

Computer Literacy General Education Requirement

The **Computer Information Systems**

Department recognizes that students enter the college with varying degrees of computer knowledge and skills. Our program is designed to help each student achieve the necessary computer literacy to understand and use computer technology effectively in college, in careers, and in life, using a path best suited to his or her own starting point.

Each student enrolled in Computer Literacy, CIS 101, will take a screening test during the first class, designed to assess their current knowledge and skills in computer concepts and applications.

Students who do not attend the first class will not have the opportunity to take this screening test. Based on their scores, students will be advised to fulfill the computer literacy requirement through one of the following options.



PRINCE GEORGE'S
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

IC³ → Internet and Computing Core Certification

What is IC³?

The Internet and Computing Core Certification (IC³) program is a global, validated, standards-based training and certification program for basic computing and Internet knowledge and skills. Successful completion of IC³ ensures you have the knowledge and skills required for basic use of computer hardware, software, networks, and the Internet. IC³ is your gateway to advancement in education, employment, or other certification programs.

New options beginning fall 2006

Option 1

Very high scores indicate that the student should consider earning course credit through IC³ certification. Passing scores on the three parts of this test will satisfy the CIS 101 requirement. A second choice for students who score very high is for the CIS 101 course requirement to be waived so that the student can take a more advanced CIS course in fulfillment of the computer literacy general education requirement.

Option 2

High scores indicate that, with review, the student could consider earning credit via the IC³. A rapid review course, CIS 099*, is offered for these students.

Option 3

Students scoring in the middle range on the screening test are advised to remain in CIS 101* and fulfill their requirement by completing this course.

Option 4

Students who score below the middle range are advised to first take CIS 100*, a one-credit course for students who lack basic familiarity with personal computers. Scheduling permits both CIS 100 and 101 to be completed in the same semester.

*Complete course descriptions available at: <http://academic.pgcc.edu/cios/programs.htm>

Quick Summary of Steps

1. Enroll in CIS 101.
2. Take the screening test on the first day of class (some M-W-F classes may be taking the test on the second day of class).
3. If your score is very high or low, do the appropriate add/drop to enroll in CIS 099 or CIS 100 immediately!
4. If you are pursuing IC³ certification, make arrangements to take these certification tests when you are ready.
5. Bear in mind that any student is free to simply take CIS 101 in fulfillment of their requirement, but that a low score on the screening test indicates you'd be more successful if you completed CIS 100 first.

For more information, visit

<http://academic.pgcc.edu/cios>

or contact the

Computer Information Systems Department

at 301-322-0752