



Microsoft Software and Systems Academy – Asia-Pacific (MSSA-AsiaPacific) Offerings

TRANSITION TO A MEANINGFUL CAREER IN TECH

Military Affairs | We Still Serve

Microsoft is committed to empowering transitioning US and Australian Defence Force (ADF) service members through training that leads to meaningful careers in tech.

MSSA-AsiaPacific offers US service members and veterans across the Asia-Pacific region an opportunity to learn alongside transitioning or former serving members of the ADF. Our intention is to skill participants and place them into IT industry roles with Microsoft or any of our 1,000+ hiring partners while promoting joint services engagement, understanding, and goodwill.

MSSA-AsiaPacific is a full-time, 17-week, technical training program designed to prepare transitioning and former serving/already separated members and veterans for entry into high-impact tech jobs in any industry. Our proven training model incorporates live instruction, hands-on virtual labs, real-life application scenarios, and opportunities to obtain industry-recognized certifications at no cost to participants.

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

MSSA-AsiaPacific participants elect to specialize in either Cloud Application Development (CAD) or Server & Cloud Administration (SCA). Upon completion of MSSA-AsiaPacific, participants will have a pathway towards Microsoft certifications and direct hiring opportunities with Microsoft or one of its 1,000+ hiring partners.

Being successful and confident in your career transition takes more than just technical know-how. In addition to technical curriculum, Microsoft partners with participants in career planning, professional skills-building – including resume writing and interview techniques – and job search strategies. MSSA-AsiaPacific also provides participants opportunities to engage with professional and technical mentors working at Microsoft.

Training locations and hours

CLASS SCHEDULE:

Monday-Friday 0800-1700 JST
(Japan Standard Time)

LOCATION:

Virtual (Instructor led)

DATES:

6 June – 6 October
2022

How do I apply?

Email our operations team starting March 1 to receive your link to the application portal at MSSA-AsiaPacific@microsoft.com.

Applications will be accepted between **1-15 March 2022 (1700 JST)**.

Please review the Virtual Brief aka.ms/MSSAvirtualbrief or email MSSA-AsiaPacific@microsoft.com with general questions.

* MSSA-AsiaPacific is NOT an expatriate program. MSSA-AsiaPacific is designed to facilitate instruction in a more favorable time zone for US service members serving in the Asia-Pacific region, with the opportunity to extend this offering to our partners and allies within the Australian Defence Force (ADF).

* The ADF and service branches do not endorse any company, sponsor or their products or services.

* MSSA is a Department of Defense approved SkillBridge program.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

| US Armed Forces | Australian Defence Force |
|---|---|
| <p>Who is eligible to apply?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transitioning active-duty service members within 180-days of end of service at program start. For eligible exceptions see MSSA-AsiaPacific FAQs¹ at aka.ms/MSSA-APAC-FAQ • US veterans | |
| <p>All applicants MUST:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend (or view) a MSSA-AsiaPacific information session • Provide a current, valid Pearson Vue IT Specialist (ITS) certification aligned to their chosen learning path.² SCA – ITS-Networking CAD – ITS-Software Development | |
| <p>Active-duty service members MUST:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure command approval to participate. Command approval must include date of separation, current service standing, and accurate program information (offering name, program dates).³ | <p>Transitioning service members MUST:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide an Interim Service Certificate • Provide a completed AC853 Form (and, if transition date falls after MSSA-AsiaPacific program start date, a signed Leave Form) |
| <p>Veterans MUST:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit a DD-214 (proof of honorable <u>or</u> general discharge under honorable conditions) | <p>Former serving/already separated members MUST:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide their Employment Separation Certificate |

¹ US active-duty service members must be within 180-days of end of service at program start. Exceptions will be reviewed and, if verified, approved only if 1) applicant is in active medical review board, or 2) applicant's end of service date is no further than 30 days beyond the 180-cutoff (leave may be eligible). Both exceptions require additional command authorization. For full information, visit MSSA FAQs at aka.ms/mssa-faq.

² Eligible applicants who have applied to a specific MSSA program offering and are engaged with an Application Manager will receive one (1) Pearson VUE ITS exam voucher and one (1) ITS exam training key for exam preparation. Eligible applicants are those who do not already hold an alternate certification accepted as part of the program prerequisites. For complete information on the ITS process, see [MSSA FAQs](#).

³ Consult DoD SkillBridge – How to Apply (uslearning.gov) for instructions on applying to SkillBridge programs for your branch of service.