

YDP SA PRESENTS
SAQA X MICROSOFT X COMPTIA

YDP SA X INTEGRATED CAREER CREDENTIALS X LMS
GUIDELINE

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OVERVIEW

This proposal outlines the strategic expansion of the Youth Development Project SA (PTY) LTD (**YDP SA**) **Short Courses** programme to include globally recognised **CompTIA** and **Microsoft** certifications as complementary credentials to our four core, mandatory **QCTO SAQA Occupational Certificates** in collaboration with **Mzingisi2Success, founded by Blessing Ningiza**.

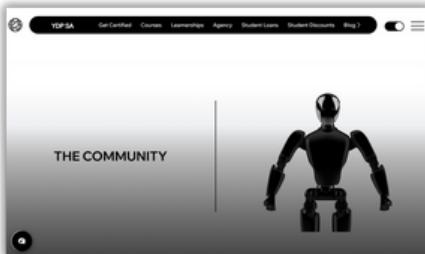
Accreditation No: 07-QCTO/SDPO10325195523022/07/0036 / ACC/2022/07/0036

The Vision: To create the most employable graduates in South Africa by providing a multi-qualification model: a nationally recognised **SAQA qualification** paired with globally demanded industry certifications.

The Strategy: Students will enroll in one of four foundational **SAQA** courses. Upon this mandatory foundation, they can choose to enhance their specialisation with a curated suite of **CompTIA** certifications trained by accredited **CompTIA Trainers in (CTT+)** or a key **Microsoft** certification trained by accredited **MCT (Microsoft Certified Trainers)**.

This integrated approach ensures graduates & professionals are not only locally qualified but also globally competitive, directly addressing the skills gap and maximising return on investment for all stakeholders.

Now, let's discuss the curated pathway options in detail, ensuring the relevant courses are strategically aligned to every student. There will be seminars hosted to addressing these to your database so all students know what expected and what route they should take prior their long-term career plans.



ALL ACCREDITATIONS ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST. SIMPLY CONTACT INFO@YDPSA.COM AND REF: ACCREDITATION REQUESTS



OUR CORE FOUNDATION

MANDATORY SAQA OCCUPATIONAL CERTIFICATES

All pathways begin with a solid, nationally recognised foundation. These SAQA qualifications are the bedrock of our programme and are mandatory for all students.

- Occupational Certificate: **Data Science Practitioner** (NQF L5)
- Occupational Certificate: **Cybersecurity Analyst** (NQF L5)
- Occupational Certificate: **Cloud Administrator** (NQF L4)
- Occupational Certificate: **Artificial Intelligence Software Developer** (NQF L5)

Accreditation No: 07-QCTO/SDPO10325195523022/07/0036

These courses provide the comprehensive, curriculum-based knowledge and practical work experience required by the South African workforce.



THE GLOBAL EDGE

INTRODUCING COMPTIA & MICROSOFT PATHWAYS

To future-proof our graduates, we have integrated two world-class certification pathways that align with our SAQA courses:

- **The CompTIA Pathway:** The global standard for vendor-neutral IT skills and certifications, from core fundamentals to advanced cybersecurity.
- **The Microsoft Pathway:** The definitive certification for the globally dominant Microsoft Certificates.

Candidates have the freedom to choose their path to global specialisation, adding either a **CompTIA** stack or the **Microsoft** certification to their core **SAQA** qualification.



THE COMPTIA ADVANTAGE

INDUSTRY-BACKED IT SKILLS

What is CompTIA?

The **Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA)** is the leading provider of vendor-neutral IT certifications in the world. **CompTIA** certifications validate the foundational, hands-on skills that IT professionals need to succeed in any technological environment.

Why CompTIA?

- **Globally Recognised:** The industry standard for launching and advancing IT careers worldwide.
- **Vendor-Neutral:** Teaches principles that apply across all technologies, not just one vendor's products.
- **Career-Focused:** Certifications are designed to match specific IT job roles and career progression.
- **Trusted by Employers:** Used by employers as a benchmark for hiring and promotion.





COMPTIA CERTIFICATION PATHWAYS

CO-BRANDED CERTIFICATES, TRAINING, IMPACT REPORTING AND EXAM VOUCHERS

At **YDP SA**, we don't just offer courses, we build the most competitive tech professionals in South Africa. Get nationally accredited with a **SAQA** Occupational Certificate and power up your career with our integrated global certification pathways.

Your Pathway to Mastery:

The CompTIA Stack: Master vendor-neutral IT skills.

Core: ITF+, A+

Infrastructure: Network+, Server+, Cloud+

Cybersecurity: Security+, CySA+, PenTest+

Professional: Project+, Cloud Essentials+, CTT+

The Microsoft Stack: Gain deep expertise in the world's leading cloud platform.

Cloud & Infrastructure: AZ-900, AZ-104, AZ-500

Data & AI: DP-900, DP-100, AI-900, AI-102

Productivity & Security: MS-900, SC-900

Why Choose Our Integrated Model?

Local + Global Recognition

Vendor-Neutral + Vendor-Specific Expertise

Theory + Practical Job-Ready Skills

Become the candidate employers are searching for.



CERTIFICATION PATHWAYS

TRAINING DELIVERED IN COLLABORATION WITH MICROSOFT LEARN + YDP SA'S EXTENDED LMS

All members are strongly encouraged to begin with the [**AI Fluency course**](#) as a foundation of how our Groups work on a basic level and to attain an additional certificate of completion. Access to the [**Microsoft AI Fluency group**](#) is **free**.

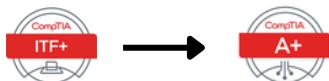
- Full access to structured study groups.
- All course materials for both **Fundamentals** and **Associate** level certifications.
- Support from our Updates team.



ComptIA

LET'S LEARN ABOUT THE **COMPTIA** CERTIFICATIONS. WHAT ARE THEY FOR AND WHY THEY ARE **IMPORTANT**?

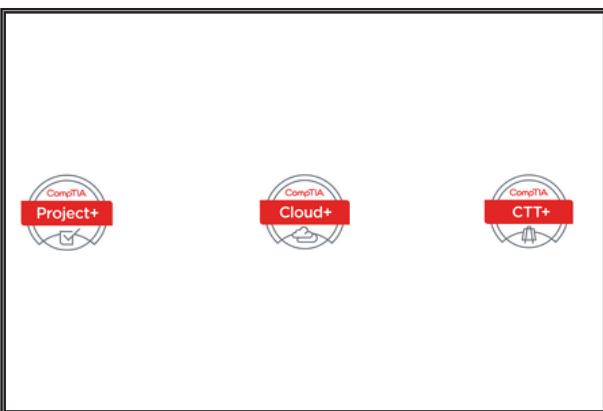
CORE SKILLS CERTIFICATIONS



INFRASTRUCTURE PATHWAY



PROFESSIONAL SKILLS



CYBERSECURITY PATHWAY

COMPTIA ITF+ (IT FUNDAMENTALS)



This course establishes a foundational understanding of IT concepts, terminology, infrastructure, applications, and software development.

WHY IT MATTERS?

- Builds essential digital literacy for beginners and career-changers.
- Creates a baseline understanding before pursuing advanced technical certifications.
- Helps individuals make informed decisions about pursuing a career in IT.

