AISHA
EUROPEAN AI SKILLS ACADEMY

Co-funded by
the European Union

The European AI Skills Academy

Connecting AI learning with responsible adoption across Europe

The Artificial Intelligence Skills Hub Academy (AISHA) project is establishing the European AI Skills Academy to address the skills, organisational and policy challenges of AI, with a particular focus on, but not limited to, Generative AI. Developed in coordination with the European Commission's AI Office and aligned with the Apply AI Strategy, the Academy will connect education and training with application across 11 strategic sectors: healthcare and pharmaceuticals; mobility, transport and automotive; energy; manufacturing, engineering, and construction; agri-food, climate and environment; defence, security and space; robotics; electronic communications/telecommunications; cultural, creative sectors, and media; public sector.

01 A shared ambition for Europe

Our vision is for people and organisations across Europe to find, develop and demonstrate the competences they need to develop, use and govern AI that is of the highest quality, trustworthy and human-centric. We aim to build the foundations for a resilient, high-performance AI ecosystem, that delivers safe, trusted, sovereign and scalable AI made in Europe. This requires accessible learning, credible qualifications and the organisational capacity to apply skills in practice. It also requires people to retain professional and critical judgement as AI has the capacity to substantially change the fabric of society, including how work is done.AISHA responds to skills shortages, fragmented credentials, limited adoption capacity in SMEs and public bodies, and the underrepresentation of women in AI learning and careers. The aim is to strengthen European competitiveness and sovereignty while supporting inclusive access.

02 What the Academy will make possible

Relevant learning. Evidence-based modular pathways will span AI literacy and advanced skills across technical, managerial, sectoral, policy, legal, social and ethical domains. Curricula, practical learning and training for educators will respond not only to changing roles and needs, but also to foster a trustworthy AI innovation mindset.

Application in real settings. Apprenticeships, sector pilots and labs will connect learning to real-life challenges. Trustworthy AI development and use will ensure that laws and ethical principles and social values are respected. Human oversight will help learners address automation bias, deskilling and risks to human agency and autonomy.

Recognition and inclusion. A common competence framework, micro-credentials, recognition of prior learning and EU-aligned accreditation pilots will support clearer learning and career pathways. A planned €2 million envelope for scholarships and returnship fellowships will help widen access, with particular attention to women and disadvantaged learners.

2026–2030 • 30 beneficiaries • 12 associated partners • 19 countries

Coordinated by Inspiring Futures Europe and co-funded by the Digital Europe Programme.

03 Join the AISHA ecosystem

Organisations interested in contributing to AI skills development in Europe can join the AISHA ecosystem by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the project coordinator, Inspiring Futures Europe.
To follow up on this, contact: partnerships@aisha-net.eu

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PARTICIPATE IN OUR STAKEHOLDER SURVEYS

Shaping the Academy together

04 A distributed European resource

The Academy is intended to become an EU-wide Knowledge Hub and Centre of Excellence and Trust for AI education and skills, drawing on the consortium's expertise, networks and sectoral reach. A common entry point will help users discover relevant pathways, while education and training are delivered across the provider network.

Links with AI Factories, European Digital Innovation Hubs and other EU skills initiatives will connect talent development with adoption. Reusable learning resources, tested sector labs and accreditation approaches will support continuity beyond the grant, backed by partnerships and a sustainable operating model.

05 Why your input matters now

AISHA stakeholder surveys will inform our review of existing AI education and training, emerging skills needs and gaps, and the design of a Common Competence and Qualification Framework. Evidence from providers and users will help identify what can be reused, where provision needs to improve, and how learning outcomes and assessment can become more coherent and future proof.

Universities, vocational training providers, educators, employers, public administrations, professional networks and inclusion organisations are invited to contribute.

06 Key elements to bring to surface via the surveys

Current learning offer and training provision. Which programmes, learning resources and practical approaches work well, and what evidence supports their quality?

Unmet needs and skills gaps. Which competences, roles and sectors are underserved, and what prevents people or organisations from participating?

Recognition and progression. How can assessment, micro-credentials and prior learning help people move between training and employment?

Responsible and inclusive development and adoption. What would help learners retain critical judgement and human agency, protect data and overcome gender, financial, language or accessibility barriers?

Future-proof competences. Which job profiles are emerging and will be required in the AI age to address "functional specialisation" needs in different sectors, and how to build such competences?

Your input will help set priorities for the AISHA framework and subsequent learning pilots, alongside the project's analysis of skills needs. Success will be assessed through learning gains, participation and practical use of skills.

07 How to contact AISHA

Website aisha-net.eu
Project updates linkedin.com/company/aishacademy/

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