# Supporting educators to utilize ICT to improve learning outcomes

Microsoft Partners in Learning offers a range of professional development programs to bridge the gap between technology skills and innovative teaching. It reaches beyond traditional software training to provide a scaffold that helps educators of all skill levels on their learning journey. Partners in Learning gives educators the knowledge they need to impart 21st century skills to their students and deliver exceptional student outcomes.

Research shows that innovative teaching practices, along with access to technology, supports student acquisition of 21st century skills<sup>1</sup>. Those skills can mean the difference between being successful in school, or struggling every day, and having a career, or simply getting a job. Microsoft Partners in Learning offers a range of professional development programs to bridge the gap between technology skills and innovative teaching. Partners in Learning supports the success of each educator through world-class, research-based professional development, online communities, and exclusive recognition programs for the most innovative educators in the world.

#### Microsoft Certified Educator

The Microsoft Certified Educator (MCE) exam is a competency-based professional development and certification offering. Technology-neutral, the MCE assessment enables educators to demonstrate competency as outlined in the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization Information and Communications Technology, Competency Framework for Teachers (UNESCO ICT-CFT), Technology Literacy Approach. It also offers an opportunity for educators to differentiate themselves in the education field, and enhance their value for current and future employers.

## Measuring effectiveness

An effective and proven assessment tool, the MCE exam measures the ways ICT integration can be used to improve outcomes in six core content areas which align to the UNESCO ICT-CFT:

- Education Policy
- · Curriculum & Assessment
- Pedagogy
- ICT/Technology Tools
- Organization & Administration
- Professional Development

Passing the MCE exam provides validation that educators have achieved global educator technology literacy competencies as defined in the UNESCO ICT-CFT, Technology Literacy Approach.

## <sup>1</sup> Innovative Teaching and Learning Research, 2011, www.itlresearch.com

#### **Key benefits**

- Valid and reliable measurement of foundational educator ICT competencies
- Standards mapped to the UNESCO ICT-CFT, Technology Literacy approach
- eLearning curriculum available free on the Partners in Learning network or via IT Academy membership
- Exams easily administered and proctored on campus by educators
- Available through a Microsoft academic reseller or through Certiport, Microsoft's academic authorized exam delivery partner

## Learn More

MCE is just one part of a rich set of professional development, assessment, and measurement resources that Microsoft offers educators and school leaders. Explore more at www.pil-network.com

#### Resources

Microsoft Partners in Learning www.pil-network.com

Certiport - www.certiport.com/sales

Microsoft IT Academy www.microsoft.com/itacademy

Partners in Learning Training Provider Program www.piltrainer.com



## Improving outcomes

For education administrators, MCE represents a valid and reliable way to measure the effectiveness of their investment in ICT and professional development. Educators holding an MCE certification have the tools and skillsets to break though limitations of geography and resources, and begin to apply their knowledge to provide a rich, customized learning experience for their students.

## Preparing educators for certification

Microsoft offers a comprehensive eLearning curriculum that helps prepare educators for this rigorous exam. The Microsoft Teaching with Technology Curriculum helps educators move beyond learning technology tools to develop a deeper understanding of how technology integration can enhance the teaching and learning experience, give their students 21st-century skills, and save them time. It is focused not on measuring expertise with specific tools, but rather on how to apply tools to a particular learning objective or to increase productivity.

Teaching with Technology includes a self-assessment to identify learning gaps, eLearning content to help fill those gaps, summative assessments, and a range of learning activities and tutorials to help extend learning and encourage educators to apply their new knowledge in the classroom with their students.

If your school has an IT Academy membership, educators can access the eLearning via the IT Academy member site. IT Academy includes an online reporting system and detailed tracking letting administrators see how teachers are progressing in their learning. www.microsoft.com/itacademy

The curriculum can also be accessed free on the Partners in Learning Network. www.pil-network.com/pd/curriculum/twt

## **Get started**

Integrating the MCE certification into your teacher training program or professional development program will help your educators stand out. Exams can be administered and proctored by educators on campus, anytime it's convenient. Campus Licenses can be purchased via Microsoft Volume Licensing through a Microsoft reseller or through Certiport, Microsoft's academic authorized exam delivery partner for MCE.

# **About Microsoft Partners in Learning**

The Microsoft Partners in Learning program is a 10-year, nearly \$750 million commitment by Microsoft to transform education systems around the world. Announced in 2003, the Partners in Learning program helps governments envision a new future for education in their countries; provides leadership and change management information to school leaders; works to strengthen educators' capacity to use technology effectively in the classroom; and provides greater access to technology for educators and students. Microsoft believes in expanding the power of education through personalized learning. www.microsoft.com/education/ww/partners-in-learning

### Level 200: Certification



MCE is a reliable and highly demanded assessment of teachers ICT competency that allows institutions in charge of teacher retraining programs to evaluate achieved results and optimize financing."

—Svetlana Avdeeva, National Training Foundation, Russia

Microsoft Certified Educator provides teachers with a globally recognized certification which is focused on the practical integration of ICT into teaching and learning. As a teacher education provider, we are able to offer teachers the opportunity to get recognition for their use of ICT in the classroom.

Rose Lawlor, Meath Vocational
Education Committee, Ireland

Microsoft Certified Educator compliments our professional development program as it is based on the UNESCO ICT Competency Framework and uses scenarios that deal with the integration of ICT and development of 21st century skills in the classroom.

Miriam O'Donoghue, City of Dublin Vocational Education Committee, Curriculum Development Unit, Ireland