IMPORTANT STATS

- 90% of individuals who earn ITF+ report increased confidence in their IT knowledge (CompTIA).
- Foundational IT skills are required for 82% of middle-skill occupations (Burning Glass Technologies).
- Serves as a recommended prerequisite for the CompTIA A+ certification.

SOME PROFESSIONS IT APPLIES TO

- IT Support Specialist
- Sales Associate
- Marketing Associate
- Customer Service Representative
- Administrative Assistant
- Academic Advisor
- Retail Operations Staff
- Small Business Owner

COMPTIA A+



This certification validates the core technical skills required for entry-level IT roles, including troubleshooting, networking, security, and operational procedures.

WHY IT MATTERS?

- Establishes a baseline for IT operational roles and technical support positions.
- Trusted by employers to verify hands-on competency in device and software support.
- Forms the essential foundation for all other CompTIA certification pathways.

IMPORTANT STATS

- CompTIA A+ is the industry standard for launching IT careers (CompTIA).
- A+ is preferred for technical support roles by employers like Intel, Dell, and HP.
- 80% of A+ certified professionals feel more confident in their job skills (CompTIA).

SOME PROFESSIONS IT APPLIES TO

- Help Desk Technician
- Desktop Support Specialist
- Field Service Technician
- IT Support Administrator
- System Support Specialist
- Associate Network Engineer
- Data Support Specialist
- IT Administrator

COMPTIA NETWORK+



This certification validates the essential skills needed to design, configure, manage, and troubleshoot wired and wireless networks.

WHY IT MATTERS?

- Develops the core knowledge of network services and operations.
- Ensures professionals can create and maintain resilient networks.
- Provides a vendor-neutral foundation for networking concepts and technologies.

IMPORTANT STATS

- Network+ certified professionals report a 15% average salary increase (CompTIA).
- 86% of hiring managers indicate Network+ certification is a trusted credential (CompTIA).
- Networking skills are critical for over 50% of all IT infrastructure roles.

SOME PROFESSIONS IT APPLIES TO

- Network Administrator
- System Engineer
- Network Support Specialist
- IT Consultant
- Help Desk Technician
- Network Field Engineer
- IS Consultant
- Network Analyst

COMPTIA SECURITY+



This certification validates the baseline skills necessary to perform core security functions and pursue an IT security career.

WHY IT MATTERS?

- Establishes the core knowledge required for any cybersecurity role.
- Covers the most essential principles for risk management and mitigation.
- Globally trusted, and compliant with ISO 17024 standards.

IMPORTANT STATS

- Security+ is approved by the US DoD to meet directive 8140/8570.01-M requirements.
- More than 2.3 million Security+ certifications have been issued globally (CompTIA).
- Cybersecurity jobs are projected to grow 35% over the next 10 years (U.S. BLS).

SOME PROFESSIONS IT APPLIES TO

- Security Administrator
- Systems Administrator
- Helpdesk Manager
- Network Engineer
- Security Consultant
- IT Auditor
- Security Engineer
- Vulnerability Analyst

COMPTIA CYSA+ (CYBERSECURITY ANALYST)



This intermediate certification focuses on behavioural analytics to identify and combat malware and advanced persistent threats (APTs).

WHY IT MATTERS?

- Validates the ability to proactively defend and continuously monitor an organisation.
- Focuses on security analytics and the application of threat detection tools.
- Bridges the gap between entry-level security knowledge and advanced skills.

IMPORTANT STATS

- CySA+ meets the ISO 17024 standard and is approved by the US DoD.
- 96% of CySA+ certified professionals can effectively identify and combat threats (CompTIA).
- The demand for cybersecurity analysts is among the fastest-growing in the tech sector.

SOME PROFESSIONS IT APPLIES TO

- Cybersecurity Analyst
- Threat Intelligence Analyst
- Security Operations Center (SOC) Analyst
- Vulnerability Analyst
- Security Specialist
- Cyber Threat Hunter
- IT Security Manager
- Information Security Analyst

COMPTIA SECURITYX (ADVANCED SECURITY PRACTITIONER)



Formerly known as CASP this advanced-level certification is for cybersecurity professionals who design and implement security solutions.

WHY IT MATTERS?

- Validates expertise in enterprise security, risk analysis, and architecture.
- Certifies the highest level of operational skill and judgement.
- Designed for professionals who lead and architect security solutions.

IMPORTANT STATS

- SecurityX is the only performance-based certification for advanced practitioners (CompTIA).
- It is approved by the US DoD for IAT Level III, IAM Level II, and IASAE Level II.
- Professionals with SecurityX report an average salary 15% higher than their peers.

SOME PROFESSIONS IT APPLIES TO

- Security Architect
- Senior Security Engineer
- SOC Manager
- Security Analyst
- Chief Information Security Officer (CISO)
- Cyber Risk Manager
- Security Consultant
- Technical Lead Analyst

COMPTIA SERVER+



This certification validates the hands-on skills needed to install, manage, and troubleshoot servers in data centers, on-premise, and in hybrid environments.

WHY IT MATTERS?

- Certifies the advanced technical skills required for server administration and support.
- Focuses on server hardware, virtualization, storage, and security, regardless of vendor.
- Ensures professionals can maintain and optimize critical server infrastructure.

IMPORTANT STATS

- 86% of employers believe certifications like Server+ help close the IT skills gap (CompTIA).
- Server+ certified professionals are 30% more likely to be employed in infrastructure roles.
- Over 70% of organizations maintain on-premise server rooms, requiring these skills.

SOME PROFESSIONS IT APPLIES TO

- Server Administrator
- Data Center Technician
- IT Infrastructure Manager
- Systems Administrator
- Field Service Engineer
- Network Administrator
- Cloud Engineer
- Technical Support Analyst

COMPTIA PROJECT+



This certification validates the knowledge and skills required to manage small-to-medium-sized projects.

WHY IT MATTERS?

- Covers the entire project lifecycle from initiation to closure.
- Provides essential project management skills for IT and non-IT professionals.
- Focuses on business, interpersonal, and project management skills.

IMPORTANT STATS

- 82% of high-performing organisations employ certified project managers (CompTIA).
- Project+ certified professionals are 30% more likely to meet project goals (CompTIA).
- Project management skills are required for 60% of all senior IT roles.

SOME PROFESSIONS IT APPLIES TO

- Project Manager
- Business Analyst
- IT Manager
- Team Lead
- Project Coordinator
- Marketing Manager
- Operations Manager
- Product Owner

COMPTIA CLOUD+



This certification validates the technical skills needed to securely implement, maintain, and utilize cloud infrastructure.

WHY IT MATTERS?

- Provides a performance-based certification for cloud computing virtualization.
- Covers the configuration and management of cloud technologies securely.
- Essential for professionals who work with data center hosting and cloud model delivery.

IMPORTANT STATS

- The global cloud computing market is projected to reach \$1.7 trillion by 2029 (Fortune Business Insights).
- 85% of enterprises will adopt a cloud-first strategy by 2025 (Gartner).
- Cloud+ meets the ISO 17024 standard and is approved by the US DoD.

SOME PROFESSIONS IT APPLIES TO

- Cloud Administrator
- Cloud Engineer
- Systems Administrator
- Network Administrator
- DevOps Engineer
- Security Engineer
- Cloud Specialist
- Data Center Manager

COMPTIA PENTEST+



This certification validates the knowledge and skills required to plan, scope, and manage vulnerability assessments and penetration tests.

