THE CAREER
Network and computer systems administrators design, install and support an organization's computer systems. They are responsible for local-area networks (LAN), wide-area networks (WAN), network segments and Internet and intranet systems.
Computer support specialists provide technical assistance and advice to customers and other users. This occupational group includes technical support specialists and help-desk technicians.

PROFESSIONAL TRAITS
Those pursuing a career in this field should:
• Have strong problem-solving and analytical skills
• Be able to communicate effectively on paper, via e-mail, over the phone or in person
• Have strong writing skills, which are useful in preparing manuals for employees and customers

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
The career outlook for computer support specialists is positive. By 2022, the number of jobs is projected to increase by 17%, a faster-than-average growth rate* when compared with all other U.S. careers.
Nationwide, median annual earnings of computer support specialists were $54,960, or $24.22 per hour* in May 2014.
The industries employing the most computer support specialists in 2014 were:
• Computer systems design and related services
• Educational services (state, local, and private)
• Information
• Finance and insurance
• Telecommunications
• Wholesale trade

* Data provided by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

THE PROGRAM
Because East Central College is a Cisco Networking Academy, it is able to offer specially-designed curriculum for training technicians on this equipment. Furthermore, upon completion of the coursework, students are prepared to take the:
• CCNA (Cisco Certified Network Associate) exam
• Network+ exam (CompTIA’s certification)
The academic plan focuses on a wide range of fundamentals and product-specific technology such as database and application software. Classes in networking technology, operating systems and client-server development tools prepare students for employment in several areas of the computer technology and information field. ECC graduates with their AAS degree or certificate in computer information systems have the knowledge and skills they need to obtain industry-recognized certification.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS
Students must have completed:
✓ High school diploma or the equivalent (documentation must be sent to the registration office)
✓ Application for admission
✓ A placement test as specified by the college (some coursework requires minimum placement results)

TRANSFER OPTIONS
The AAS degree is designed for students seeking employment immediately upon graduation. However, many of the credits, particularly the general education electives received with this degree, may qualify as transfer credit at four-year schools.
These decisions are made solely by the bachelor degree-granting institution, not East Central. Students seeking to transfer are advised to contact the institution of their choice before beginning a program or reviewing other degrees and coursework offered through ECC.

East Central College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a participant in the Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP)
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Computer Information Systems
Associate of Applied Science
June 1, 2016

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**Program of Study**

AAS Program (62-64 credit hours)

This program of study is for a full-time student; part-time study is also available. Please contact an academic advisor for full course options. All academic schedules are subject to change. Many of these courses are also part of the CIS Certificate of Achievement program and the Network Technician Certificate of Achievement program. For the most current schedule or to view our Certificate Program, visit www.eastcentral.edu.

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F Course is only available during Fall semester
S Course is only available during Spring semester

East Central College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status. Inquiries/concerns regarding civil rights compliance as it relates to student programs and services may be directed to the Vice President of Student Development, 131 Buescher Hall, 1964 Prairie Dell Road, Union, Missouri 63084, (636) 584-6565 or stnotice@eastcentral.edu.