Second Edition

INTRODUCTION
TO COMPUTERS

AND

INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY

Preparing for IC³ Certification

CS001 / DEFINITIONS
2019

Term	Meaning of the acronym	Definition
HTML	Hypertext Markup Language	The code that describes the format, layout and the structure of a document for publication on the WWW.
software		Program that tell a computer what to do and how to do it.
server		A computer that manages data and programs used in the network
shareware		Copyrighted software that can be sampled before it is purchased
Sleep Mode		Power state in which power is shut off to non-essential components but some power is used and data remains in RAM.
SAAS	Software as a Service	Purchasing a subscription for software that is stored on a network instead of installing on the user's computer
SSD	Solid state disk	A high-capacity storage device that contains high-speed random access memory
Sound card		A circuit board chip that converts sounds in analog form into digital form and reverse.
spoof		To use a false IP or e=mail address
Standalone program		Application software that specialized in one task
Star topology		A network design that connect each workstation to a hub.
SAN	Storage area network	A network of a storage devices that can be accessed by multiple computers
Storage device		A computer component that retains data after the power is turned off.
Supercomputer		A large and powerful scientific computer that can process large amount of data quickly.

System software		Are programs that help the computer work properly.
TCP/IP	Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol	The set of rules for formatting and transmitting data over the internet
Trojan horse		A program disguised as useful but it is harmful to the data on the hard drive
Unicode		A system using 16 bits to encode characters, creating more codes for foreign languages.
URL	Uniform resources locator	A unique address given to a document on the Internet
UPS	Uninterruptible power supply	A device used to prevent interruption of power to a computer (power surge)
update		To install a fix or repair for an operating system or program
upgrade		To install a new and improved version.
Utility software		Programs used to maintain and repair the computer.
Vertical application		Application software that is designed for a very limited purpose in a field or business
Video adapter		A circuit board that creates the images seen on the monitor
Wearable computer		Mobile computing device designed to be worn on the body
Web App		Applications that are stored on cloud servers instead of installing on the user's computer
Web browser		Program used to view Web pages
Web cache		Temporary storage location used for web page documents during Internet use
Webcast		A live broadcast of audio and video over the Internet
Web feed		A service that automatically download Web page content that a user has signed up

Web page		A single document on the Web.
Web site		A collection of related pages on the Web
WHOIS database		The central database of domain names
WAN	Wide area network	A network that connects computers and other resources over great distances
w-fi		A wireless local area network that uses radio waves to connect computers and other devices to the Internet
wiki		A web site that contains information created and updated by anyone who has access to the site
WWW	World Wide Web	Part of the Internet comprised of linked documents.
worm		A computer virus that spread over the network by replication and without user execution
WYSIWYG	What You See Is What You Get	
algorithm		A sequence of instructions
AC	Alternating current	electricity that flow in one direction and then reverses
ASCII	American Standard Code for Information Interchange	A system that uses eight-bit codes to represent 256 characters
analog		A system that send electrical signals that match the human voice and other sounds
Application software		Program used to perform specific task
backup		copy
Backup utility		A program that automatically copies data from the hard drive to a back- up storage location
bandwidth		The amount of data that can travel through a network connection

BIOS	Basic Input /Output System	A set of programs that control the function of the components and help the computer start itself when the power is turned on.
Beta version		A copy of program that is used for testing before official release
bit		The smallest unit of information that values 0 or 1
bps	Bit per second	The amount of data that can be sent in one second
blog		A Web page where a person write his ideas and thought
Bluetooth		Wireless communication technology that uses radio signals over short distance
Broadband		General term for all high-speed digital connection of at least 1.5 megabits per second
Bus topology		A network where all the workstations connected to one line
byte		Group of 8 bits
CCS	Cascading style sheet	A document that describes a hierarchy of style rules used to define how the element on the web site page will look
CPU	Central processing Unit	A hardware that processes data
client		A workstation computer attached to a network and controlled by a server
Client/server network		A network system that uses a central server computer
Cloud apps		Applications that are stored on the cloud servers and not installed on the user's computer
Cloud computing		Using the internet and central remot servers to host or store data and application
collision		A problem in network occur when 2 computers try to transmit data across a network at the same time causing data packets to collide (stop) and both transmission to fail

