



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
DAF/MIT ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ACCELERATOR  
CAMBRIDGE, MA**



28 April 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: SAF/AQ OL MIT  
AIR FORCE/MIT ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ACCELERATOR  
300 TECHNOLOGY SQUARE, FLOOR 2  
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

SUBJECT: **AI Accelerator Education Frequently Asked Questions**

**1. Purpose:** A collection of frequently asked questions from education solicitations to Airmen and Guardians.

**2. Questions:**

1. Who is eligible to take your courses?
  - a. Department of the Air Force (DAF) members – Airmen and Guardians, to include DoD Civilians – of all ranks and experience levels are invited to participate! Unfortunately, Contractors are not included currently.
2. How can I apply to take your courses?
  - a. Contact us at [DAF.AI.Education@us.af.mil](mailto:DAF.AI.Education@us.af.mil) to let us know of your interest! We maintain a learner database of eligible and interested learners. From this database, we deliberately recruit students as our courses become available for registration. We also periodically recruit new interested learners via tools such as myFSS messages.
3. Are the courses full-time?
  - a. Online courses are online and asynchronous, typically requiring 6-8 hours of off-duty time per week as prescribed. Our in-person course is currently 3 days.
4. How does funding work?
  - a. All seats in our online courses are fully funded. Unit funding is only required for in-person courses to cover TDY costs (lodging/travel only).
5. What prior experience is required to attend a course?
  - a. Each course is different as far as required prior experience. You can find out more info on the courses linked on this [webpage](#). We contact targeted learners directly to offer enrollment in courses we think best suits their skillsets.
6. Do course certificates count as credit towards any degrees or certifications?
  - a. Courses do not typically count towards a degree or certification. However, you will receive a certificate of completion.
7. Will PCSing in the middle of a course or changing supervisors affect my eligibility?
  - a. Not for online courses as they are asynchronous. If you have a supervisor change, please let us know at DAF/AI Education [DAF.AI.Education@us.af.mil](mailto:DAF.AI.Education@us.af.mil) so we can update our records.

8. How are participants selected from the application database?
  - a. We are deliberate with our recruiting based on the content and applicant background, especially with the courses that are related to the research we are doing in terms of pedagogy, content, etc.
9. Can you attend multiple courses?
  - a. Yes!
10. Is there a way I can update my availability for courses in the database?
  - a. Please contact us at DAF/AI Education [DAF.AI.Education@us.af.mil](mailto:DAF.AI.Education@us.af.mil).
11. What are the course dates?
  - a. You can find out more info on the courses linked on this [webpage](#). Exact dates will be announced as we begin recruiting for each course individually.
12. Do courses require Commander approval?
  - a. Formal commander approval is not required, but your participation should be coordinated with your chain of command.
13. Is this different from the AIA Phantom program?
  - a. Yes, this is different from the Phantom Fellowship. This call is for anyone interested in Education Opportunities; it is not a formal fellowship like the Phantom program.
14. How else can I learn more?
  - a. We have prepared a force multiplier on Digital University (a great resource overall for digital up-skilling) at <https://digitalu.af.mil/app/force-multipliers/phantom-ai>
  - b. We have also prepared and purchased an AI/ML Foundations course via Lincoln Laboratory you can access for free by registering at:  
<https://learn.llx.edly.io/course/artificial-intelligence-foundations/>
  - c. And for more information/education -- here is the curriculum for Ideation via Digital U
    - i. Design Thinking for Beginners
      1. Link: <https://digitalu.udemy.com/course/design-thinking-for-beginners/>
    - ii. Design Thinking in 3 Steps
      1. Link: <https://digitalu.udemy.com/course/designit-design-thinking/>
    - iii. Lean Problem Solving for Team Members and Leaders
      1. Link: <https://digitalu.udemy.com/course/problem-solving-made-easy/>
        - a. Focus: Sections 1-4
    - iv. Executive Briefing: AI
      1. Link: <https://digitalu.udemy.com/course/executive-briefing-artificial-intelligence>
    - v. Executive Briefing: ML
      1. Link: <https://digitalu.udemy.com/course/executive-briefing-machine-learning/>
  - d. Additional Reading Links:
    - i. JAIC AI Fundamentals
      1. Link: <https://www.ai.mil/docs/Understanding%20AI%20Technology.pdf>
    - ii. Commander's AI Scorecard
      1. Link: <https://smallwarsjournal.com/jrnl/art/commanders-ai-smartcard-artificial-intelligence-commanders-business>