# UK tech giants join government push to train 7.5 million in AI skills by 2030



Leading technology companies have joined forces with the UK government to train 7.5 million workers in Artificial Intelligence (AI) skills by 2030. The initiative, involving Amazon, Google, IBM, Microsoft and Sage, was launched following discussions led by Technology Secretary Peter Kyle. The goal is to equip a fifth of the UK workforce with vital AI competencies, paving the way for economic growth and better-paid jobs.

At a recent meeting, government and industry stakeholders outlined plans to identify key future skills and improve access to AI training across sectors. Kyle described AI as a transformative force in the economy and said up to ten million UK workers could be using AI tools daily by 2035. The initiative reflects growing confidence in the UK’s workforce and its ability to lead in AI innovation.

The move comes as the UK reports more than £44 billion in AI investments over the past year and the creation of 13,250 jobs since the AI Opportunities Action Plan launched in January. The programme supports Labour’s ambition to make the UK a hub for AI and advanced technologies, with AI developments expected to contribute £400 billion to the economy.

Alison Kay, Vice President at AWS, said broadening access to digital skills would help unlock AI’s full potential and boost productivity. Craig Bright, from Barclays, welcomed the initiative’s emphasis on inclusive innovation, ensuring communities are not left behind by rapid technological change.

Speaking at London Tech Week, Prime Minister Keir Starmer confirmed a £1.5 billion investment in AI computing infrastructure. The funding aims to elevate the UK’s AI capabilities to global standards by expanding state-owned computing power. While underdeveloped digital infrastructure remains a challenge, the government is positioning the UK as a frontrunner in AI readiness.

Efforts to improve AI literacy among young people are also gathering pace. The Google-backed AI Campus in Camden is giving students hands-on experience with real-world AI applications. Government support, corporate involvement and educational programmes are seen as vital to preparing the workforce for an AI-driven future.

Debbie Weinstein from Google and Leon Butler from IBM both stressed the need for digital fluency to accelerate AI adoption. They said that equipping people with AI skills would enhance business performance and bring broader societal gains.

The initiative aims to create a more inclusive, future-ready workforce while addressing concerns over job losses from AI automation. With momentum building behind training partnerships and access to learning, the UK is well placed to thrive in the evolving global AI economy.

