

Career Focus on...

UNIX Systems Administrator

Introduction

- Do you want to prepare yourself to work with some of the most powerful servers in computing?
- Do you have strong computer skills and would like a career in a constantly evolving growth industry?
- Are you interested in supporting mission-critical computers that are essential to the operations of large companies and organizations?

If you answered “yes” to these questions, you may want to consider a UNIX Systems Administrator Certificate at QCC.

Did You Know...?

- UNIX is a top operating system for the most powerful and important computers in public and private organizations.
- Virtually all companies and organizations, across all industry sectors, employ information technology professionals.
- Many of the state’s fastest growing occupations are in information technology (IT), including network systems analysts, data communications analysts, and computer software engineers. The growth reflects increased business demand for faster and more powerful computer systems.
- A certificate can be a first step towards earning an Associate’s degree. Students who complete an Associate’s degree at QCC may be able to transfer to a variety of schools to continue their education.

UNIX Systems Administrator Certificate @ QCC

The UNIX Systems Administrator Certificate at QCC prepares graduates to work in the Information Technology field as a Systems Administrator, with an emphasis on management and support of Unix and Linux operating systems. In addition to two courses devoted solely to UNIX, this program covers general Information Technology topics such as Networking Technology, IT Security, and Website Management.

The UNIX Systems Administrator Certificate may be completed in two semesters.

Career Options

COMPUTER SUPPORT SPECIALIST

Median Annual Salary: \$46,260

Recommended Education: Some college
www.bls.gov/ooh/computer-and-information-technology/computer-support-specialists.htm

NETWORK AND COMPUTER SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR

Median Annual Salary: \$69,160

Recommended Education: Bachelor’s degree
<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/computer-and-information-technology/network-and-computer-systems-administrators.htm>

COMPUTER SYSTEMS ANALYST

Median Annual Salary: \$78,770

Recommended Education: Associate’s degree
www.onetonline.org/link/summary/15-1121.00

Worcester Area Employers

- AbleBridge
- AKUITY Technologies
- Atos
- City of Worcester
- EMC
- Fallon Community Health Plan
- IBM
- Quinsigamond Community College
- Reliant Medical Group
- UMass Medical

Next Steps

Wondering if UNIX Systems Administrator is right for you?

- Take a Career Assessment to match your interests with potential careers:
www.qcc.mass.edu/t3/ort/sites.html#careerassess
- Research the web links on this *Career Focus* page, as well as links suggested online under Career Information: www.qcc.mass.edu/t3/ort/sites.html#careerinfo
- Conduct an Informational Interview with someone employed in the field. For more information on how to do this, review the Informational Interview links online:
www.qcc.mass.edu/t3/ort/sites.html#infointerview
- Attend a Career Planning Session. For more information, and the current schedule, visit Career Academic Personal Success (CAPS) online:
www.QCC.edu/services/academic-advising/career-academic-personal-success
- Speak with an Advisor:
www2.qcc.mass.edu/advising/
- Speak with QCC Faculty who teach UNIX Systems Administrator courses.

Sources Used

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2012-13 Edition*:

- Computer Support Specialist:
www.bls.gov/ooh/computer-and-information-technology/computer-support-specialists.htm
- Network and Computer Systems Administrator:
www.bls.gov/ooh/computer-and-information-technology/network-and-computer-systems-administrators.htm

O*NET Online:

- “Summary Report for: 15-1121.00 - Computer Systems Analysts,” :
www.onetonline.org/link/summary/15-1121.00

Quinsigamond Community College, Online Course Catalog:

- Computer Systems Engineering Technology Certificate: UNIX System Administrator:
www.qcc.edu/academics/technology/computer-systems-engineering-technology/unix-systems-administrator

Professional Associations

- Association for Computing Machinery:
www.acm.org
- Computing Technology Industry Association:
www.comptia.org
- IEEE Computer Society:
www.computer.org
- Information Systems Security Association:
www.issa.org
- Information Technology Association of America:
www.techamerica.org

Positions Entered by QCC Graduates

- Help Desk Technician
- IT Tech
- Tier-One Computer Tech

Employment, Co-op, Internship, or Service Learning Opportunities

Contact the Career Placement Services Office:
www.QCC.edu/services/career-placement-services

Possible Transfer Schools

- Assumption College
- Fitchburg State University
- Johnson & Wales University
- Northeastern University
- UMass Amherst
- UMass Lowell
- Westfield State University
- Worcester State University

Specific Transfer Information

- Start at the QCC Transfer web site:
www.qcc.mass.edu/transfer
- Make an appointment online with the Transfer Advisor:
www.qcc.mass.edu/transfer/calendar
- Email questions to:
transfer@qcc.mass.edu