WHY IT MATTERS?

- Certifies hands-on ability to perform penetration testing and vulnerability management.
- Focuses on simulating cyberattacks to identify and exploit vulnerabilities.
- Ensures professionals can effectively report on findings and recommend mitigations.

IMPORTANT STATS

- PenTest+ is approved by the US DoD to meet directive 8140/8570.01-M requirements.
- 89% of PenTest+ certified professionals feel more confident in their offensive security skills (CompTIA).
- The demand for penetration testers is expected to grow by 32% over the next decade (U.S. BLS).

SOME PROFESSIONS IT APPLIES TO

- Penetration Tester
- Vulnerability Tester
- Security Analyst (Offensive Security)
- Vulnerability Assessment Analyst
- Network Security Operations
- Application Security Developer
- Cloud Penetration Tester
- Red Team Operator

COMPTIA CLOUD ESSENTIALS+



This certification validates the knowledge and skills required to make informed cloud solutions decisions.

WHY IT MATTERS?

- Covers the fundamental business and technical perspectives of cloud computing.
- Essential for roles that require an understanding of cloud vendor management.
- Helps professionals understand the impact of cloud solutions on business operations.

IMPORTANT STATS

- 83% of enterprise workloads will be in the cloud by 2025 (Forbes).
- 70% of organisations report that cloud literacy is required for all IT hires.
- Cloud Essentials+ certified professionals can better align IT with business goals.

SOME PROFESSIONS IT APPLIES TO

- Business Analyst
- Project Manager
- Sales and Marketing Staff
- IT Manager
- Cloud Consultant
- Managed Service Provider
- Technical Sales
- Business Development Manager

COMPTIA CTT+ (CERTIFIED TECHNICAL TRAINER)



This certification validates the skills necessary to teach and train in IT and other fields.

WHY IT MATTERS?

- Establishes a standard for excellence in training and instruction.
- Certifies skills in instructional design, delivery, and evaluation.
- Essential for professionals who deliver technical or skill-based training.

IMPORTANT STATS

- 95% of CTT+ certified trainers report improved training delivery (CompTIA).
- Certified trainers can increase knowledge retention by up to 25% in learners.
- CTT+ is accredited by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training.

SOME PROFESSIONS IT APPLIES TO

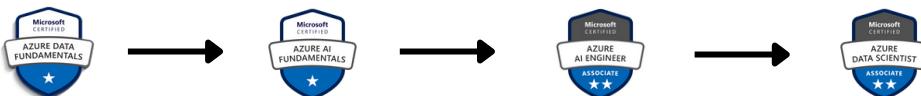
- Corporate Trainer
- Technical Instructor
- Education Consultant
- Course Developer
- Academic Facilitator
- Learning and Development Specialist
- Skills Development Facilitator
- Mentorship Programme Lead





LET'S LEARN ABOUT THE **MICROSOFT CERTIFICATIONS**. WHAT ARE THEY FOR AND WHY THEY ARE **IMPORTANT**?

DATA & AI PATHWAY



CORE SKILLS CERTIFICATIONS



CLOUD & INFRASTRUCTURE PATHWAY



AI FLUENCY CERTIFICATE



The Microsoft AI Fluency Course is an entry-level, non-technical program that enables professionals to understand, interpret, and communicate AI concepts effectively.

WHY IT MATTERS?

- Encourages ethical and responsible AI use
- Enhances cross-functional collaboration (IT, HR, Finance, Legal)
- Required for company-wide digital transformation readiness

IMPORTANT STATS

- 84% of executives believe AI Fluency is essential across business teams (Microsoft, 2025)
- 2x faster AI adoption in organisations with an AI-literate workforce
- 60% of AI transformation projects fail due to communication breakdowns

SOME PROFESSIONS IT APPLIES TO

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marketing Manager• Human Resource Officer• Legal Advisor• Sales Team Lead• Product Manager• Financial Analyst• Supply Chain Coordinator• Healthcare Administrator	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supply Chain Coordinator• Healthcare Administrator• School Principal / Academic Planner• Project Manager• Customer Success Lead• Retail Operations Manager• Policy Analyst• Startup Founder• NGO Program Coordinator
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MICROSOFT AZURE AZURE FUNDAMENTALS AZ-900 + AZURE ADMINISTRATOR



This comprehensive Azure Fundamentals (AZ-900) + Azure Administrator (AZ-104) combo provides complete Azure proficiency - from foundational cloud concepts to hands-on administration skills, preparing you for end-to-end cloud management roles.

WHY IT MATTERS?

- Complete Learning Path: Start with fundamentals (AZ-900) and progress to advanced administration (AZ-104)
- Career-Ready Skills: Combines theoretical knowledge with practical implementation abilities
- Cost-Effective: Bundled training at a reduced price compared to separate certifications
- Accelerated Growth: 92% of hiring managers prefer candidates with both foundational and administrative Azure knowledge with Average salary ranging \$85,000 - \$120,000 for combo-certified professionals

IMPORTANT STATS

- Cloud concepts and Azure core services (AZ900).
- Azure pricing, SLAs, and lifecycle (AZ900).
- Security, privacy, compliance, and trust (AZ900).
- Azure governance and management tools (AZ900).
- Manage Azure identities and governance (AZ-104)
- Implement and manage storage solutions (AZ-104)
- Deploy and maintain Azure compute resources (AZ-104)
- Configure and manage virtual networking (AZ-104)
- Monitor and maintain Azure resources (AZ-104)

SOME PROFESSIONS IT APPLIES TO

- Azure Cloud Administrator
- Cloud Infrastructure Engineer
- Azure Support Engineer
- Junior Cloud Architect
- IT Systems Administrator (Azure)
- DevOps Support Engineer
- Cloud Security Administrator
- Cloud Operations Specialist



MICROSOFT AZURE AI FUNDAMENTALS AI-900

This course introduces foundational AI concepts and services within Microsoft Azure, including machine learning, computer vision, natural language processing, and responsible AI. It is designed for individuals seeking to understand how AI is implemented and used in real-world solutions.

WHY IT MATTERS?

- Develops essential AI literacy for business and tech professionals
- Helps non-technical learners understand AI use cases and ethics
- Builds a strong foundation for advanced AI certifications and careers

IMPORTANT STATS

- AI market expected to reach \$500+ billion by 2027
- Over 90% of modern businesses are exploring AI adoption
- Microsoft Azure AI services are used by more than 95% of Fortune 500 companies.

SOME PROFESSIONS IT APPLIES TO

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business Analyst• Data Analyst (Entry-Level)• Marketing Analyst• AI Enthusiast• Technical Recruiter• Customer Insights Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Operations Analyst• Sales Specialist (AI/Cloud Solutions)• IT Support Specialist• Junior AI Consultant• Innovation Coordinator• Product Owner (Tech Solutions)
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MICROSOFT 365 FUNDAMENTALS

MS-900

This course focuses on core Microsoft 365 concepts such as productivity apps, collaboration tools, cloud concepts, and security fundamentals.

WHY IT MATTERS?

