Microsoft IT Academy FAQ Sheet

What does my high school get as an IT Academy?
Washington High Schools will receive the full benefits of IT Academy and MSDN Academic Alliance. Benefits include e-learning, curriculum, access to the Microsoft Press E-Reference library, instructor lesson plans, software licenses, professional development, and certification. In addition, the Washington State agreement with Microsoft offers enhanced benefits developed for schools in our state.
For more information on IT Academy Benefits: http://www.microsoft.com/education/MSITAcademy/about.mspx
For more information on MSDN Academic Alliance: http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/academic/bb250591

How many software licenses are included for my school?
Schools will have access to Microsoft Office software licenses as well as Microsoft developer software tools for use in classroom, instructional labs. There are 50 Office licenses per school for use in classroom labs with IT Academy courses. In addition to the Office licenses, MSDN Academic Alliance software will be available for support of instruction in STEM-related programs and courses.

How do we get access to the licenses?
Instructions will be released in August.

Is there training?
Yes, a training schedule will be released in August to support districts as they join Microsoft IT Academy.

Our student schedule is done, and we don’t have an IT Academy course. What do we do?
OSPI and Microsoft are working on curriculum alignment to provide models of how IT Academy may integrate into current IT related courses. Such courses include Digital Communication Tools, Office User Specialist, Computer Programming, Computer Networking, and Web Design. Additionally, teachers may integrate IT Academy into non-IT courses to support student learning and projects. For example, an English instructor may integrate IT Academy modules as part of instruction on writing research reports.

Who can access IT Academy benefits?
IT Academy resources are available for members of the entire school population – students, teachers and staff.

Is Microsoft IT Academy only CTE?
No. The benefits of IT Academy are for all Washington high school students. Teachers across all content areas may integrate IT Academy modules into their curriculum to support student learning.

Our Junior High has 9th grade. Will it be receiving IT Academy?
Not under the statewide agreement, the Washington agreement is for High Schools, Skills Centers, Tribal Schools, and ESDs.

When will we have access to IT Academy?
Access will be available once school information requested is returned to OSPI and Microsoft processes the registrations. Target timeline is August.