Career Focus on...
Windows Systems Administrator

Introduction

- Are you interested in a career path in informational technology (IT) that allows you to work on varied and important projects?
- Do you have strong computer skills and a desire to work in a constantly evolving growth industry?
- Are you interested in developing the skills needed to earn official certification as a Windows Associate?

If you answered "yes" to these questions, you may want to consider a Windows System Administrator certificate at QCC.

Did You Know...?

- Windows is the industry standard computer platform.
- Windows is constantly adding new capacities; working as a Windows System Administrator is a great way to stay current with these changes.
- Many of the state's fastest growing occupations are IT-related, 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.

Windows Systems Administrator@ QCC

The Windows System Administrator Certificate at QCC prepares graduates to work in the Information Technology field as a Systems Administrator with a focus on managing and supporting Windows operating systems. This certificate's structure follows the official guidelines for Microsoft Certified Systems Administrator courses.

Coursework for the Windows System 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

COMPUTER SYSTEMS ANALYST
Median Annual Salary: $78,770
Recommended Education: Associate's degree
www.onetonline.org/link/summary/15-1121.00

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

Worcester Area Employers

- Abbott Laboratories
- AbleBridge
- Atos
- Charter Communications
- City Of Worcester
- The Computer Hospital
- EMC
- The Hanover Insurance Group
- Intel Corp.
- Quinsigamond Community College
- Reliant Medical Group
- UMass Memorial Medical Center

QUINSIGAMOND
Community College

Next Steps

Wondering if Windows 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 Windows 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: Windows System Administrator:
  www.qcc.edu/academics/technology/computer-systems-engineering-technology/windows-system-administrator

Professional Associations

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

Positions Entered by QCC Graduates

- Computer Repair Tech
- 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