- Strengthens digital fluency in cloud productivity tools
- Essential for remote and hybrid workforce environments
- Provides practical know-how for everyday office operations

IMPORTANT STATS

- Microsoft 365 has over 300 million active users worldwide
- 70% of businesses improved team productivity post-M365 implementation
- Remote jobs requiring Microsoft 365 experience have risen 500% post-COVID

SOME PROFESSIONS IT APPLIES TO

- Helpdesk Analyst
- Cloud Support Intern
- Office Administrator
- IT Clerk
- Collaboration Tools Specialist
- Junior HRIS Analyst
- Internal Comms Assistant
- Project Support Officer
- Procurement Assistant
- Virtual Assistant
- Customer Support Rep
- Tech Onboarding Trainer
- Team Coordinator
- Remote Office Manager
- School Admin Assistant



MICROSOFT AZURE DATA FUNDAMENTALS DP-900

This course introduces core data concepts and services in Microsoft Azure, covering relational and non-relational data, analytics workloads, and database fundamentals. It is designed for individuals beginning their journey in data-related roles and Azure technologies.

WHY IT MATTERS?

- Strengthens understanding of core data principles across cloud environments
- Prepares learners for roles involving data handling, reporting, and analysis
- Provides foundational knowledge required for advanced data certifications and roles

IMPORTANT STATS

- Over 2.5 quintillion bytes of data are created daily worldwide
- Azure SQL is used by thousands of global businesses for critical operations
- Data-driven roles are among the fastest growing job categories globally

SOME PROFESSIONS IT APPLIES TO

- Data Analyst (Entry-Level)
- Junior Database Administrator
- Reporting Analyst
- IT Support (Data-Focused)
- Business Intelligence Assistant
- Market Research Analyst Technical Assistant (Analytics Projects)
- Cloud Support Intern (Data Track)
- Operations Analyst
- Junior Data Engineer
- Product Support Officer
- Sales Operations Assistant

MICROSOFT SECURITY, COMPLIANCE & IDENTITY FUNDAMENTALS SC-900



This course introduces fundamental concepts of cybersecurity, compliance, and identity protection in Microsoft cloud services.

WHY IT MATTERS?

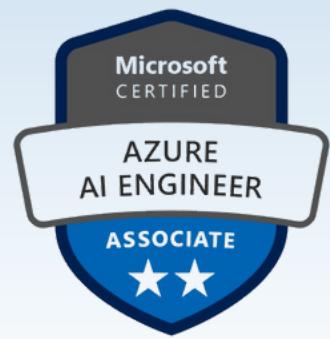
- Encourages best practices in cybersecurity from day one
- Provides an accessible entry point into GRC and infosec careers
- Aligns with zero-trust security strategies adopted by modern businesses

IMPORTANT STATS

- 83% of organizations faced at least one security breach in 2024
- Zero-trust adoption is now the global enterprise standard
- Demand for entry-level cyber professionals is outpacing supply by 2:1

SOME PROFESSIONS IT APPLIES TO

- Cybersecurity Intern
- SOC Trainee
- IT Auditor (junior)
- Risk and Compliance Clerk
- GRC Assistant
- Identity & Access Analyst (entry)
- Helpdesk Security Support
- Security Awareness Facilitator
- Desktop Support Technician
- Financial Compliance Analyst
- Legal Risk Clerk
- Cloud Security Assistant
- Network Operations Intern
- Endpoint Security Operator
- Data Governance Assistant



MICROSOFT AZURE AI ENGINEER ASSOCIATE AI-102

This advanced course equips learners with the skills to build, manage, and deploy AI-powered applications using Azure Cognitive Services and Azure Machine Learning.

WHY IT MATTERS?

- Prepares professionals for the most in-demand AI implementation roles
- Covers real-world AI development, including NLP, vision, and bots
- Enables certified professionals to lead AI transformation projects

IMPORTANT STATS

- Azure AI Engineer salaries average US \$106,896 (Skillsoft, 2025)
- AI engineering roles are growing 4x faster than other tech roles
- Over 40% of R&D budgets are being reallocated to AI in large enterprises

SOME PROFESSIONS IT APPLIES TO

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AI Engineer• Machine Learning Developer• Bot Developer• Computer Vision Specialist• NLP Engineer• Azure AI Solution Architect• RPA Developer• MLOps Engineer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data Scientist (AI)• Cognitive Services Developer• Chatbot Engineer• Gen-AI Engineer• AI Software Consultant• AI Product Developer• AI DevOps Engineer
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MICROSOFT AZURE DATA SCIENTIST ASSOCIATE DP-100

This course prepares learners to train, validate, and deploy machine learning models using Azure Machine Learning and data science best practices.

WHY IT MATTERS?

- A cornerstone certification for data science and AI careers
- Empowers learners to create predictive business models
- Bridges the gap between data insights and business decisions

IMPORTANT STATS

- Average salary for certified data scientists is US \$84,040
- 90% of companies prefer hiring data scientists with formal certification
- Predictive analytics reduces decision-making time by up to 80%

SOME PROFESSIONS IT APPLIES TO

- Data Scientist
- ML Model Builder
- BI Developer
- Applied Statistician
- Analytics Consultant
- Forecasting Analyst
- AI Researcher
- Quantitative Analyst
- Data Strategy Associate
- Financial Modelling Analyst
- Fraud Detection Analyst
- Supply Chain Data Specialist
- Health Data Analyst
- Credit Risk Analyst
- HR Data Analyst



MICROSOFT AZURE SECURITY ENGINEER ASSOCIATE AZ-500

This certification teaches the implementation of security controls, threat protection, and identity management in Azure-based environments.

WHY IT MATTERS?

- Critical for protecting sensitive data and infrastructure in the cloud
- Aligns with high-demand cybersecurity frameworks and practices
- Trusted by top firms for enterprise-level security architecture

IMPORTANT STATS

- Cloud security jobs are among the top 5 highest-paying IT careers
- Certified teams see 56% less unplanned downtime
- Organizations without Azure-secure frameworks face higher average breach losses.

SOME PROFESSIONS IT APPLIES TO

- Cloud Security Engineer
- SOC Analyst
- DevSecOps Engineer
- Threat Detection Specialist
- Cloud Risk Analyst
- Identity and Access Administrator
- Penetration Tester (cloud)
- Incident Responder
- Secure Cloud Configurator
- Vulnerability Analyst
- Governance and Compliance Officer
- Security Automation Engineer
- Endpoint Protection Manager
- Security Operations Support
- Azure Security Admin



SYNERGY IN LEARNING

MAPPING COMPTIA TO SAQA COURSES

SAQA OCCUPATIONAL CERTIFICATE (MANDATORY)	RECOMMENDED COMPTIA ADD-ONS	CAREER OUTCOME
Cybersecurity Analyst (NQF 5)	Security+, CySA+, SecurityX	A graduate qualified to South African standards and equipped with a globally recognised cybersecurity skills stack, from analyst to practitioner.
Cloud Administrator (NQF 4)	ITF+, A+, Network+, Server+	A professional skilled in both local cloud principles and the global gold-standard for IT infrastructure support and networking.
Data Science Practitioner (NQF 5)	Project+, Cloud Essentials+	An analyst with not only data skills but also the project management and cloud business acumen to lead data-driven initiatives.
AI Software Developer (NQF 5)	Project+, Linux+	A developer who can not only build AI solutions but also manage the development lifecycle and work within open-source environments.





