# Multiverse to train 15,000 AI apprentices in UK and US to close skills gap



Upskilling platform Multiverse has pledged to train 15,000 new artificial intelligence apprentices over the next two years, in a major push to address critical skills shortages across the UK and US. The move comes amid soaring demand for AI expertise, with the technology expected to add £79.3 billion to the UK economy by 2035.

Despite this potential, more than half of the workforce has received minimal AI training, and a third of FTSE 100 companies made no mention of AI skills in their most recent annual reports. Multiverse aims to shift that narrative by partnering with over 1,500 employers—including Visa, Skanska, Capita and Legal & General—to offer AI apprenticeships nationwide.

With a current base of 2,200 AI apprentices already in place, the expansion highlights a clear appetite for accessible training across sectors and regions, from Wigan to Maidstone. The new apprenticeships are designed not just for new recruits but also for upskilling existing employees, with costs covered by the Growth and Skills Levy.

“Our commitment to 15,000 AI apprenticeships is a bold declaration that AI skills must be for everyone, at every stage of their career,” said Euan Blair, CEO of Multiverse. Participants will receive tailored training in areas such as AI ethics, data management and machine learning, reflecting the evolving demands of modern workplaces.

Science and Technology Secretary Peter Kyle welcomed the initiative, noting that adapting to AI is vital for the UK’s future prosperity. “It is vital that British people have the right skills to make the most of the new opportunities tech presents,” he said.

Multiverse is also working with Microsoft on its ‘Get On’ campaign, which aims to equip one million people with essential AI skills by 2025. This includes the launch of the AI-Powered Productivity apprenticeship—the UK’s first accredited programme to include Microsoft 365 Copilot—offering targeted training to address the reality that 51% of workers have received less than five hours of AI instruction.

Further partnerships, such as with Mencap, have led to specialised programmes like the 13-month 'AI for Business Value' apprenticeship, which offers advanced training and leads to a BSc in Data Science. The focus is on responsible AI use across business operations.

Multiverse’s expansion is underpinned by strong financial backing, having secured $220 million in a recent funding round. The company reports an 85% completion rate for its Software Engineering programmes and prioritises diversity: 56% of apprentices are people of colour, and 34% come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

As AI continues to transform industries, initiatives like these are helping to prepare the workforce for a digital future. Multiverse’s strategic investment in skills development sets a clear path toward inclusive innovation and long-term economic growth.

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## Bibliography

1. <https://tech.eu/2025/06/09/multiverse-powers-national-ai-drive-with-15-000-new-apprenticeships/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.multiverse.io/en-US/blog/multiverse-supports-microsofts-commitment-to-skill-1m-people-on-ai> - Multiverse collaborates with Microsoft to support the 'Get On' campaign, aiming to equip 1 million individuals with AI skills by 2025. They introduce the AI-Powered Productivity apprenticeship, the UK's first accredited programme integrating Microsoft 365 Copilot, addressing the AI skills gap where over half of workers have received minimal AI training. The programme is eligible for public funding through the apprenticeship levy and covers AI technologies, data privacy, and ethical practices, enhancing workplace productivity and creativity.
3. <https://www.multiverse.io/en-US/blog/mencap-aims-to-create-over-50-apprenticeships-in-a-new-data-academy> - Mencap launches a Data Academy, creating over 50 apprenticeships, including up to degree level, in partnership with Multiverse. The training, starting in September, includes the 13-month 'AI for Business Value' programme, teaching apprentices to leverage AI responsibly for business outcomes. The degree-level Advanced Data Fellowship empowers apprentices in data analysis and science, culminating in a BSc degree. The academy trains colleagues across various Mencap functions, aiming to improve business practices and support employee retention.
4. <https://apprenticeship-training.hrdconnect.com/p/weekly-newsletter-21-11-2024> - Multiverse collaborates with Microsoft to advance the 'Get On' campaign, aiming to equip 1 million individuals with AI skills by 2025. They introduce the AI-Powered Productivity apprenticeship, the UK's first accredited programme integrating Microsoft 365 Copilot, addressing the AI skills gap where over half of workers have received minimal AI training. The programme is eligible for public funding through the apprenticeship levy and covers AI technologies, data privacy, and ethical practices, enhancing workplace productivity and creativity.
5. <https://www.centralcharts.com/en/news/3745318-multiverse-raises-220m-to-expand-professional-apprenticeships-an-outstanding-alternative-to-college-and-corporate-training> - Multiverse raises $220 million in a Series D funding round, achieving a post-money valuation of $1.7 billion. The funding, co-led by StepStone Group, supports US expansion and broadens learning programmes to address workforce digital skills gaps. The company trains apprentices with over 500 organisations globally, including Cisco, Verizon, Visa, and Box in the US. Software Engineering programmes have seen a 260% growth in enrolment year over year, with a completion rate of over 85%. The company focuses on creating diverse future leaders, with 56% of apprentices being people of colour and 34% from economically under-served communities.
6. <https://www.edtechinnovationhub.com/news/multiverse-becomes-first-uk-apprenticeship-provider-to-award-tech-undergraduate-degrees> - Multiverse becomes the first independent apprenticeship provider in the UK to grant its own undergraduate degrees. The first group of apprentices graduated from the BSc in Digital and Technology Solutions (Data Analytics) programme, employed by organisations including Capita, Mars UK, and IHG Hotels and Resorts. The degree apprenticeships are part of Multiverse’s Advanced Data Fellowship Level 6 programme, with an overall satisfaction rate of 89.5%, higher than other providers offering the same qualification. The programme supports employers in addressing data skills gaps and adapting to technological changes.
7. <https://www.edtechinnovationhub.com/news/multiverse-and-microsoft-introduce-ai-powered-apprenticeship-for-workforce-training> - Multiverse partners with Microsoft to support the 'Get On' campaign, aiming to equip 1 million people with skills for an AI-driven economy by 2025. They launch the AI-Powered Productivity apprenticeship, the UK's first accredited programme integrating Microsoft 365 Copilot. The apprenticeship, eligible for funding through the Apprenticeship Levy, focuses on equipping workers with skills to use AI tools effectively, enhancing workplace productivity. Modules include prompt engineering, data privacy, ethical AI use, and measuring AI’s impact on job roles. The programme addresses the AI skills gap, with 51% of workers having received fewer than five hours of AI training.