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.miragenews.com/tech-giants-gov-to-boost-uk-worker-ai-skills-1478060/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.miragenews.com/tech-giants-gov-to-boost-uk-worker-ai-skills-1478060/> - Leading technology companies, including Amazon, BT, Google, IBM, Microsoft, and Sage, have partnered with the UK government to train 7.5 million workers in essential AI skills. This initiative aims to equip a fifth of the UK workforce with the necessary AI competencies, fostering economic growth and high-paying job opportunities. The collaboration focuses on identifying future skill needs and enhancing training accessibility, with regular meetings scheduled to monitor progress. The UK government has already attracted over £44 billion in AI investment, resulting in 13,250 new jobs since the launch of the AI Opportunities Action Plan in January.
3. <https://www.techradar.com/pro/live/london-tech-week-2025-day-one-all-the-news-and-updates-as-we-see-them> - London Tech Week 2025 highlighted the UK's growing role in the global tech and AI landscape. Keynote speeches from Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang and UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer emphasized AI as transformative infrastructure requiring substantial investment. Starmer announced significant initiatives, including a £1.5 billion investment from Liquidity for its European HQ in London, £1 billion for scaling compute power, and plans to train 7.5 million UK workers in AI by 2030, supported by Nvidia. Huang highlighted the UK's strengths in academia and AI research but cited infrastructure as a limiting factor. Microsoft UK unveiled a deal with Barclays to deploy 100,000 Copilot agents, while companies like Dell, AWS, and Redbull illustrated AI's diverse applications across sectors. Discussions addressed AI's environmental impacts, worker displacement fears—especially among Gen Z—and the UK's potential to lead in AI responsibly. Panels included insights on AI regulation, the skills gap, and sustaining tech firms in the UK. Smaller startups also showcased innovations in data management, cybersecurity, healthcare, and sustainable practices. The event highlighted AI's integration across industries and the importance of collaboration between government, industry, and education to harness its full potential. ([techradar.com](https://www.techradar.com/pro/live/london-tech-week-2025-day-one-all-the-news-and-updates-as-we-see-them?utm_source=openai))
4. <https://www.ft.com/content/cc04adfb-81b2-477f-b85c-ce042e8f83a8> - At London Tech Week, Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang highlighted the UK's lack of sufficient digital infrastructure despite its strong AI research talent and significant private investment, ranking third globally behind the US and China. In response, UK Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer announced a £1 billion investment to expand the nation’s AI computing capabilities, aiming to increase compute power twentyfold and transition the country into an AI leader. The funding will bolster the UK AI Research Resource launched in 2023 and support wider adoption of AI, including training for all civil servants. Nvidia also announced several UK initiatives, including a new AI Technology Centre in Bristol and the formation of the UK Sovereign AI Industry Forum in collaboration with firms like BAE Systems and BT. Additionally, AI cloud companies Nscale and Nebius will launch facilities using thousands of Nvidia’s chips. Despite this momentum, UK AI investments remain significantly lower than those of the US and China. Plans are in motion to close this gap, including a long-term goal of expanding government computing capacity to match 100,000 Nvidia GPUs by 2030. ([ft.com](https://www.ft.com/content/cc04adfb-81b2-477f-b85c-ce042e8f83a8?utm_source=openai))
5. <https://www.reuters.com/technology/artificial-intelligence/british-pm-opens-google-backed-ai-campus-inspire-students-2024-11-27/> - British Prime Minister Keir Starmer inaugurated London's first Google-funded AI Campus in Camden, aiming to equip young people with crucial AI and machine learning skills. The campus has commenced a two-year pilot project for 32 local students aged 16-18, offering them access to resources and mentorship from Google's AI company, DeepMind. Students will work on real-world AI projects related to health, social sciences, and the arts. The initiative, in collaboration with the local authority, seeks to empower students, particularly those from challenging backgrounds, to envision themselves within the AI industry. Google's UK and Ireland managing director, Debbie Weinstein, announced £865,000 of funding for an AI literacy programme targeting over 250,000 students by 2026 through organisations Raspberry Pi Foundation and Parent Zone. This initiative supports the UK's potential to unleash AI's £400 billion economic value. ([reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com/technology/artificial-intelligence/british-pm-opens-google-backed-ai-campus-inspire-students-2024-11-27/?utm_source=openai))
6. <https://www.ft.com/content/bc6f56b6-2085-4ee0-bdc2-fc885772e621> - The Working It podcast concludes after 153 episodes, reflecting on workplace changes since 2021. Focus shifts to the Pissarides Review on Work and Wellbeing, exploring AI and automation's impacts on skills and trust in UK workplaces. Effective communication, HR policies, and large-scale investment in digital skills are crucial as 20% of UK adults lack necessary digital problem-solving abilities. The government's new AI investment zones aim to boost growth, but without adequate training, many may be left behind. Career advice highlights addressing workplace dissatisfaction and exploring options. Lastly, AI tools can enhance colleague communication. ([ft.com](https://www.ft.com/content/bc6f56b6-2085-4ee0-bdc2-fc885772e621?utm_source=openai))
7. <https://www.catch-22.org.uk/resources/microsoft-and-catch22-extend-partnership-to-boost-ai-skills/> - Catch22 has expanded its partnership with Microsoft to include AI skills training in its Digital Edge and Digital Lift programmes. This initiative is part of Microsoft's commitment to train one million people in the UK with AI skills by 2025. The programme offers a 4-week pre-employability training course for individuals facing barriers to work, focusing on essential skills in Generative AI and providing insights into AI-related roles and required skills. Participants are supported by Career Coaches to complete the Microsoft Career Essentials in Generative AI certification. ([catch-22.org.uk](https://www.catch-22.org.uk/resources/microsoft-and-catch22-extend-partnership-to-boost-ai-skills/?utm_source=openai))