Subject: Microsoft Imagine Academy Newsletter – Extra Edition – September 2022

Microsoft Imagine Academy Volume 20 | Issue 6 | 30 September 2022

Dear Microsoft Imagine Academy Program Members –

Microsoft has been working with Schools around the world to provide students and educators with curricula, resources, and globally recognized industry certifications to build technology skills and credentialing aligned to high-demand jobs for over 20 years. We are continuing our commitment to skills development as well as evolving and building new resources for educators and students through the [Microsoft Learn](#) platform. As we strive to improve our skills and employability program offers to better align to educator and student needs through the [Microsoft Learn](#) platform, we will be transitioning and retiring the Microsoft Imagine Academy (MSIA) program and platform as of December 30, 2022.

Within [Microsoft Learn](#) are two locations where schools can now access expanded resources, Microsoft Official Curriculum (MOC), and certification preparation materials:

The [Microsoft Learn Educator Center](#) is Microsoft's centralized training and professional development platform for K12, where educators and school leaders can explore free learning and skills resources and learn about programs, professional development offerings, and Microsoft technologies that advance teaching and learning practices. Please let your education community know about these up-to-date resources to assist them in the changing education landscape.

The [Microsoft Learn for Educators](#) program for technical skilling enables you to bring MOC and instructor-led training materials into your classrooms. Eligible educators and faculty members at colleges, universities, community colleges, polytechnics, and secondary schools can access Microsoft ready-to-teach curriculum and teaching materials aligned to industry-recognized Microsoft Certifications. These certifications augment a student's existing academic path and validate the skills needed to be successful across a variety of technical careers. Using the content and courseware from Microsoft can free up the educators' time to focus on what they do best: teach.

Certification Success:

With these program changes, Microsoft continues to prioritize schools' missions to help skill the next generation of technology workers. In partnership with Pearson VUE and Certiport the availability of certification exams across the industry-recognized credential portfolio including Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS), Fundamentals, Microsoft Certified Educator (MCE), and Advanced Role-Based (ARB) continues. Our focus hasn't changed with the MSIA program transition and sunset, our focus more than ever is on assessment and learner outcomes achieved through programs and offerings through the MS Learn portal platform.

Microsoft Office 2019 and M365 Certification Exam Materials:

The Microsoft Office 2019 curricula previously available through MSIA is also available on the [Microsoft Learn Educator Center](#) under Instructor Materials and available for all educators to access.

We are excited to announce that new M365 MOS certification exam preparation materials are in development and will be published and available on the [Microsoft Learn Educator Center](#) under Instructor Materials in conjunction with the release dates of these new exams.

Expanding the access to the Office 2019 curricula and M365 certification preparation materials ensures educators have equal access to share the comprehensive materials to prepare students to successfully achieve industry-recognized certification and employment.

Microsoft Certification Exam Vouchers for Educator Use:

On November 1, 2022, all active MSIA members received a replenishment of 30 certification exam vouchers to use for educator professional development. Educator development can take various paths: Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS), Microsoft Fundamentals, and Microsoft Certified Educator (MCE). We encourage all active MSIA schools to request the certification exam vouchers from the MSIA Member website by December 30, 2022 and share the resources with your educator community. The vouchers must be used and exams taken by October 31, 2023. On that date, all unused vouchers will expire.

What Are My Next Steps?

1. Download and utilize the educator certification exam vouchers and any curriculum you need to finish up the 2022-2023 school year from the MSIA Member site:

    Through the Microsoft Imagine Academy (MSIA) program benefit, each MSIA Member ID receives access to **30 Microsoft certification vouchers for educator professional development**. Educator professional development can take various paths: Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS), Microsoft Fundamentals, and Microsoft Certified Educator (MCE). Certification validates the skills and knowledge educators develop. Please note: replenishment of a new set of 30 certification vouchers will upload on November 1, 2022. The vouchers must be used and exams taken by October 31, 2023, as they will expire on that date.

    Request vouchers by following these steps:

    *   From the [Member site](#)
    *   Select **Educator Development**
    *   Select **Request Voucher** for the certification exam you would like to take

    Resources:

    *   [MSIA Quick Start site](#) (scroll down to Get Started)
    *   [MSIA Member site](#)

2. Explore Microsoft Learn for Educators

   [Microsoft Learn for Educators](#) (MSLE) takes the best of the Microsoft learning paths and enables you to bring this Microsoft Official Curriculum (MOC) and the instructor-led training materials into your classroom to build your students' technical skills for the future.