SYNERGY IN LEARNING

MAPPING MICROSOFT TO SAQA COURSES

SAQA OCCUPATIONAL CERTIFICATE (MANDATORY)	RECOMMENDED MICROSOFT ADD-ONS	CAREER OUTCOME
Cybersecurity Analyst (NQF 5)	SC-900, AZ-500	A security professional certified in both South African standards and Microsoft's security, compliance, and identity solutions.
Cloud Administrator (NQF 4)	AZ-900, AZ-104	An administrator qualified to manage both on-premise infrastructure and Microsoft Azure cloud environments.
Data Science Practitioner (NQF 5)	DP-900, DP-100	A data expert skilled in fundamental data concepts and advanced data science on the Microsoft Azure platform.
AI Software Developer (NQF 5)	AI-900, AI-102	A developer certified to build and deploy AI solutions using Microsoft Azure AI and machine learning services.





SYNERGY IN LEARNING

MAPPING (COMPTIA + MICROSOFT) TO SAQA COURSES

SAQA OCCUPATIONAL CERTIFICATE (MANDATORY)	RECOMMENDED POWER COMBO ADD-ONS	ULTIMATE CAREER OUTCOME
Cybersecurity Analyst (NQF 5)	CompTIA Security+ + Microsoft SC-900/AZ-500	A cybersecurity analyst with vendor-neutral CompTIA security fundamentals AND Microsoft-specific security implementation skills.
Cloud Administrator (NQF 4)	CompTIA Network+/Server+ + Microsoft AZ-104	A cloud infrastructure specialist who understands universal networking principles AND can expertly manage Azure environments.
Data Science Practitioner (NQF 5)	CompTIA Project+ + Microsoft DP-100	A data team lead who can manage analytics projects AND build advanced machine learning models on Azure.
AI Software Developer (NQF 5)	CompTIA Project+ + Microsoft AI-102	An AI solution architect who can manage development lifecycles AND build complex AI applications on Azure.





FLEXIBLE STUDENT PATHWAYS

SAQA ONLY VS. COMBO PACKAGES

We offer unparalleled flexibility to meet diverse needs and budgets.

Option 1: SAQA Occupational Certificate Only

- The foundational, mandatory national **SAQA** qualification.
- Ideal for students seeking a focused, nationally recognised credential.
- Offers better affordability.

Option 2: The Combo (SAQA + Selected Global Certs)

- The Recommended Pathway. Students enroll in their chosen **SAQA** Occupational Certificate and can add a curated suite of **CompTIA** certifications OR the key Microsoft certifications at a bundled package price.
- This creates the ultimate career portfolio: Local Accreditation + Global Certification.
- **Key Differentiator:** Candidates choose either the **CompTIA** pathway **or** the **Microsoft** pathway to specialise in.

Option 3: The Premium Combo (SAQA + Both Global Certs)

- The Recommended Pathway. Students enroll in their chosen **SAQA** Occupational Certificate and can add a curated suite of CompTIA certifications & the key **Microsoft** certifications at a bundled package price.
- This creates the ultimate career portfolio: Local Accreditation + A multi Global Certification from both **Microsoft** & **CompTIA**.
- **Key Differentiator:** Candidates get both the **CompTIA** pathway & the **Microsoft** pathway to specialise in.





THE UNIFIED CERTIFICATION STRATEGY

WHY THIS INTEGRATED APPROACH CREATES UNBEATABLE GRADUATES:

- **Foundation + Specialization:** **SAQA** provides the foundational knowledge, while **CompTIA** and **Microsoft** provide specialized, hands-on skills.
- **Vendor-Neutral + Vendor-Specific:** **CompTIA** ensures broad understanding across all technologies, while Microsoft provides deep expertise in the world's leading cloud platform.
- **Theory + Practice:** The **SAQA** qualification covers theoretical concepts, while global certifications validate practical, job-ready skills.
- **Local + Global:** Graduates receive both nationally recognised credentials and internationally portable certifications.

This unified approach ensures our graduates are not just qualified – they are the most comprehensively skilled and employment-ready IT professionals in the market.



SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND JOB READINESS FRAMEWORK

ROADMAP

Our proven 10-step framework is enhanced with global certification preparation:

- Candidate Accumulation via Social Platforms & Partner Institutions.
- Centralized Onboarding onto our LMS and Community.
- Weekly Progress Tracking against both SAQA and CompTIA/Microsoft syllabi.
- Clear Academic Logistics Roadmap with integrated certification exam dates.
- Weekly SDR-Led Q&A Sessions now covering both SAQA curriculum and global certification topics.
- Collaborative Online Peer Community with dedicated channels for CompTIA study groups.
- Personalized Learning Plans that include certification goal-setting.
- Bi-Weekly Skills Assessments using practice exams for both SAQA and global credentials.
- Job Readiness Initiatives where global certifications are highlighted on CVs and LinkedIn profiles.
- Potential Job Placements with partners who specifically value dual-qualified candidates.





YOUR JOURNEY TO A GLOBAL TECH CAREER STARTS HERE

You've seen the pathways. Now, it's time to take the first step toward becoming a dual-certified, world-class IT professional.

We are now accepting applications for our 2026 intake!

Our Call to Action for Institutional Partners:



APPLY NOW

Secure your future by applying for your chosen SAQA Occupational Certificate. Upon this foundation, you will select your global specialisation: the CompTIA Pathway, the Microsoft Pathway, or the Premium Combo of both.



PREPARE FOR SUCCESS

Get ready to build an unbeatable career portfolio. We will host career pathway seminars with industry experts to guide you, share success stories, and prepare you for the high-demand world of tech.



PROMOTE

Spread the word to your network about this unparalleled opportunity to get nationally qualified and globally certified. Let's build South Africa's next generation of tech talent, together.

THE YDP SA (LMS)

