skills.

# 8 Reasons to Choose Capella

## 8 YOU'LL HAVE PLENTY OF SUPPORT.

As a student at Capella, you'll have access to a variety of people and support services, including:



### ENROLLMENT COUNSELORS

These folks are superstars. We hear it from our students (and grads), and you'll feel it from your first call or chat. Enrollment counselors help you find your program fit, navigate the admissions process, and get started.



### FACULTY

Our instructors have top credentials and get extensive training in Capella's unique approach to competency-based learning. Plus, they've got real-world experience. They've been there. And they'll be there for you.



### COACHES/ADVISORS

This team is all about helping you stay on track and achieve your goals throughout your program. They help you navigate the program structure and manage challenges along the way.



### ACADEMIC TUTORING

The tutoring team provides extra assistance when you need help with a specific concept or course. They respond quickly when you ask for help.



# 8 Reasons to Choose Capella

## 8 YOU'LL HAVE PLENTY OF SUPPORT. *(continued)*



### COMMUNITY

You'll have access to online communities with your fellow students, a diverse group of people from many places and different professions. In addition to encouragement and support, our communities also serve as a potential network for future career exploration and professional development.



### CAPELLA LIBRARY

Resources in the form of Capella-recommended textbooks and readings are available online or in the Capella Library. The Capella Library has a comprehensive collection of databases, journals, books, and company records; librarians are available for assistance via email, chat, or phone.



### THE WRITING CENTER

Capella's Writing Center is critical resource for students who wish to improve their writing or need assistance with citations and basic research. In addition to online resources and tutorials, in-person help is available to students by email and phone.



### THE CAREER CENTER

Capella's Career Center provides services and resources to students and alumni alike. For our counselors, it's more than resumes and interview tips. It's about thoughtful and strategic career planning—for life.



# A Program that **Flows** | Mike's Story



**NAME:** Mike J.

**HOME:** North Carolina

**DEGREE EARNED:** BS in IT  
Project Management via FlexPath

*Actual Capella student who agreed to appear in promotional materials for Capella.*

Getting a bachelor's degree was a personal goal for Mike J. At 48, the North Carolina resident was a successful telecom project manager and infrastructure design engineer for a global aerospace and defense company. He had an associate's degree and 25 years of solid work experience. But a bachelor's degree was still something he wanted.

"At my age and where I'm at in my career, it's probably not necessary for me to have a bachelor's," he says. "But I had the personal desire to do it, and it sets a good example for my three young children."

After evaluating several online programs, Mike chose Capella to earn his degree in information technology. The program fit his needs in several ways.

**CERTIFICATIONS COUNTED FOR SOMETHING.** "I wanted an online education that would not only allow me to maximize my earned credits toward my degree, but would also provide me with credits from the credentials that I had worked so hard to obtain within the industry," he says. His PMP® and other certifications allowed him to bypass several courses.

**THERE WAS SUPPORT—RIGHT FROM THE START.** Mike was impressed by the assistance he got from Capella enrollment counselors as he prepared to begin his program. "Capella has exceptional admissions personnel," he says. The team smoothed the path for him, eliminated busywork, and helped him get into his first classes as quickly as possible. "That's a plus for me, because my time is important."

**IT WAS CHALLENGING.** After years in industry, the last thing Mike wanted was a curriculum that felt like he was going through the motions. Capella courses have proven satisfying and challenging. "It's not just 'write a paper, write a paper, write a paper....' There are labs. You have to present the materials that you use for research," he says. "It has a good flow."

**THE COST WAS AFFORDABLE.** Mike was considering a traditional education, and he decided FlexPath was more affordable and was going to be much faster for him. "If I can do more than two classes every 12 weeks, then I figure I'm ahead of the game compared to what it might cost me in a traditional program," he says.\*

\*Your results may be different. Cost savings and time to completion in FlexPath depend on a variety of factors, including how much time you can invest in the program and how quickly you complete the assessments.



# Seeking a Career in IT Security | Cody's Story



**NAME:** Cody D.

**HOME:** Montana

**DEGREE:** BS in IT, Information Assurance and Security

*Actual Capella student who agreed to appear in promotional materials for Capella.*

Cody D. grew up in a wired world and decided after high school to get a bachelor's degree online. But the first program he enrolled in didn't match his expectations. "I wanted a curriculum that would challenge me more," Cody says.

In 2015, he transferred to Capella University. His interest in software development drew him to Capella's IT offerings, but he ultimately decided to focus on information assurance and security. Capella's accreditations and designations seemed like further proof that its programs were respected in the professional world.

The first few courses Cody took confirmed his belief that Capella offered a more rigorous curriculum. "The faculty expected more," he says. "They seemed to care more."

The proof that his education was paying off came when Cody was awarded a civilian internship with the U.S. Army. One of a handful of individuals chosen from 200 applicants, he began working full time in October 2016 as a student trainee in information technology management. Based in Maryland, he assists upper-level technicians with security issues.\*

\*Results vary. Many factors can lead to obtaining a job, and Capella does not guarantee its programs will lead to employment or other career advancement.

Many employers, including the Department of Defense, require industry certifications for advanced positions. So in addition to his classes, Cody has devoted time to obtaining certifications, including CompTIA Network+ and TestOut Network Pro.

The path to getting the exam vouchers through Capella was smooth, Cody says, even if the certification tests themselves were challenging.

Cody's coursework and certifications have already helped get him on the right career path. "One thing I like about working for the Army is that I can apply things I learn in class to my job," he says. "I can already tell that a lot of what I learn at Capella I can use in the future—whatever I do."

For example, as part of his final project at Capella, also known as a capstone project, Cody developed security recommendations for a redesign of the lab he works in. His analysis is more than just an exercise in thinking, however, because his managers at work have expressed an interest in reviewing the conclusions of his project. "Because of my work done here, my school record, and other various factors, they will take any recommendations I make seriously," he says.

