

An Exploration of the Benefits of Certifications and their Relationship to Salaries in IS/IT

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Abstract

This research extends previous studies that explore the ever-changing landscape of jobs in the IS/IT (Information Systems / Information Technology) field. To enhance prior research on skills needed and requirements of certifications, we investigated industry certifications in IS/IT fields and having a certification's relationship with salary ranges. Our analysis is from a data set with over 550 responses during the first quarter of 2022. From the survey, the top certifications in rank order were: Microsoft CSE, AWS Cloud Practitioner, AWS Solutions Architect, CompTIA A+ Tech, and CompTIA Network+ in most regions of the US. The survey also investigated salaries by key occupations. On a nationwide basis we found that having a certification versus not having a certification did not relate to any significant salary differences; however, this may depend on region of the US. For those in the Southwest, South Central, and Northeast regions of the US, the data indicated some salary ranges affected by obtaining certifications.

Keywords: job skills, certifications, salaries, economic regions

A full manuscript of this abstract may be found at <https://jisar.org>