   Eligible educators and faculty members can access Microsoft ready-to-teach curriculum and teaching materials aligned to industry-recognized Microsoft Certifications. These certifications augment a student's existing degree path and validate the skills needed to be successful across a variety of technical careers.

   The online resources listed below guide you through the MSLE program — signing in to the MSLE Portal, downloading content from the Learning Download Center, recording your course details in the Portal, requesting a practice exam key or certification voucher, touring the MSLE Teams Community, getting prepared to teach your first class containing Microsoft Fundamentals or Advanced Role-Based content, exploring different curriculum integration options, and more.

   Resources:

   - [Microsoft Learn for Educators home page and program overview](#)
   - [Microsoft Learn for Educators sign up instructions for institutions and individual educators](#)
   - [Introduction to Microsoft Learn for Educators Program](#)
   - [Onboard to Microsoft Learn for Educators Program](#)
   - [Microsoft Learn for Educators Course Preparation](#)
   - [Microsoft Learn for Educators Course Planning](#)
   - [Learn Best Practices from Microsoft Technical Trainers](#)

3. Explore Microsoft Fundamentals

   Microsoft Fundamentals curriculum and certification exams provide foundational-level knowledge of Microsoft cloud, AI, cybersecurity, and many more key technical areas. They are ideal for students starting or thinking about a career that needs digital skills – whether business, IT, or many more areas. Students may be eligible for ACE college credit if they pass a Fundamentals certification exam. See [ACE college credit for certification exams](#) for details.

   New resources are available to help you deliver the Microsoft Fundamentals courses in your classroom to prepare your students with future-ready skills and industry recognized Microsoft Certifications.

   - [Microsoft Fundamentals overview](#)
   - [Microsoft Fundamentals datasheet](#)
   - Access the Microsoft Fundamentals course materials through the [Microsoft Learn for Educators](#) program.

- Find [on-demand webinars](#) and prepare to teach Microsoft Fundamentals in your classroom (transcription is available to use with [Microsoft Translator](#) for each workshop). The following webinars are now available:
    - Overview of Microsoft Fundamentals: get started with Microsoft Learn for Educators and Fundamentals curriculum and certifications
    - Curriculum deep dive: hands-on. Explore a Fundamentals course through a guided, hands-on experience
    - Preparing to teach: hands-on. Explore Fundamentals educator resources and prepare to teach Microsoft Cloud in any classroom

- [Exam Cram Videos](#) to help educators prepare for taking their own Fundamentals certification exam.

Resources:

- [Microsoft Fundamentals overview](#)
- [Microsoft Learn for Educators](#)

4. Explore the Microsoft Learn Educator Center

The [Microsoft Learn Educator Center](#) is Microsoft's centralized training and professional development platform where educators and school leaders can explore free learning and skills resources and learn about programs, professional development offerings, and Microsoft technologies that advance teaching and learning practices.

The Microsoft Office 2019 curricula previously available through MSIA will be moving to the [Microsoft Learn Educator Center](#) under Instructor Materials and available for any educator to access.

We are excited to announce that new M365 MOS certification exam preparation materials are in development and will also be published and available on the [Microsoft Learn Educator Center](#) under Instructor Materials in conjunction with the release dates of these new exams.

Resources:

- [Microsoft Learn Educator Center](#)

5. Attend MSIA Office Hours and Q&A Sessions

- Microsoft Learn for Educators: December 7, 2pm EST ([Click here to join the meeting](#))
- Microsoft Learn Educator Center: December 13, 7pm EST ([Click here to join the meeting](#))

MSIA Resources:

- [Online Program Support Forum and Frequently Asked Questions document (FAQ)](#)
- [MSIA Quick Start site](#) (scroll down to Resources to Get Started)

- [MSIA Member site](#)
- [Microsoft Learn for Educators](#)
- [Microsoft Learn Educator Center](#)

Thank you for your commitment to help your students develop their technical skills and expand their workforce opportunities. We look forward to our ongoing partnership to empower educators and faculty around the world to create a better future for students, their families, and their communities.