Commercial software		Copyrighted software that must be purchased before using.
cookie		A file left on a hard drive by a Web site that the user visits
crash		To suddenly stop working when 2 programs try to occupy a space on the RAM at the same time and there is no enough space for both
DC	Direct current	A flow of electricity in one direction
documentation		Directions on how to install a program, use the application, and troubleshooting the problem.
Domain name		Phrase used to identify one or more Internet protocol addresses
DNS	Domain Name System	Using letters and numbers to identify one or more computers on the Internet domain name (IP)
Driver utility		Software that contains information needed by application to properly operate input and output devices
encryption		Encoding data to prevent decoded usage
ethics		Use morally
File compression		Reduce the file size without harming the data
File extension		Letters used to show the application used to create the file
freeware		Copyrighted software that are given away for free
gateway		A node on the network that connect networks together
GUI	Graphical user interface	A visual display that allows user to interact with the computer by using graphical objects on the screen
hyperlink		A link from one document to another
HTML	Hypertext Markup Language	The language used to format , layout and structure the document on the WWW
HTTP	Hypertext transfer protocol	A protocol that governs how web pages are transmitted over the Internet.

IM	Instant massage	
Integrated software		Program that combines the basic features of several applications into one package
Internet		A vast (wide /large)network that links millions of computers around the world
IP	Internet Protocol address	A four-part number separated by periods that identify each computer connected to the Internet
IRC	Internet Relay Chat	An Internet service that allows the user to join chat program
ISP	Internet Service Provider	A company that provides the actual link between a computer and the Internet
LAN	Local area network	A network in which all the workstations are near each other
Local loop		A network that connects to the phone company's central office
MAN	Metropolitan area network	A network that covers a large area like a city
Microwave		A high-frequency radio wave
modem		A device that allows a computer to transmit data to other computers through telephone lines
modulation		Changes the digital signals from a computer to analog signals of a telephone
motherboard		A primary circuit board to which all devices are connected and all data passes
MIDI	Musical instrument Digital Interface	An interface connects a computer to electronic musical instruments to control and record the output
Network		2 or more computers connected together to share resources
NIC	Network Interface card	A card that regulate the flow of data to and from the computer
NOS	Network Operating System	A set of programs that manages and secure a network

node		Anything connected to the network(computer, printer..)
OS	Operating System	A system that allows hardware devices to communicate together, run properly, and support software
OCR	Optical character recognition	Software used to turn printed text into digital files and mostly used in scanners
Optical storage device		A storage device that uses laser beams to read information stored on the reflective surface of a disk.
Packet sniffer		A program that examines data stream on a network to find personal information like password
P2PN	Peer-to-peer network	A small network usually includes 2-10 computers with no server
peripheral		Separate input, output, and storage hardware
PDA	Personal digital assistant	A small portable handheld computer that is use for taking notes
Personal productivity program		A horizontal application used to help people work more effectively
phishing		Method used to lure the user to reveal the account password by printing to be a legitimate Web site
PnP	Plug and play	To detect new compatible devices
Plug-in-program		Program that adds new features to an application
podcast		An audio and video files created to download to ipod or MP3
POP	Point of presence	A local connection to a wide area network
POST	Power-on-self test	A series of test a computer perform while booting
Power surge		A sudden increase in power
(primary storage) RAM	Random access memory	Chip stores data and instructions while the computer is working

Productivity suite		A program that combine several programs and all of their features
ROM	Read-only memory	Chip on the motherboard that contains the instructions that start the computer and control some input and output devices
Ring topology		Network designed as a circle