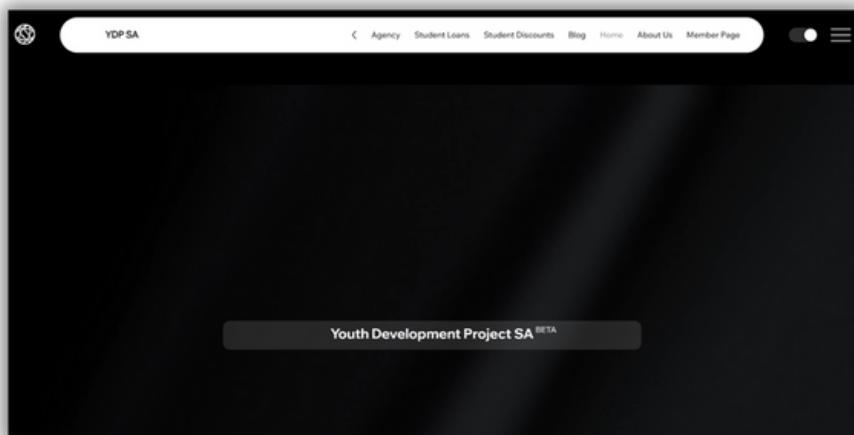


ONBOARDING PROCESS – STEP-BY-STEP

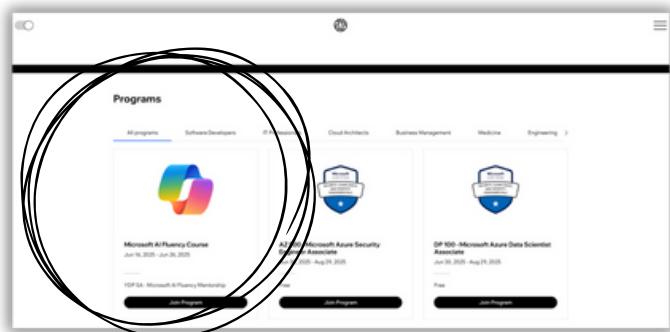
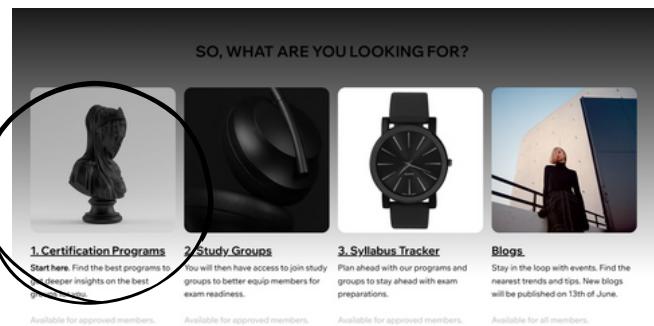
A MICROSOFT-ALIGNED CURRICULUM AND OFFICIAL STUDY MATERIAL

This guide is tailored to teach you how to find courses for our LMS. The Syllabus tracker is only used for Training sessions that will be facilitated by our Accredited Instructors. We will create separate Syllabus Trackers for all our partners to ensure all candidates attend the relevant courses respective to their institutions.

Step 1: Access website Online at www.ydpsa.com



Step 2: Open the menu top right with three horizontal lines and search for '**Programs**' or book for it via **The Community** page and select '**Certificate Programs**' this will otherwise be called **Cybersecurity Analyst** under **ABC University** portal . Users will select the relevant course and click '**Join Program**' & submit their request as registered students.





ONBOARDING PROCESS – STEP-BY-STEP

Step 3: Users will scroll down the selected **Program** and click on '**Request to join**'.

Price

YDP SA - Microsoft AI Fluency Mentorship, Free

Group Discussion

This program is connected to a group. You'll be added once you join the program.



Microsoft AI Fluency Course
Public • 1 Member

Share






Request to Join

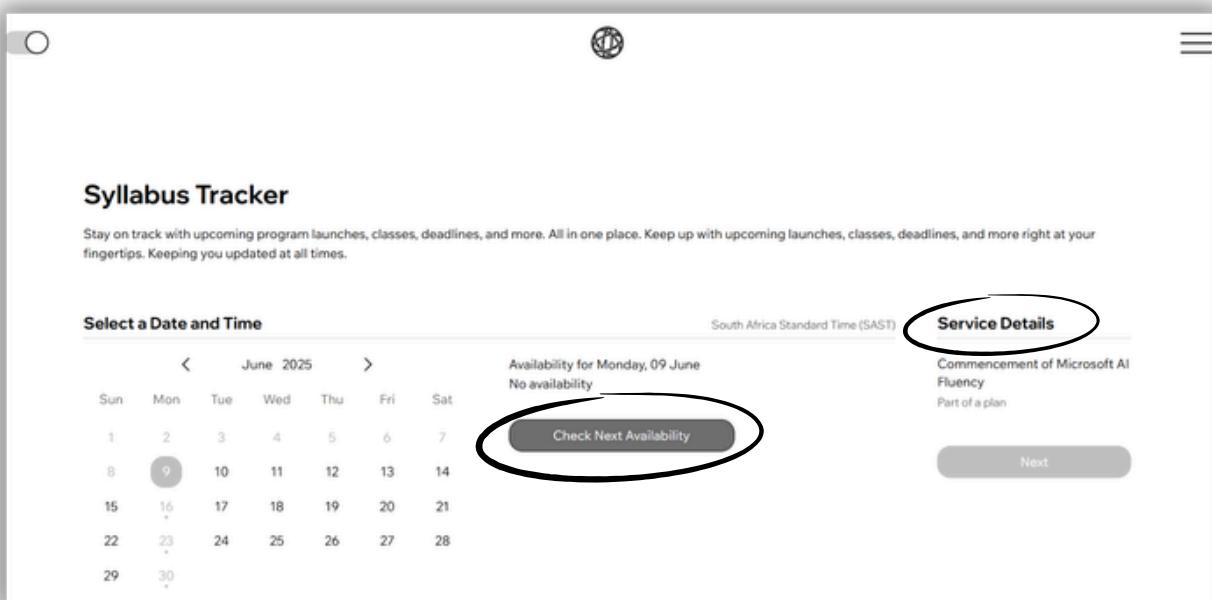
Users will be encouraged to share their commencement stage on your Socials such as **LinkedIn**. **Microsoft & CompTIA** loves it and will further their chances of attaining more exam vouchers in future. Within their post, this will let others know they are studying and where they are studying this program and what other students & professionals will learn. This will help organic market both YDP SA and your organisation and drive scalable SEO and SMM from such reviews.

#MicrosoftAIFluency **#CySa+xYDPsaXABCUniversity** **#ACompTIA** **#DigitalSkills**
#FutureOfWork **#InclusiveAI** **#MicrosoftAI** **#YDPSA** **#YouthDevelopmentProjectSA**
#YDPSAXABCUniversity

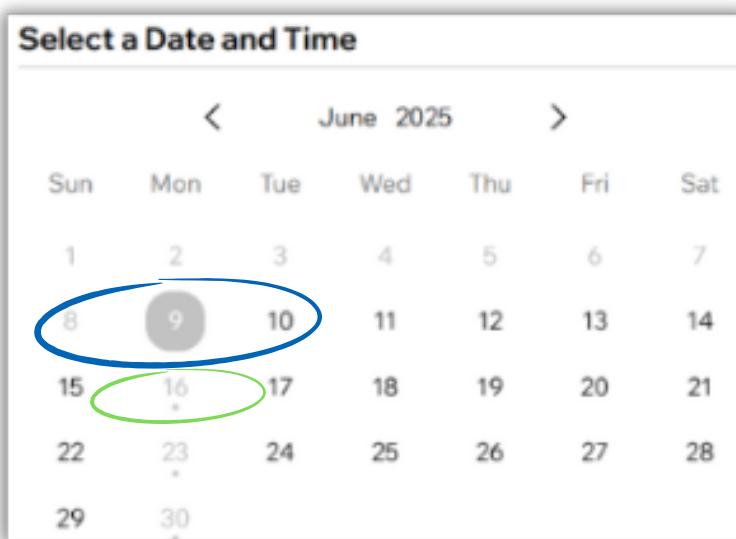


ONBOARDING PROCESS – STEP-BY-STEP

Step 4: Users will book their session via the '**Syllabus Tracker**' and select '**Check Next availability**'. They will find '**Service Details**' on the far right. This can be changed to Lesson details.



Notice: The **blue highlighted date** represents the current day. The **green highlighted date** represents following activities in our system with a dot underneath it.



