



Credentialing Opportunities On-Line (COOL)

GI-to-Jobs is COOL



A New Opportunity

In August 1999, the Secretary of the Army established strategic and operational goals for recruiting. He directed that the Army take immediate action to eliminate recruiting shortfalls.

Born of this directive, the GI-to-Jobs initiative serves soldiers who may not want a college degree by providing a rich source of information about civilian credentialing opportunities related to their Army training. Pursuing civilian credentials can provide the soldier with personal development opportunities and promotion points while in the service, and enhanced job and pay opportunities when they reenter civilian life.

The GI-to-Jobs initiative, through the website it produced—Credentialing Opportunities On-Line (COOL)—adds another dimension of value for potential recruits and their families, aids in the personal and career development of active soldiers, and provides transitioning servicemembers with a clear advantage when reentering the civilian work force.

COOL Overview

COOL provides information on how soldiers can fulfill the requirements for civilian certifications and licenses related to their military occupational specialties. The site helps soldiers understand what it takes to obtain credentials, including identifying in detail additional training that may be needed, what to study, where to take tests, and even what resources are available to help pay for tests and related fees.

COOL:

- Provides background information about civilian certification and licensure.
- Identifies licenses and certificates relevant to Army Military Occupational Specialties (MOSs).
- Describes how to fill any gaps between Army training and experience and civilian credentialing requirements.
- Provides information on resources available to soldiers to facilitate credentialing.



Go to <https://www.cool.army.mil> to see COOL online.

“This new website explains differences between military and civilian training and certification requirements, and it does so in easy-to-understand language. The website tells soldiers exactly what they need to do to begin and complete the certification process in their MOS.”
— Sergeant Major of the Army Jack L. Tilley



COOL (continued)

COOL Features

COOL provides thorough background information on credentialing and how it affects the soldier, as well as extensive links to related sites and information—valuable resources alone. But the main strength of COOL is that users can search for a specific MOS, either by code or by title, and they are rewarded with extensive and detailed credentialing information specific to their training.

MOS 74B Information Systems Operator-Analyst

Civilian Equivalents

The following civilian occupations are similar to MOS 74B. For more information about these occupations from the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Outlook Handbook, click on the titles explained below.

- Computer Operators
- Computer Security Specialists
- Computer Systems Analysts
- Computer and Information Systems Managers
- Network and Computer Systems Administrators

Credential Summary

- Certification
- Federal License
- State License
- Apprenticeship

National Certification

The following sections provide information on national certifications related to MOS 74B.

Career Certifications

The following certifications are directly applicable to MOS 74B. For information about how your military training and experience qualify you for these certifications, see the links below.

Compelling Technology Industry Association (CompTIA)

- GI Bill 5 - NPT
- GI Bill 6 - NPT

Each MOS has an overview page. Information grouping and extensive use of graphical elements enhance ease of use. Links to analysis pages are included for each credential directly related to the MOS, along with icons showing what resources are available for that credential. Information on advanced, specialized and other certifications follow. For example, the 74B summary page shown above goes on to include 59 advanced/specialized certifications, as well as information on continuing education.

COOL Future

Civilian credentialing is a growing and dynamic field. Army training for the state-of-the-art 21st century soldier is constantly advancing. COOL is continuously updated to ensure its content is complete and accurate. Next steps for COOL include completion of the MOS analysis process and expansion to include Additional Skill Identifier (ASI), Special Qualification Identifier (SQI) and Warrant Officer information.

“This is good news for soldiers, but great news for the nation as well. The Army offers the best training in the world, and when you add extraordinary experience, additional study and leader development, the country will benefit from GI-to-Jobs with exceptionally qualified veterans for the 21st century workforce.”

— Major General Kathryn Frost, former Adjutant General

COOL Quick Facts

At:

- You should have 18 months experience (recommended but not required).
- You must pass written hardware and OS technology exams. Resources are available for portions of the exam not covered by MOS 74B training.
- Costs associated with obtaining this certification are covered by the GI Bill.

Once on an analysis page, soldiers can see at a glance what they need to do to obtain that credential.

Legend: Army Education/Training System Decides

F = Army training fully covers exam topic
P = Army training partially covers exam topic
Blank cells indicate Army training does not cover exam topic

Exam Topic	JMB Courses Covering Exam Topic				
	AIT	PLDC	BNCDC	AHCDC	SBC
Installation, Configuration and Upgrading (20%)	F		P	P	
Debugging and Troubleshooting (20%)	F		P	P	
Preventative Maintenance (2%)	F		P	P	
Workstation/Processors/Memory (15%)	F		P	P	
Printers (10%)	F		P	P	
Basic Networking (10%)	F	F	F	F	

Topic-level analysis shows if Army training fully (F) or partially (P) covers credentialing exam requirements.

COOL Certification Summary

AI Certification Requirements

Key Certification Requirements	Army Preparation	
	Training	Experience
Exams • Multiple written exams	F	

= Training or experience must be assessed by credentialing board
F = Army training fully covers exam topics
 = On the job and other learning experiences affect preparation

Each analysis page is wrapped up with a graphical summary.