

Scale AI enhances its training support programs to spur the integration of AI in companies

Montreal, February 22, 2021 – As a complement to current economic recovery efforts, SCALE AI has announced an increase in its support for ongoing training. Financing is now available for 50% (instead of 25%) of individual registration fees for accredited training programs, and 85% (instead of 50%) of the cost of customized training programs specific to businesses' needs. This increase is part of an initiative to reduce specialized labour shortages, thereby enabling companies to strengthen their competitiveness and pursue growth. In Quebec, this reinforcement is built in synergy with the programs developed with the Ministère du Travail, de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale.

The Honourable **François-Philippe Champagne**, Canada's Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, said, "Canadian businesses are increasingly leveraging artificial intelligence technologies, which results in a higher demand for a more digital savvy workforce. To meet this demand, the support provided by Scale AI Supercluster is making training programs more affordable so that a wider range of Canadians can benefit from specialized AI training, leading to high-quality, well-paying jobs."

"In the coming years, artificial intelligence will enable us to shape our economy so that it becomes more adaptable, while we maintain and strengthen its vitality. As Québec finds itself at the forefront of global artificial intelligence (AI) expertise, it is essential to support the development of our workers' skills to maximize the productivity and resilience of our businesses. Scale AI plays an active and concrete role in providing solutions to the growing needs of those employed in the AI field, in addition to offering cutting-edge training to workers in a range of economic sectors throughout Québec, which is why your government provides financial support to its programs," said **Jean Boulet**, Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity and Minister responsible for the Mauricie Region.

Julien Billot, CEO of SCALE AI, emphasizes, "Imagining and developing AI solutions to business problems is not enough. It is critical to have skilled professionals in the field to implement and give effect to these solutions on a daily basis. Enabling the development of a specialized workforce is therefore a key element of our industrial strategy whose goal is to help address current labour shortages, meet the needs of businesses and give Canadians access to interesting and well-paying jobs."

Hélène Desmarais, Co-Chair of the Board of Directors of Scale AI, added, "As a key player in the AI ecosystem, SCALE AI adapts to the needs of the community, contributing substantially to the emergence of a strong and sustainable industry integrated into Canada's economic fabric. The increase in training support programs emphasizes our agility in responding to changing conditions and always aiming to better serve the Canadian economy."

Full details and eligibility requirements for the [Training Program for Individuals](#) and for [Customized training for businesses](#) are available on the [SCALE AI website](#).

About SCALE AI (scaleai.ca)

As Canada's AI supercluster, SCALE AI acts as an investment and innovation hub that accelerates the rapid adoption and integration of artificial intelligence (AI) and contributes to the development of a world-class Canadian AI ecosystem.

Based in Montreal, funded by the federal government and the Quebec government, SCALE AI has nearly 120 industry partners, research institutes and other players in the AI field. It develops programs aimed at supporting investment projects of companies that implement real-world applications in AI, the emergence of future Canadian flagships in the sector, as well as the development of a skilled workforce.

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