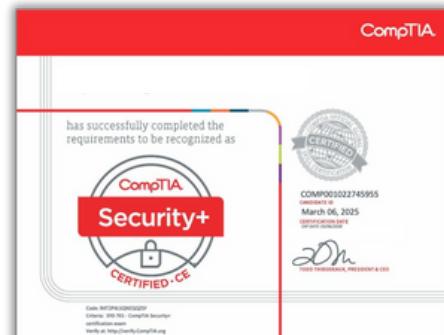


ONBOARDING PROCESS – STEP-BY-STEP

Step 5: Once approved, users will receive an email with a direct link to begin the program on our Learning Portal. From there, they will be added to our Database Management System as illustrated below. We operate multiple database management systems, each managed by appointed moderators assigned to specific partners.

Name	Assignee	Due date	Priority	Status	Department	Responsible	Monitoring Status	CTA	Training	Reference Link
Siyolongwa Magogwa	✓	Jul 6	High	COMPLETE	Microsoft AI Pharmacy Programs	Project Manager	Sponsored	Closed	-	shorturl.at
Johannes Marie	✓	Jul 6	High	COMPLETE	Microsoft AI Pharmacy Programs	Project Manager	Sponsored	Closed	-	shorturl.at
Mohammed Patel	✓	Jul 6	High	COMPLETE	Microsoft AI Pharmacy Programs	Project Manager	Sponsored	Closed	-	shorturl.at
Siboniso Makhanya	✓	Jul 6	High	IN PROGRESS	Microsoft AI Pharmacy Programs	Project Manager	Sponsored	Zulula Email	-	shorturl.at
Bernadine Sheik Koon	✓	Jul 6	High	COMPLETE	Microsoft AI Pharmacy Programs	Project Manager	Sponsored	Closed	-	shorturl.at
Thembekile Buthelezi	✓	Jul 6	High	COMPLETE	Microsoft AI Pharmacy Programs	Project Manager	Sponsored	Closed	-	shorturl.at
Zaheer Hosain	✓	Jul 6	High	COMPLETE	Microsoft AI Pharmacy Programs	Project Manager	Sponsored	Closed	-	shorturl.at
Sello Jacob	✓	Jul 6	High	IN PROGRESS	Microsoft AI Pharmacy Programs	Project Manager	Sponsored	Pending Completion	-	shorturl.at
Gugulethu Zwane	✓	Jul 6	High	IN PROGRESS	Microsoft AI Pharmacy Programs	Project Manager	Sponsored	Pending Commencement	-	shorturl.at
Tanuka Chheda	✓	Jul 6	High	IN PROGRESS	Microsoft AI Pharmacy Programs	Project Manager	Sponsored	Pending Completion	-	shorturl.at
Lethabo Mthobela	✓	Jul 6	High	IN PROGRESS	Microsoft AI Pharmacy Programs	Project Manager	Sponsored	Pending Completion	-	shorturl.at
Bongile Matshulani	✓	Jul 6	High	IN PROGRESS	Microsoft AI Pharmacy Programs	Project Manager	Sponsored	Pending Completion	-	shorturl.at
Precious Monyama	✓	Jul 6	High	IN PROGRESS	Microsoft AI Pharmacy Programs	Project Manager	Sponsored	Pending Commencement	-	shorturl.at
Glenton Sebuloso	✓	Jul 6	High	IN PROGRESS	Microsoft AI Pharmacy Programs	Project Manager	Sponsored	Pending Commencement	-	shorturl.at
Zuko Mhlipho	✓	Jul 6	High	IN PROGRESS	Microsoft AI Pharmacy Programs	Project Manager	Sponsored	Pending Commencement	-	shorturl.at
Rehumbile Sechela	✓	Jul 6	High	IN PROGRESS	Microsoft AI Pharmacy Programs	Project Manager	Sponsored	Pending Completion	-	shorturl.at
Siluvano Nhlapo	✓	Jul 6	High	IN PROGRESS	Microsoft AI Pharmacy Programs	Project Manager	Sponsored	Pending Commencement	-	shorturl.at
Nesipho Mthobeli	✓	Jul 6	High	IN PROGRESS	Microsoft AI Pharmacy Programs	Project Manager	Sponsored	Pending Completion	-	shorturl.at
Syndie Dular	✓	Jul 6	High	IN PROGRESS	Microsoft AI Pharmacy Programs	Project Manager	Sponsored	Pending Completion	-	shorturl.at
Siluvano Makhoba	✓	Jul 6	High	COMPLETE	Microsoft AI Pharmacy Programs	Project Manager	Sponsored	Pending Commencement	-	shorturl.at

Step 6: Users will receive a co-branded Certificate of Completion from **YDP SA** and your organization, a **SAQA** Certificate of Evaluation, as well as an official **Microsoft** or **CompTIA** certificate upon successfully passing the proctored **Pearson VUE** exam. Exams can be written in bulk at the partner university. This serves as validation to your organization, should they sponsor your Microsoft Fundamentals or Associate certification, supporting your continued training through our collaborative study group.





BADGES TO ATTAIN FROM OUR COMMUNITY

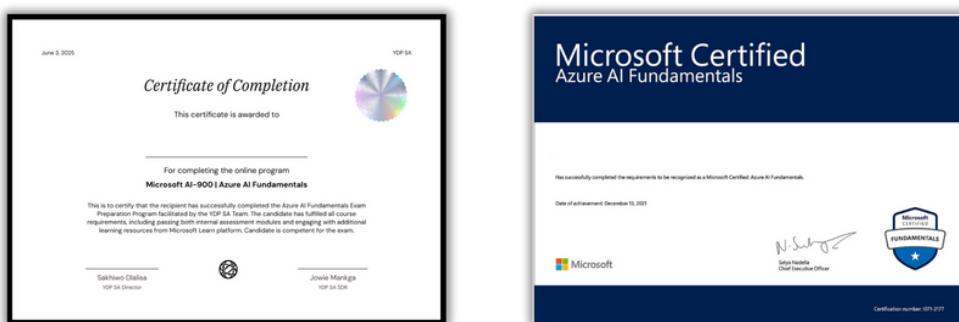
Badges

Give participants a badge at the end of the program.

What badge do they get?

Elite
Pro
Challenger
Starter

- **Starter:** Achieved when members are awarded **one** certificate from **YDP SA** Programs .
- **Challenger:** Achieved when members is awarded **two certificates** from **YDP SA** Programs.
- **Hero:** Refer 1 student who enrolls in a course with a partner University to claim this badge from **YDP SA** Programs.
- **Pro:** Achieved when members are awarded three certificates from **YDP SA** Programs.
- **Elite:** Achieved when members get an Expert Certificate from **YDP SA** Programs such as **DataX**, **SecurityX** and **Microsoft Certified Expert** certificates from **YDP SA** Programs.



PLEASE NOTE: WE HAVE ADDED NEW BADGES FOR CERT CODES E.G, **AZ900 BADGE / N+ / S+ / SECURITYX /** FOR MEMBERS THAT COMPLETE THEIR **ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATION.**



BENEFITS OF JOINING US

- Access to collaborative engaging support learning system.
- Access to potential promotions and sponsorships / learnerships and WIL.
- Higher chances of Passing your exams.
- Sponsored exam voucher navigation.
- Access to badges.
- Increased chances to Job Placements opportunities (Active from February 15 / 2026).
- Group study sessions to mitigate procrastination.
- Access to centralized syllabus tracker to boost productivity and planning.
- Access to community for help.
- We make studying fun and impactful with Badges & vibrant communities.
- Enhanced chances for employment with internationally accredited certifications.
- Networking opportunities candidates.
- Informed insights in groups for future opportunities.
- Access to booking for training services by certified skills development representatives.

