FAQs : Broadband Academy

Q: Are the short term diplomas financial aid eligible?

A: The state has determined that short term diplomas are NOT financial aid eligible.

Q: Are there scholarships available?

A: Yes. WSTA (Wisconsin State Telecommunications Association) and other local telecoms offer scholarships and grants.   You must apply and meet the requirements for these scholarships.

Q: What is the cost for these classes?

With the cost of credits + additional fees -the cost is approximately:

A: 1 credit class = $177.80   2 credit class = $313.60   3 credit class = $470.40- 533.60

Q: What is a ballpark figure for the cost of books?

A: Level 1 classes- No textbooks required   Level 2 classes = $185.00 covers all 5 classes.

Q: Are there any textbooks for the Cisco Classes and IT Essential?

A: No- you will be working entirely online and perform virtual lab exercises.

Q: What is the extra charge for Network 201?

A: You will be required to purchase TestOut Netpro software. ($117.00)

Q: Can I find financial assistance through my local Job Center (Workforce Resource Center or CEP)?

A: You might qualify but you will need to work with them before registering for the classes at WITC. Please contact your local Job Center for more information. If you need contact information for the workforce centers in your area, contact dan.schullo@witc.edu

Q: Do I need a computer to take the Broadband Academy Classes?

A: Yes. You will need access to a computer and to the internet to take these online classes.

Q: Can I take the classes at my own pace?

A: Classes are open 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week. You can work on the classes at the times that best fit your schedule. However, you are required to submit assignments on or before the due date.

Q: What is the focus of the 6 credit level 1 classes?

A: The focus is for Customer Service Representatives to gain the knowledge to speak with customers and technicians to the technical side of Broadband Telecommunications. These courses can help customer service representatives act as a "helpdesk" for the customer.

Q: What is the focus of the level 2 classes?

A: The focus is to help train workers as Telecommunications Installers and Technicians.

Q: What is the focus of the level 3 classes?

A: Level 3 focuses on networking.

Q: How will the hands-on portion of the level 2 classes be assessed?

A: The hands-on assessment will take place at WITC's Rice Lake campus or a local telecommunications company. If you are unable to attend the Rice Lake campus for the 8 hour hands-on portion of the class, WITC is prepared to send out a kit of tools for you to practice with and video your performance for evaluation.

Q: Will there be any face -to -face instruction in level 1?

A: No. All level 1 classes will be conducted online through Blackboard (Bb).

Q: Are there pre-Requisites for Level 1 Classes?

A: There are no Pre- Requisites for level 1 classes, however, the Applied Communications 1 course does have certain criteria for students not currently working in the telecommunications industry before taking the course. Please contact Dan Schullo. Dan.schullo@witc.edu. Or phone 1-877- 243 -2431

Q: Are there pre-Requisites for Level 2 Classes?

A: Yes. You will need to take IT Essentials before taking Broadband Network 201. If you hold an "A+ Certification" or you believe you have previous training or classes that meet the competencies for IT Essentials, please contact Dan Schullo. Dan.schullo@witc.edu. Or phone 1-877- 243 -2431

Q: If I haven't taken Linux Operating Systems, is there a way to waive this prerequisite?

A: Yes- if you are currently working in the Telecommunications Field, this prerequisite can be waived.