



IBM Academic Initiative for Enterprise Systems

Teaching IBM Enterprise Systems to a New Generation



Why teach Enterprise Systems?

IT Skills are in demand and the need is growing, especially the need for students who have mainframe or enterprise systems knowledge and skills. IT and business-skills requirements are rapidly changing as technologies advance and businesses strive to simplify, reduce energy costs, and consolidate data centers to save resources. CIOs are turning to IBM Enterprise Systems for ultimate virtualization and open systems workloads. IBM continues to modernize and simplify the new mainframe which is open to industry standards, including Linux® and JAVA® workloads. IBM clients and business partners are building their pipeline of talent for the 21st century and want to partner with educators from around the world who are willing to enhance curricula that develop student skills in IBM Enterprise Systems.

What is the IBM Academic Initiative program and what are the benefits to joining?

The IBM Academic Initiative System z™ program is an innovative and flexible worldwide program designed to assist colleges and universities in the education of students in modern mainframe technologies and concepts. The program provides its members with access to IBM software, hardware, courseware, faculty education, contests, and many other valuable resources.

The goals of the program are to assist and enable educators to teach the fundamentals of enterprise systems, incorporate examples through the use of practical application and lab exercises, connect educators and students with IBM's clients, and aid in establishing lasting relationships with the business community.

Upon graduation, knowledgeable students in enterprise systems will understand the relevance and versatility of the mainframe and possess the necessary in-demand skills for employment by IBM, IBM System z clients, and IBM business partners worldwide.

Who can join?

Educators at accredited institutions of learning (including high school) worldwide are qualified to join. Membership is granted on an individual basis. There is no limit on the number of members from a school that can join.

What does it cost?

Your only "cost" to join is the time it takes you to fill out the registration forms and be approved.

How do I join?

Go to ibm.com/university/academicinitiative and click "Join Now."

What faculty educational resources are provided?

Expand your classroom with a variety of resources available to members:

- Education for faculty (such as workshops, seminars, conferences, Webcasts and podcasts)
- Courses, instructor guides, student kits, classroom material, hands-on lab exercises and tests
- Online course repository complete with modules that can be taught "as is" or modified to meet your requirements
- Assistance with guest lectures from IBM and the mainframe community
- Certification and mastery exams for faculty and students
- Opportunities for collaboration with industry

How can faculty and students gain access to a mainframe system?

A significant benefit for members of the IBM Academic Initiative System z is access to an IBM System z mainframe. Access is available via the Internet, enabling educators and students to explore and learn about various enterprise systems operating systems and middleware products. After enrolling in the Academic Initiative, members can request the desired number of faculty and student mainframe IDs by sending an e-mail to zskills@us.ibm.com.

Are resources available to students?

The Academic Initiative provides resources for students through the Student Portal at ibm.com/education/students. The Student Portal provides the latest in research, news about upcoming student contests, events, access to user communities, and much more. Resources available to students include:

- Access to software downloads through the Student Access Catalog
- IBM Student Opportunity System (Student resume database) - customers and business partners can access this database for potential job candidates
- Information about IBM Contests
- Access to student roadmaps, articles and tutorials, and webcasts

How can you connect with System z clients and business partners?

If you are currently teaching courses that contain IBM Enterprise Systems related topics, you can list your school on the "Participating Schools" tab on our Web site (ibm.com/university/systemz). Send a note to zskills@us.ibm.com with the name of your school, the educator's contact information, and the classes that are being taught at your school.

If you are not currently teaching IBM Enterprise Systems related topics but are interested in learning about the demand for these skills from clients and business partners, send a note to zskills@us.ibm.com. The Academic Initiative team will work with you to ensure that the academic community is well connected to the business community—clients, partners, ISVs and user groups. It is imperative that academia and the business community are connected to ensure that graduates are prepared with the leading-edge skills and knowledge they will need to enter the IT workforce.

Questions or Comments?

To talk with someone on the Academic Initiative System z team, send an e-mail to zskills@us.ibm.com and a member of our team will contact you.

Web sites

For much more information on the IBM Academic Initiative program, see the following sites:

- IBM Academic Initiative membership – ibm.com/university/academicinitiative (Click "Join Now")
- IBM Academic Initiative System z – ibm.com/university/systemz
- IBM Academic Initiative System z participating schools – ibm.com/university/systemz (Click the "Participating schools" tab)
- IBM Academic Initiative Student Portal – ibm.com/education/students
- IBM Academic Initiative Student Opportunity System – ibm.com/university/sos



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August 2008
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