

## Embargoed until specific announcements are made during MCI POHs' speeches at COS 2024

Annex C

## IMDA invests over \$20 million over three years to enhance AI practitioner training for students, including scholarships and overseas internships in AI-related roles.

IMDA is investing over \$20 million over three years to enhance AI practitioner training for students, including an increase in the number of AI-related SG Digital Scholarships (undergraduate, masters, and PhD) and access to overseas internships in AI-related roles. The scholarships to be awarded are part of the SG Digital Scholarship, and ringfenced to support students with a passion to pursue a career in AI and allow these students to work in the industry after graduation. The scholarship focuses on developing future leaders for Singapore and is only awarded to top young talent based on merit. We will continue to monitor the industry needs and will increase the number of scholarships to award, if necessary.

Upon completion of studies, scholars have the flexibility to pursue their AI career pathways in an organisation and industry of their choice in Singapore. Scholars can access additional funding for developing industry-ready skills beyond their core curriculum, such as overseas internships and exchange programmes, and industry courses or certifications. Scholars also enjoy exclusive invitations to industry events, mentorships, and networking opportunities to prepare them for future career success. These opportunities will allow students to gain exposure to build novel AI use-cases and solutions with the aim of applying these learnings in Singapore's AI ecosystem.

Applicants for the SG Digital Scholarship must be Singapore Citizens and meet selection criteria, including having good academic and Co-Curricular Activity records and they must be studying in AI or related courses. Applications for the SG Digital Scholarship will be open till 14 April 2024 for undergraduates and 31 March 2024 for postgraduates. Interested applicants may visit this <u>link</u> to apply.

## Other initiatives to triple Singapore's AI Practitioner pipeline to 15,000

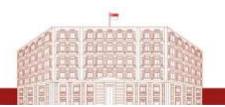
The TechSkills Accelerator (TeSA) initiative will be scaled up to support fresh and mid-career professionals who have the aptitude and attitude to work in AI.

Since 2016, IMDA has placed and trained more than 17,000 locals in in-demand tech areas such as AI and Analytics, Software & Applications, 5G, Cloud and Cybersecurity, and further upskilled 231,000 individuals in tech.

We will now expand and extend the Company-Led Training (CLT) programme with companies who are scaling up their AI practitioner teams and building Centres of Excellence across sectors. To do so, we will work with them to provide locals with industry-relevant training and hands-on experience through real world projects and use cases.

We will also work with intermediaries like tech giants and Institutes of Higher Learning (IHLs) to train more locals through apprenticeship models.

IMDA, together with sectoral agencies, will also empower the broader workforce to navigate an Alenabled future. To help companies and workers, the sectoral Jobs Transformation Map (JTM) will identify job roles that are most affected by key technologies, including Al.





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Over the next three years, IMDA is targeting to reskill about 18,000 tech professionals in AI and Analytics with an emphasis on Generative AI and two other in-demand areas – Software Engineering, Cloud and Mobility - which are complementary to AI. These are tech areas that the Information and Communications (I&C) JTM has identified as having a transformative impact on the I&C workforce. To do so, IMDA is working with five Training Partners to scale reskilling and upskilling efforts in AI and Analytics. The Training Partners are National University of Singapore (NUS), Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP), NTUC LearningHub (NTUC LHub), Singapore University of Social Sciences (SUSS) and a consortium formed by Temasek Polytechnic-Republic Polytechnic-Generation Singapore (TP-RP-Gen). Currently, they offer over 180 AI-related courses tapping on cutting-edge tools to provide workers with skills for real-world applications.

IMDA has also been working with partner agencies such as SkillsFuture Singapore (SSG) and Workforce Singapore (WSG), as well as industry associations such as SGTech and Singapore Computer Society (SCS), to help companies equip workers with the skills to work with AI.

