Get the digital skills you need to get back to work

Helping people impacted by COVID-19 learn the skills for in-demand roles in a more digital economy

Why digital skills? Why now?

COVID-19 has created a global economic crisis, forcing tens of millions of people around the world out of work. Some of the jobs lost will not come back, or at least not fast enough to meet demand. Those that do come back will look different, requiring more digital skills as companies race to change the way they work to respond to and recover from the pandemic. Other jobs will become more "tech-enabled," requiring job seekers to have some level of digital fluency to be able to successfully pursue them.

In the post-COVID world, all people–especially those from the hardest hit industries and the most vulnerable communities–will need to learn new skills to rejoin the workforce prepared for technical and tech-enabled roles that will be in even greater demand going forward.

That's why **Microsoft has committed to help 25 million people worldwide who have lost their job due to COVID-19** to pursue in-demand roles in a more digital economy.

It's time to accelerate efforts

Microsoft has been committed to closing the skills gap for decades, but now is the time to accelerate efforts and build partnerships that help job seekers worldwide reskill and rejoin the workforce. Together, we can ensure people who have lost their jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic have the skills they need to pursue the jobs of today and tomorrow.

Microsoft, LinkedIn, and GitHub are bringing together the best of their resources to help you:

1) **Learn skills for in-demand jobs**

2) **Earn a certification to show you have the skills**

3) **Get ready to get hired**

Resources available to help you get back to work

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JOB LINC CAREER CENTER

1) Learn skills for in-demand jobs

Get free access to learning content across LinkedIn Learning, Microsoft Learn, and GitHub, ranging from entry-level digital literacy skills to advanced skills for technical roles. In 2021, LinkedIn Learning is sharing a free library of high-quality learning paths to help you learn the skills for in-demand roles like Digital Marketer, Project Manager, Data Analyst, and Software Developer[1]. Microsoft Learn—an online platform to help you learn Microsoft products—will continue its free access now and in the future to interactive, self-paced content to help you advance your technical skills while preparing for role-based Microsoft certifications. Finally, GitHub Learning Lab will continue providing its hands-on learning experiences for free so you can grow your technical skills by practicing on fun, realistic projects.

2) Earn a certification to show you have the needed skills

In addition to pursuing the learning content, you will have the opportunity to earn an industry-recognized Microsoft Certification at a reduced cost. This certification shows employers that you have the skills required for roles such as Software Developer, Data Analyst, and IT Administrator. These roles are in high demand today, and—with increased digital transformation in the post-COVID economy—that demand is likely to grow even more.

A certification exam that would normally cost US$100 or more will be offered for US$15 for individuals who are unemployed or furloughed due to COVID-19 and who have completed the necessary steps[2].

3) Get ready to get hired

Microsoft and LinkedIn are also bringing together resources to help you prepare for a successful job search. Through access to LinkedIn job search tools and free courses[1], you can gain the confidence and know-how you need to translate your new digital skills into opportunity.

LinkedIn Learning will offer free learning paths to help you find a job during challenging economic times, master in-demand professional soft skills, learn to use virtual collaboration tools, and foster inclusion. You can also get virtual interview feedback powered by Microsoft Artificial Intelligence ("AI") to help you practice and prepare for interviews. And, later this year, get connected to industry mentors and coaches from Microsoft, LinkedIn, and GitHub.

Memphis Public Library's JobLINC Career Center can help you succeed

These resources are available online to millions of people around the world. But we know that many people will benefit from additional support and guidance. That is why the Memphis Public Library is happy to offer the support to help you succeed:

- Additional databases, other online resources and virtual programming to assist jobseekers in skill building

- Job and career readiness assistance and career coaching to help prepare you to pursue new roles

- Information and referral to other agencies, programs and trainings to support job seekers

- Hundreds of PCs and laptops across 19 locations available to use in accessing resources and applying for jobs

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> *"When your technology changes the world, you bear a responsibility to help address the world that you have helped create and accept greater responsibility for the future."*
>
> - Brad Smith, President, Microsoft

Get started

Ready to get back to work? Start your journey at:

https://www.memphislibrary.org/learn/job-career/ & https://aka.ms/MyLearningPath .