



NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR AI INSTRUCTION

What Is the AFT AI Academy?

The AFT AI Academy is a bold new initiative to put educators and union members at the center of artificial intelligence in public education and labor. With support from partners like Microsoft, OpenAI and Anthropic, we're building a space that helps our members understand, shape and lead in the age of AI. Located in the United Federation of Teachers headquarters in New York City, the AI Academy will serve as a training hub, innovation lab and policy resource center grounded in the values of equity, privacy and people-first technology.

Why This Matters

AI is already reshaping classrooms, lesson planning, grading, workplace tools and even school operations. But too often, educators and frontline workers are left out of the conversation. That's why we're stepping up to:

- Train educators and union members to use AI responsibly and creatively
- Ensure AI works for people, not against them
- Center equity, safety and educator voice in how new tools are built and used
- Push back against misuse of technology that threatens jobs, privacy or public trust

Shaped with and for Our Members

This work is in progress and has been member-driven from the start. Educators and staff from the AFT's AI working groups and advisory teams are helping shape the design, programming and guiding principles of the academy. Together, we are:

- Co-creating training programs and policy recommendations
- Identifying real classroom- and workplace-use cases
- Ensuring the academy reflects the needs and concerns of those on the front lines
- Partnering with tech companies to include educator voice in their work

The Future Isn't Just Coming. We're Building It.

The AI Academy is about empowering people, not replacing them. This is how we protect public education, prepare the next generation and make sure technology serves our values, not the other way around.