



Technology Certification and Cybersecurity Training for Adults with Disabilities

Do you or your loved one:

- Have a disability that presents a barrier to employment/advancement?
- Have a high school diploma or GED as of summer 2021?
- Have strong math and reading comprehension (ideally 10th grade level)?
- Have an enthusiastic interest in or high aptitude for technology?

Exceptional Academy

Presented by:

Cisco Networking Academy
Living and Learning Enrichment Center
SAY Detroit Play Center (Mitch Albom)
Three Talents Advisors (Patrick Romzek)

Goal - train adults with disabilities on advanced skills in high demand by local companies
- raise awareness with local corporations as to the values and benefits of working with adults with disabilities

Learn more at one of our Information Sessions

Please contact us to schedule a videoconference session.

Call (248) 308-3592 or email academy@livingandlearningcenter.org.

Please also refer to our Facebook page for updates:

www.facebook.com/ExceptionalAcademyNorthville.



Frequently Asked Questions

What is Exceptional Academy?

Exceptional Academy is a joint effort between the **Living and Learning Enrichment Center** (a Northville nonprofit which helps teens and adults with autism and related challenges with development of their social, work, and independent living skills), the **Cisco Networking Academy**, Mitch Albom's SAY Detroit Play Center, along with consulting support from **Patrick Romzek (Three Talents Advisors; retired Cisco executive and program designer)**.

What programs does Exceptional Academy offer?

Currently, we are offering IT training to local adults with disabilities that will result in up to a globally recognized technology certification (CCNA – Cisco Certified Network Associate) with a focus in cybersecurity. Additional curriculums will be determined by labor market needs as well as recommendations from sponsoring companies.

What is the schedule for the program?

The program will have about 30-40 weeks of classroom-based training (August-September until May-June; specific dates to be determined) followed by internship/job placement assistance (not guaranteed). Classes run Monday-Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm. Courses are instructor led and include group lecture, small group study, individual study, lab time, and self-study.

What are the qualification requirements?

Interested candidates must have a documented disability, be unemployed or underemployed, and on pace to have a HS Diploma or GED by summer of 2021 in order to apply and compete for a seat in the training program. Individuals should have demonstrable interest in technology and ideally 10th grade math and reading comprehension. They must be able to commit to an intensive 30-40-week, full-time training program, and be legally authorized to work in the USA.

What is the cost to attend?

We are working with partner organizations to minimize training costs for individuals with disabilities who qualify for training. Once information is available, we will review resources with participants.

Where will the class be held?

For the current class, due to COVID, classes were 100% virtual. Classes will be held in person when it is safe to do so as determined by state policy. We are working on opening a second location on the east side of Detroit for Fall of 2021.

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