

Examples of Voluntary Industry Certifications in IT and Healthcare for Community Colleges

With many industry certifications available, it is difficult for community colleges to identify those that might be relevant to align or embed in their academic programs. This document provides a starting point by listing examples of voluntary industry certifications in information technology (IT) and healthcare that can be aligned or embedded with community college certificate or degree programs. The list does not include certifications that may that be used or required to obtain state licensure. Many, but not all, of these certifications are either accredited by the [ANSI National Accreditation Board \(ANAB\)](#) or the [Institute for Credentialing Excellence National Commission of Certifying Agencies \(NCCA\)](#).¹

For this list, certifications are defined as credentials that have three components: (1) a standardized exam, (2) required renewal, and (3) the ability to be revoked for incompetence or unethical behavior.²

IT Certifications

Certification Body	Certification	Relevant Academic Discipline
Amazon Web Services (AWS)	AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner	IT Systems Cloud Computing
	AWS Solutions Architect Associate	Information Technology
CompTIA	A+ *	Information Technology IT Support
	Cloud+ *	Information Technology Cloud Computing
	Cloud Essentials+	Information Technology Cloud Computing
	Cybersecurity Analyst (CySA+)*	Cybersecurity
	Linux+ *	Information Technology IT Systems Networking
	Network+ *	Information Technology Networking
	PenTest+ *	Information Technology Cybersecurity
	Security+ *	Information Technology Cybersecurity
	Server+	Information Technology

¹ The certifications that are accredited by ANAB are indicated with a "*" and those accredited by NCCA are indicated with a "o".

² See more details about certifications and other credentials in Workcred's "How Do Credentials Differ?" chart: <https://workcred.org/Interactive-Graphics/How-Do-Credentials-Differ.aspx>.

Certification Body	Certification	Relevant Academic Discipline
Cisco	Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA)*	Information Technology Networking
	Cisco Certified Support Technician (CCST) Cybersecurity	Information Technology Cybersecurity
	Cisco Certified Field Technician (CCT)	Information Technology
	Cisco Certified Support Technician (CCST) IT Support	Information Technology IT Support
	Cisco Certified Support Technician (CCST) Networking	Information Technology Networking
EC-Council/International Council of E-Commerce Consultants	Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH)*	Information Technology Cybersecurity
Global Information Assurance Certification (GIAC)	GIAC Security Essentials (GSEC)*	Information Technology Cybersecurity
ISC2	Certified in Cybersecurity (CC)*	Information Technology Cybersecurity
Microsoft	GitHub Foundations	IT Systems Cloud Computing
	Microsoft Certified: Azure AI Fundamentals	IT Systems Cloud Computing
	Microsoft Certified: Azure Data Fundamentals	IT Systems Cloud Computing
	Microsoft Certified: Security, Compliance, and Identity Fundamentals	Information Technology Cybersecurity

Healthcare Certifications

Certification Body	Certification	Relevant Academic Discipline
American Association of Medical Assistants (AAMA)	Certified Medical Assistant (CMA AAMA)^o	Medical Assisting
AAPC	Certified Professional Coder (CPC)	Medical Coding Health Information Technology
American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA)	Certified Coding Associate (CCA)	Medical Coding Health Information Technology

Certification Body	Certification	Relevant Academic Discipline
	Certified Coding Specialist (CCS)	Medical Coding Health Information Technology
	Certified Coding Specialist - Physician Based (CCS-P)	Medical Coding Health Information Technology
American Medical Certification Association (AMCA)	Clinical Medical Assistant Certification (CMAC) ^o	Allied Health Medical Assistant
	Medical Coder and Biller Certification (MCBC) ^o	Medical Coding Health Information Technology
	Phlebotomy Technician Certification (PTC) ^o	Allied Health Phlebotomy
American Medical Technologists (AMT)	Certified Medical Laboratory Assistant (CMLA) ^o	Allied Health Medical Laboratory Assistant
	Medical Administrative Specialist (CMAS) ^o	Allied Health Medical Administration
	Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) ^o	Allied Health Medical Laboratory Technician
	Registered Medical Assistant (RMA) ^o	Allied Health Medical Assistant
	Registered Phlebotomy Technician (RPT) ^o	Allied Health Phlebotomy Nursing
American Society of Clinical Pathologists (ASCP) Board of Certification (BOC)	Phlebotomy Technician (PBT ASCP)*	Allied Health Phlebotomy Nursing
	Histotechnician (HT ASCP)*	Biology Chemistry
	Medical Laboratory Assistant (MLA ASCP)*	Allied Health Medical Laboratory Assistant
	Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT ASCP)*	Allied Health Medical Laboratory Technician
Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB)	Registered Behavioral Technician (RBT)*	Behavioral Health/Science Human Services

Certification Body	Certification	Relevant Academic Discipline
Cardiovascular Credentialing International (CCI)	Certified Cardiographic Technician (CCT)*	Allied Health
	Certified Rhythm Analysis Technician (CRAT)*	Allied Health
Inteleos	Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonographer (RDMS)* ³	Allied Health
Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO)	Certified Ophthalmic Assistant (COA)*	Allied Health Ophthalmic Assistant
	Certified Ophthalmic Technician (COT)*	Allied Health Ophthalmic Assistant
National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT)	Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA) ^o	Occupational Therapy Assistant
National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC)	Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) ^o	Allied Health
National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (NBSTSA)	Certified Surgical Technologist (CST) ^o	Surgical Technology
National Healthcareer Association (NHA)	Certified Billing and Coding Specialist (CBCS) ^o	Medical Coding Health Information Technology
	Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA) ^o	Medical Assistant
	Certified Phlebotomy Technician (CPT) ^o	Phlebotomy Nursing
	Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPhT) ^o	Pharmacy Technician
Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (NMTCB)	Certified Nuclear Medicine Technologist (CNMT) ^o	Nuclear Medical Technology
Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB)	Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPhT) ^o	Pharmacy Technician

³ This certification also requires the completion of a specialty certification in abdomen, breast, fetal echocardiography, OB/GYN, or pediatric sonography.