



MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS ADVISING GUIDE: *Computer, Software & Networking Technology*

Computer, Software, and Networking Technology (CSNT) Associate in Science degree at Middlesex Community College (MCC) is specifically designed to provide the education and training needed for employment in the computer, software and networking industries. The coursework in CSNT includes computer and networking security, embedded programming, computer systems, networking, technical mathematics, computer applications and languages, and telecommunications.



The **CSNT program** is ideal for individuals with basic mathematics and science knowledge, and an interest in technology and its applications. Hands-on training is provided using modern laboratories, equipments and computers. The program's general education component adds broader-based education background valued by the employers in technology fields.

This advising guide includes information that will help you to explore your academic and career interests and determine whether the **Computer, Software, and Networking Technology Major** will support your long-term goals.



EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS WITH ACADEMIC ADVISING

Throughout each semester, meet with your advisor so that he/she can guide you through a self-exploration process that will help you identify your academic and career interests.

Beginning of Semester:

- ___ Schedule an appointment to meet with your academic advisor during the first few weeks to discuss future plans and how a Business Administration Degree can help you achieve your goals.
- ___ Explore your personal interests by completing Focus2, an online career assessment tool: <https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/careerservices/focus2.aspx>

Mid-Semester:

- ___ Schedule an appointment with academic advisor review your academic progress, Focus2 results and create an academic plan in Degree Works.

Before Semester Ends:

- ___ Schedule an appointment to discuss and register for the classes you will take the following semester. (Early November for spring, Early April for fall and summer)
- ___ Visit the Academic Career & Transfer Center or call 1-800-818-3434 to schedule an appointment.

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- Exploring Your Options
- Personality Inventory
- Career Path
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COMPUTER, SOFTWARE, AND NETWORKING TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Graduates of the program are prepared to:

- Apply computer and telecommunication methods, procedures and principles, use equipment and software for the purpose of installing, trouble shooting, and maintaining systems;
- Apply technical concepts, principles and physical laws to solve practical problems;
- Analyze and develop a plan to diagnose and solve technical problems;
- Act responsibly with integrity, self-confidence and professionalism

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IS THE COMPUTER, SOFTWARE, AND NETWORKING TECHNOLOGY (CSNT) MAJOR THE RIGHT FIT FOR ME?

If you show an interest in basic mathematics, science, technology and its applications, **CSNT Major** at MCC may be the right fit for you to explore for both education and career.

Below is a table showing different statements asking for a true or false answer. You can use this simple self-check to see if the **CSNT Major** is the right fit for you.

STATEMENT

I like basic mathematics.

I like science.

I am interested in computer and software.

I am interested in networking technology and the applications.

I am interested in hands-on type of work.

I can work individually or in a group.

TRUE

FALSE

All of above statements should apply to **CSNT**. Ideally, a potential student in **CSNT** should answer 'true' to all the statements. For every statement you consider to be true, please give yourself score of one point. If your total score is five points or more, it is suggested you can consider **CSNT** as your **Major**.

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THE CAREER PATH

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- CSNT graduates with an Associate in Science degree establish their careers in computer, software, and networking industries.
 - Some examples of positions that MCC graduates have held include electronics, software, network, test, and customer-service technicians.
 - CSNT program is not a transfer program. Many **CSNT** graduates continue their studies toward a bachelor's degree in the areas of engineering, engineering technology, or information technology in four-year colleges or universities.

Career Planning Activities:

- ___ Work with career advisor to create resume, cover letter and help improve your interview skills
- ___ Identify internship and volunteer opportunities in your desired field
- ___ Attend career workshops and job fairs

THE TRANSFER PATH



CSNT is not a transfer program. Many **CSNT** graduates continue their studies in four-year colleges or universities majoring in engineering, engineering technology, or information technology. Students who are interested in continuing their studies should meet and discuss this education objective with an MCC transfer counselor. University of Massachusetts Lowell provides a transfer dictionary on its website for students from three community colleges, including MCC, to find out how many credits get transferred when they are admitted.

Transfer Planning Activities:

- ___ Work with an advisor to discuss Articulations and transfer agreements
- ___ Visit your selected campuses in person. Every college looks good online or in a glossy photo, but you can get a better feel when you visit
- ___ Meet with transfer counselor to identify transfer scholarships
- ___ Research admissions requirements and deadlines at four-year colleges and universities

MCC ADVISING RESOURCES

Career Services:

<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/careerservices>

Transfer Services:

<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/transfer>

MassTransfer:

<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/transfer/masstransfer.aspx>

Financial Aid:

<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/financialaid>

Foundation Scholarships:

<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/foundation/scholarships>

College Board Match Maker:

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search>

You can find more information about careers and salaries at: www.bls.gov.