



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ELEVATE AMERICA VOUCHERS ARE NOW AVAILABLE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

The general public may apply for free Microsoft training vouchers. These free vouchers can be applied to three categories of Microsoft online courses.

Category 1: Business Worker Voucher – used to complete online courses for Microsoft Windows XP, Office 2003, Windows Vista, or Office 2007. These courses are for individuals who use, or will use these Microsoft products with their work. All the courses are self-paced so you don't have to complete a course in one sitting. Upon completing the course, you can download and print a certificate of completion.

Category 2: Technical Professional Voucher – used to complete online courses for individuals who use, or will use these Microsoft professional information technology applications including server administration, web and application programming, and other professional technical areas. These courses are designed to provide the knowledge and skills necessary to pass the Microsoft Technical Certification exams. Upon completion of a course, you can download and print a certificate of completion.

Microsoft Business Certification Exams - These vouchers are used to redeem at locations offering Business Worker Certification exams. These exams may be prepared for by completing Business Worker courses (Category 1). Technical Professional (Category 2) are not part of this voucher program. A voucher can be used for one Business Certification exam attempt, and if needed, one retake.

Individuals may obtain or learn more about Microsoft Elevate America vouchers by contacting/visiting one of our Workforce Investment Offices (see attached). During your visit to one of our Workforce Investment Offices, voucher recipients will register with Illinois workNet, an online one-stop-shop that provides access to multiple worker resources across Illinois government at www.illinoisworknet.com. Then it's as simple as getting a voucher code and going online to activate the voucher. Vouchers must be **activated before October 31** but the coursework itself can be completed within one year.

With today's global economic recession, finding a good job can be more challenging than ever before. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that more than half of today's jobs require some sort of technology literacy and in the next 10 years, that number will reach 77 percent. Why not take this opportunity to improve your computer skills and give yourself a competitive advantage when seeking a new job or advancement?

Elevate your career through Elevate America! For more information call 1-800-548-8036. ###