Ultimately Cody would like to pursue a lifelong dream of working for the CIA or the NSA. But first he wants to finish his bachelor's degree and focus on continuing his education. Where will he enroll for his advanced degree?

"With what I've experienced at Capella, my plan is to stay put," he says.



# BS in Information Technology Program Info

## AVAILABLE SPECIALIZATIONS

BS – General Information Technology\*  
BS – Health Information Management  
BS – Information Assurance and Security\*  
BS – Minor in Data Analytics  
BS – Minor in Data Management  
BS – Minor in Network Technology: Cisco  
BS – Minor: Network Technology: Microsoft  
BS – Project Management\*  
BS – Software Development

### Undergraduate Certificates

Network Technology: Cisco  
Network Technology: Microsoft

\*Available in both GuidedPath and FlexPath learning formats.

## CORE COURSES

Information Technology Concepts and Practices  
Communication Strategies for the Information  
Technology Professional  
Introduction to Database Systems  
Introduction to Programming  
Introduction to Network Technology  
Introduction to Principles of Project Management  
Ethics for the Information Technology Professional  
Web Systems and Technologies  
Business Goals for the Information Technology  
Professional  
Human-Computer Interaction  
Hardware and Operating Systems  
Systems Administration  
Software Architecture  
Intermediate Programming  
Network Architecture  
Information Security Concepts for the Information  
Technology Professional

## SAMPLE SPECIALIZATION COURSES

**Depending on your specialization or minor, courses may include:**

Cyber Attacks and Ethical Hacking  
Computer Forensics  
Software Design and Modeling  
Wireless Networks  
Web Application Development  
Cross-Platform Mobile Application Development  
Risk Management in Project Management  
Agile Project Management  
Information Security, Privacy, and Ethics in  
Health Care  
Statistical Analysis for Health Information  
Management

# Accreditation

Capella University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission ([hlcommission.org](http://hlcommission.org)), a regional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.



Computing  
Accreditation  
Commission

Capella's BS in IT program is accredited by the **Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET**, <http://www.abet.org>.  
ABET accreditation is a key indicator of Capella's dedication to educational quality that prepares our graduates for entry or advancement in the IT profession.

\*The FlexPath option for the BS in Information Technology program specializations is not accredited by the Computing Accreditation Center for Project Management (PMI-GAC).



Capella's BS in Information Technology, Project Management specialization\* is accredited by the Project Management Institute (PMI) Global Accreditation Center for Project Management (PMI-GAC).

\*The FlexPath format for the Project Management specializations is not accredited by Project Management Institute (PMI) Global Accreditation Center for Project Management (PMI-GAC).

The PMI Global Accreditation Center Logo is a service mark of Project Management Institute, Inc.



Capella has been designated by the National Security Agency (NSA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance/Cyber Defense (CAE IA/CD) for academic years 2014-2021.



# How Capella Makes Education **Affordable**

## YOUR PACE DETERMINES YOUR PRICE WITH FLEXPATH



You can complete as many courses as you want each quarter, up to two simultaneously, for one flat fee. The faster your pace, the more money you may save.

## YOU CAN TRANSFER CREDITS



Shorten the time and cut the cost of getting your degree when you transfer credits from regionally accredited or internationally recognized institutions.

## GET CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING



Have you gained knowledge and professional certifications outside of school? If you can demonstrate that you have already mastered a subject, you may be able to gain credit for that learning through Capella's Prior Learning Assessment process. **FOR EXAMPLE**, you could potentially save \$18,445\* in tuition costs with a PMP® certification.

## ENROLL IN SOPHIA PATHWAYS FOR COLLEGE CREDIT



Take your general education courses with our learning partner, Sophia—then apply them toward your Capella degree. The classes are online and affordable.

\*Savings inclusive of fees charged by Capella to evaluate and award academic credit for your prior learning. The documented credit fee of \$50 is assessed each quarter you request documented credit. Capella reserves the right to change fees at any time.





# How Capella Makes Education **Affordable**

## TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EMPLOYER TUITION REIMBURSEMENT



Many employers offer tuition reimbursement to employees, even if there's no formal program. Check with your manager or HR department and see what kinds of options are available.

## EMPLOYER & ASSOCIATION DISCOUNTS



Tuition discounts from over 500 Capella-affiliated employers, colleges, and professional associations can make your degree more affordable.

## EARN 10-15% MILITARY DISCOUNTS



Capella provides a 10–15% **military tuition discount** to qualifying veterans, service members, and their spouses. Our military support team will help you understand your complex benefits and make the most of what you're eligible for.

## APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS



Capella scholarships for new students aren't based on financial need and never have to be repaid. They're available to anyone who enrolls in a qualified program and meets specific requirements.



# Resources

GUIDEDPATH LEARNING FORMAT

FLEXPATH LEARNING FORMAT

ONLINE LEARNING AT CAPELLA

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR NEW STUDENTS

START OUR TRIAL COURSE ON US



**TALK TO A CAPELLA  
BS IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
ENROLLMENT COUNSELOR:  
1.866.933.5819**

[CAPELLA.EDU](https://capella.edu)  
[REQUEST INFORMATION](#)

## **READY TO GET STARTED?**

Apply now and we'll waive your  
\$50 application fee when you  
use code **Guide1**

[APPLY NOW](#)

**Important information** about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students who attended these programs.

ACCREDITATION: Capella University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.  
HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION: <https://www.hlcommission.org>, 800.621.7440  
CAPELLA UNIVERSITY: Capella Tower, 225 South Sixth Street, Ninth Floor,  
Minneapolis MN 55402, 1.888.CAPELLA (227-3552)

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