

CompTIA A+ – Incorporating PC Maintenance & Repair (CCT207 / CCT206)

Awarding Body:	CompTIA A+ certification / CCT Certificate for PCM&R
Schedule:	1 evening per week, 6.00pm – 9.00pm
Fees:	CompTIA A+: €920; PCM&R: €540
Duration:	16 weeks-54 lecture contact hours; 7 weeks for PCM&R
Next Commencement Date:	August / February
Learning Mode:	Blended Learning with online support

Programme Overview and Audience

This programme is ideal for those interested in general PC Maintenance and Repair. This programme usually interests many technicians and users who need to gain further in-depth knowledge on PC configuration for support and installation of PCs, and who wish to prepare for the A+ hardware and software examinations. This course is also aimed at those responsible for the maintenance and support of both PC hardware and software, such as help desk support staff and PC Technicians. Those who are new to computer repair will acquire practical skills and knowledge to troubleshoot and maintain computers using the Microsoft Windows operating system. The Comp TIA A+ certification is the industry standard for validating vendor-neutral skills expected of an entry-level computer technician. Those holding the A+ certification have a broad base of knowledge and competency in core hardware and operating system technologies including installation, configuration, diagnosing, preventative maintenance, and basic networking. A+ opens the door to an exciting career in computer technology at an affordable price. A+ certification is the perfect launch pad into other more challenging careers in information technology.

Programme Aims and Objectives

The aim of the course is to give attendees hands-on practical experience in all aspects of computer repair including assembling, configuring, upgrading and repairing IBM compatible PCs. Troubleshooting hardware and software problems arising from complex configurations of the modern commercial PC will be dealt with.

The course will include exercises including disassembling a PC, reinstalling and configuring key components including adaptor cards, hard disk, RAM and CD-ROM drives. PC memory and its expansion will also be covered as well as, the configuration and troubleshooting of IRQ's, I/O and memory addresses and adaptor cards. Specific methods will be covered allowing users to identify arising hardware and software problems. Attendees will also carry out exercises in installing, maintaining and troubleshooting the Microsoft Windows operating system.

Students will be equipped with the knowledge to understand the architecture, components and makeup of the modern PC. They will be able to install hardware devices and diagnose installation problems with ease, as well as understand how Microsoft Windows is configured and works with modern hardware devices. The programme also prepares students on the CompTIA A+ study track by covering the theoretical knowledge required for the two official online examinations.

Programme Content

The programme will be presented in a structured format by the trainer, and is principally and comprehensively geared towards preparing candidates for the CompTIA A+ certification. Below is a breakdown of the general course knowledge, skills and competence to be gained by attending and participating in this programme:

- PC Troubleshooting Methods
- Overview of modern computer components
- Computer types, cases and forms
- The Basic Input Output System (BIOS)
- The CPU and Motherboard
- Computer Memory (RAM, ROM, Cache etc.)
- Hard Disks, Optical Disks and other Storage Drives
- Video and Sound cards

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- Input and Output Connectors
- Power Supply Units
- Monitor Types and Technologies
- Printers and Scanners
- Portable Computers
- Introduction to Microsoft Windows (XP, Vista, 7)
- Troubleshooting, Repairing and Maintaining Microsoft Windows
- The basics of computer networking
- Preventative Maintenance

Assessment

This course prepares candidates for the necessary globally accredited online A + certification examinations. Approximately, 7-8 weeks into the programme, successful candidates achieving a pass mark in the PC Maintenance & Repair examination, will receive a CCT certified PC Maintenance & Repair certification.

Career Progression Opportunities and Further Study Options

There is quite a natural progression pathway from PC Maintenance & Repair programmes to CompTIA A+, and from there to the Cisco Certified Network Associate programme. CompTIA A+ certification is industry recognised on a multi-national level, and can lead to careers in the Networking industry, in such roles as Network Technicians, PC Troubleshooting, Network Administration.