



AI and STEM Career Pathways Initiative

The Need

Across the United States, underserved **populations lack access to technology and AI literacy**. As AI reshapes every industry, UCCDC is closing that gap by teaching residents to use **Microsoft Copilot—an AI assistant built into Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and Teams**. Participants learn to write and summarize text, analyze data and manage tasks with AI, giving them a head start in an economy where digital skills are becoming essential.



Job Growth in AI:

The talent pipeline for the burgeoning AI industry is not growing quickly enough to meet the rapidly increasing demand for AI Skilled Labor.



Skills Gap & AI Literacy:

A 2024 global survey found **58%** of students lacked sufficient AI skills and **48%** felt unprepared for an AI-driven workplace, a gap our program aims to address.



Limited Access to Technology:

Millions of Americans still have limited access to Computers and Broadband.



Low Academic Achievement Nationally

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, the achievement gap is widening, and more high school seniors are performing below the basic benchmark in math and reading than ever before.

Learn more at: <https://uccdc.institute/>

The Solution (10-Hour AI Career Readiness Course)

The Urban Chamber Community Development Corporation (UCCDC) has launched an Online Training Institute to **provide Microsoft AI Certification courses, STEM pathways, and Fill Workforce Gaps for Local employers**.

Initial Certifications include:

- **Course #1: AI Career Readiness for Teens**
- **Course #2: AI Career Readiness for Adults**

AI-Integrated Modules: Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Outlook, and Teams.

Each course concludes with a Capstone Project and awards a "Certificate of Completion".

Course Features:

- **Blended Learning:** In-person and video instruction paired with hands-on workbooks.
- **Certification Pathways:** Microsoft AI and STEM courses aligned to employer demand.
- **Career Coaching:** Personalized job readiness support and interview preparation.
- **Workforce Impact:** Connecting graduates to high-quality jobs and internships in growing industries.

UCCDC's Goals:

- Increase AI Literacy
- Provide Internships
- Job Placement

Workforce Development & Talent Pipeline Strategy

- Offer courses to Teens and Adults across the United States in underserved communities.
- Build a workforce pipeline to companies facing skilled labor shortages (Internships, Part-Time and Full-Time Employment).

Outcomes & Impact

- **75%** of students find Internships after completing the AI Career Readiness course.
- **50%** of students gain Part-Time or Full-Time Jobs within one year.
- **30%** pursue Higher-level AI/STEM Certifications.

Other Key Benefits

- Reduced fear of AI and Technology
- Greater confidence in Digital Tools
- Increase knowledge of AI, STEM, and Computing Career Readiness Pathways