[TAP HERE TO GET A LOOK AND FEEL OF HOW WE MARKET OUR LMS STRUCTURE](#)





SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND JOB READINESS FRAMEWORK

STEP 1: CANDIDATE ACCUMULATION VIA SOCIAL PLATFORMS

Target students, graduates, and professionals strategically. In most cases opt for students in groups to fair better numbers.

STEP 2: CENTRALIZED ONBOARDING SYSTEM

We developed a centralized onboarding system using our CRM (DBMS) to efficiently register and categorize students based on their skill level, goals, and readiness. This ensures every student is accounted for and their progress is tracked from day one.

STEP 3: WEEKLY PROGRESS TRACKING DASHBOARDS

We implemented real-time dashboards and weekly progress check-ins that allow team leaders to monitor engagement, identify challenges early, and offer tailored support to keep everyone aligned with the group's objectives.

STEP 4: CLEAR ACADEMIC LOGISTICS ROADMAP

We created a clear and structured roadmap that outlines learning modules, group session schedules, objectives, and deadlines. This helps all students stay on track and removes any confusion about the logistics of the academic process.

STEP 5: WEEKLY SDR-LED MICROSOFT Q&A SESSIONS

Our qualified SDR leads weekly Q&A sessions focused on Microsoft products, CRM tools, and SDR best practices. These sessions ensure students get the clarity and technical support they need to remain confident and competent throughout the program. Please note this step is reserved at a separate fee that is priced per session.

STEP 6: COLLABORATIVE ONLINE PEER COMMUNITY

We built a vibrant online community using collaboration platforms like Teams or Zoom where students interact, ask questions, form study groups, and support one another. This makes learning more enjoyable and encourages teamwork.



SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND JOB READINESS FRAMEWORK

STEP 7: PERSONALIZED LEARNING PLANS AND MENTORSHIP

We assigned team leaders and mentors to students to guide them through personalized development plans. These plans are aligned with individual career aspirations and provide consistent motivation and direction.

STEP 8: BI-WEEKLY SKILLS ASSESSMENTS AND FEEDBACK

We will conduct practical skill assessments and give constructive feedback every week. This approach allows us to track development, celebrate progress, and make necessary adjustments to maximize student success.

STEP 9: JOB READINESS INITIATIVES

We run intensive initiatives focused on building real-world job readiness skills like CV preparation, LinkedIn optimization, personal branding, and mock interviews. These equip students to stand out in a competitive job market.

STEP 10: POTENTIAL JOB PLACEMENTS

With our extensive B2B network, we collaborate closely to place the right talent in meaningful jobs and actively combat the pressing issue of youth unemployment. Through potential partnerships such as with Microsoft. We aim to equip young professionals with cutting-edge, in-demand skills in areas like AI, cloud computing, and cybersecurity, empowering them to add real value to forward-thinking companies.



THE COMPLETE IT EDUCATION ECOSYSTEM

We Have Built More Than a Programme, We've Created a Comprehensive IT Career Launchpad for students.

By merging **SAQA's** nationally recognised qualifications with **CompTIA's** vendor-neutral certifications and **Microsoft's** industry-leading credentials, we deliver what your students and institution needs:

A complete educational ecosystem that guarantees employability.

- **For Students:** The freedom to choose their specialization path while building an unbeatable portfolio of credentials.
- **For Employers:** A guaranteed pipeline of talent that possesses both theoretical depth and practical, verified skills across multiple platforms.
- **For Partners:** A wide array of solutions for developing world-class IT talent that drives measurable ROI and impact.

This isn't just another training programme. It's the future of EdTech – comprehensive, flexible, and globally competitive, ensuring your students are not only locally but internationally accredited.

Our call to action remains: Let us formally launch this integrated model and begin developing the most sought-after IT professionals our country has ever seen.

The future of South African tech talent starts here. Let's build it together.

CONTACT DETAILS

GENERAL ENQUIRIES: INFO@YDPSA.COM

SALES ENQUIRIES: SALES@YDPSA.COM

COMPANY LINKEDIN (NEW): YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROJECT SA

WEBSITE: WWW.YDPSA.COM

WHATSAPP COMMUNITY: THE PROGRAMMERS UNION

TAILORED LINKS FOR THE YDP SA COMMUNITY

SIMPLY TAP THE ICON TO JOIN. JOIN THE **PROGRAMMERS UNION 5.0** FOR REGULAR UPDATES & ANOTHER UNION GROUP FOR A MORE TAILORED EXPERIENCE. IT SERVES AS OUR HOME GROUP WHICH EMBODIES STUDENTS AND PROFESSIONALS ACROSS ALL INDUSTRIES.



The Programmers Union 5.0

WhatsApp Group Invite

 WhatsApp.com

Business Management Union

WhatsApp Group Invite

 WhatsApp.com

Information Technology Union

WhatsApp Group Invite

 WhatsApp.com

Accounting & Finance Union

WhatsApp Group Invite

 WhatsApp.com

The Security Union

WhatsApp Group Invite

 WhatsApp.com

Environmental Science Union

WhatsApp Group Invite

 WhatsApp.com

Civil Engineering Union

WhatsApp Group Invite

 WhatsApp.com

Mechanical Engineering Union

WhatsApp Group Invite

 WhatsApp.com

PLEASE NOTE THAT LEAVING THE MAIN ANNOUNCEMENT PORTAL WILL RESULT IN **REMOVAL FROM ALL ASSOCIATED GROUPS**.

YDP SA PRESENTS
MORE PAGES FOR AGENCY COMING SOON

in

[TAP THE ICON TO VIEW OUR LINKEDIN](#)



T's & C's

Respectful Communication: Refrain from using vulgar language, or engaging in sexist, racist, homophobic, or hate speech. Help others and commit to being respectful at all times.

Collaborative Environment: No group calls. Congratulate others on their achievements and contribute by sharing valuable insights or offering assistance when needed at least once a month.

Express Gratitude: Always thank others when assisted or benefiting from their insights. Voice your opinions and ask questions, ensuring a respectful and open exchange of ideas.

Trade Items Allowed: You are permitted to trade items within the community limited to once a week per individual unless positively beneficial to others such as educational items.

Stay Informed: Share important news such as load shedding updates, strikes, tech, political, and local/global affairs to keep the community informed. Share your skills to market yourself. Who knows, you might just be featured on our blog.

In need of IT related assistance?: Use the [**Snippet Tool \(Windows Home Button + Shift + S\)**](#) to capture a screenshot. Share it in the WhatsApp community. Click the hyperlink (highlighted in red) for more information.

Professional Conduct: Express yourself freely but be mindful of our terms. Uphold professionalism and contribute positively to maintain a collaborative and respectful community environment.

Y D P S A X M Z I N G I S I 2 S U C C E S S

S O M E C O M P A N I E S W E W O R K E D W I T H



Microsoft



Sentorburg Group





FOR THE PEOPLE