

EMPOWERING COMMUNITY COLLEGES
NATIONWIDE TO TRAIN THE AI WORKFORCE

Finally, our unique AI mentorship program was launched with three community colleges that are already making strides in AI education: Valencia College, Illinois Central College and Des Moines Area Community College (highlighted below in this newsletter).

Read on for more details about our new partnership with OpenAI and upcoming opportunities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OpenAI Academy

NAAIC is proud to announce its collaboration with **OpenAI Academy** to enhance AI literacy and education. OpenAI Academy provides a powerful suite of free educational tools designed to help learners of all backgrounds understand and apply artificial intelligence in real-world scenarios. Whether you’re an educator, student, entrepreneur, or simply AI-curious, this resource hub has something for you.

NAAIC will host an info session with OpenAI Academy on June 24th from 2:00–3:00 PM EST to explore a growing library of:

- Webinars, blogs, and short videos
- Quick Start guides to get started with AI
- Specialized content from OpenAI and community partners tailored to specific audiences

Learn how to make the most of these resources and ask questions directly to OpenAI.

REGISTER NOW

AI PATHWAYS FOR K-12

NAAIC is actively working on advancing AI education for K–12 students by developing strong academic pathways and frameworks. Through the *AI Entry Pathways* project, funded by a \$2 million National Science Foundation grant, Miami Dade College, Houston Community College and Maricopa Community Colleges are creating scalable pathways into AI education. The initiative includes an AI teacher training academy for K–12 educators, and summer camps, dual enrollment courses, and wraparound supports for high school students entering AI programs at community colleges.

As part of this work, NAAIC is collaborating with the University of Florida to develop a national AI framework for high schools to have AI standards framed as student learning objectives. This innovative approach will help bridge career and technical education with core academic disciplines, ensuring teachers are equipped to teach AI by embedding AI concepts across the curriculum. These efforts will be shared widely through NAAIC channels, reinforcing the Consortium’s role as a national hub for advancing applied AI education.

Mentorship Application is Open!

NAAIC is accepting applications for its 2025–2026 institutional mentorship program! This initiative is designed to support U.S. accredited community colleges in launching or expanding AI associate degree programs. Selected institutions will benefit from expert faculty and administrator mentorship, access to industry-aligned resources, and dedicated support for curriculum development.

Additional benefits include:

- Priority access to AI professional development opportunities
- Travel stipends to attend NAAIC’s annual AI Conference
- Assistance in building a local Business Industry Leadership Team
- Guidance on student recruitment and program implementation

Key Dates:

- **Application Deadline:** August 1, 2025, by 11:59 PM EST
- **Notification of Selection:** August 29, 2025
- **Mentorship Period:** September 2025 – July 2026

To be eligible, applicants must secure full support from both a faculty lead and a senior administrator, and commit to launching at least one AI-related course during the mentorship period.

LEARN MORE

HIGHLIGHTS

Des Moines Area Community College

Mentorship Participant 2024-2025

Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) is making significant strides in artificial intelligence education through its 2024–2025 mentorship engagement.



Becky Deitenbeck, M.S., P.M.P
Faculty Lead, Artificial Intelligence

As a forward-thinking institution, DMACC has secured approval for an Associate in Science in AI degree and a 18-hour Certificate in AI, both set to launch in Fall 2025. With the new curriculum approved, DMACC is advancing program development, with some courses completed and others underway.

Leading the way at DMACC are faculty like Becky Deitenbeck, who are actively participating in cutting-edge AI training programs offered by NAAIC to bring the latest industry insights and tools into the classroom. To build early engagement, leading Professor Deitenbeck is teaching an Intro to AI course on the noncredit side, sparking student interest and laying the groundwork for the coming AI degree.

professionals practical, hands-on training that directly applies to their educational and career paths, igniting their interest in the dynamic field of AI.

From program development to faculty training and community outreach, DMACC is making bold moves to ensure students are prepared for the AI-driven future.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Community of Practice
May 16, 2025

12:00 PM to 1:00 PM EST

REGISTER HERE

OpenAI Info Session
June 24, 2025

2:00 PM to 3:00 PM EST

REGISTER HERE

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For inquiries, please contact us at: naaic@mdc.edu

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