State News for NSPE Members

Mississippi Al Talent Accelerator Program to Offer \$9.1 Million in Grants

Governor Tate Reeves recently announced the launch of the Mississippi Al Talent Accelerator Program (MAI-TAP). MAI-TAP is a new initiative that fosters the development of artificial intelligence, machine learning, and related technical capacities across the state's institutions of higher learning to support the expansion of Amazon Web Services in Mississippi.

Additionally, the initiative creates training infrastructure that benefits the broader technology and information infrastructure sectors. The initiative is a partnership between AccelerateMS, the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA), and Amazon Web Services (AWS).

Governor Reeves also announced \$9.1 million in grants through MAI-TAP to institutions of higher learning. The grants are a strategic investment in Mississippi's future workforce and economic competitiveness.

MAI-TAP will stimulate the development of workforce programs that address the skill development demands of the artificial intelligence sector. Each institution will seek private funding and resources to leverage along with state support. Read more.

Mississippi to Advance Al Education, Innovation and Workforce Development

The State of Mississippi has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with NVIDIA to expand AI education, promote research collaboration, enhance workforce development and drive economic development through AI integration.

The signing of this MOU demonstrates Mississippi's commitment to developing a technologically advanced workforce and positioning the state as a leader in Al and emerging technologies. Through its collaboration with NVIDIA, Mississippi is

helping drive innovation across key industries, including agriculture, healthcare, energy and defense.

"This collaboration with NVIDIA is monumental for Mississippi. By expanding AI education, investing in workforce development and encouraging innovation, we, along with NVIDIA, are creating a pathway to dynamic careers in AI and cybersecurity for Mississippians," said Governor Tate Reeves. "These are the indemand jobs of the future—jobs that will change the landscape of our economy for generations to come. AI is here now, and it is here to stay. We are proud to partner with NVIDIA on this game-changing initiative and look forward to the many benefits Mississippians will reap as a result."

"Our collaboration with the state of Mississippi will prepare students for high-tech jobs in key sectors from healthcare to agriculture, strengthening Mississippi's talent pipeline and building skills that are needed for the next wave of innovation," said Louis Stewart, Head of Strategic Initiatives for NVIDIA's global developer ecosystem. "Together, we will enhance economic growth through an Al-skilled workforce, advanced research, and industry engagement, positioning Mississippi as a hub for Al-driven transformation to the benefit of its communities." Read more.

Summer Camp Equips Girls with Construction Skills

A summer camp for girls in northeast Mississippi is designed to help produce the next generation of skilled construction workers. FORGE's Girls Construction Camp brought together 12- to 15-year-old girls last week for mentorship, interactive workshops and hands-on experience in the traditionally male-dominated field of construction.

This is the program's second year, and 24 campers participated, double last year's number. The camp took place at East Mississippi Community College's Golden Triangle campus

FORGE is a nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing awareness of skilled trades among young people. "We start out young, work with them as they grow, hoping to get more and more interested in construction and the skilled trades," said Melinda Lowe, FORGE's executive director.

Demand for workers in construction and other skilled trades is growing. The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects the US will have an average of 663,500 job openings per year in construction and extraction until 2033. This field has a median annual wage of \$58,360. Read more in *Mississippi Today*.

Stay up to date on legislative issues through the NSPE Advocacy Center.

Get Ready to Celebrate PE Day

The annual Professional Engineers Day will be celebrated on August 6, 2025. Save the date and get ready to share your photos and selfies as part of the online virtual event using the hashtag #LicensedPEday on X (Twitter), Facebook, Instagram or LinkedIn.

Share your reasons for being a PE and give special recognition to your colleagues and teams. Prepare for the celebration and gear up by visiting the PE Day Logo Store.



Showcase the Contributions of PEs During National Safety Month

NSPE is recognizing National Safety Month on our social media channels during June. This is a great way to promote professional engineers and the ways in which your companies/organizations are keeping the public and employees safe in all the work that you do.

If you have any onsite/project related photos and messaging (details to summarize activities and safety philosophy) that will illustrate the following topics areas -- Employee Engagement (June 8-14), Roadway Safety (June 15-21) and Wellbeing (June 22-30)—share them on your own social media channels using the hashtag #NationalSafetyMonth and tag NSPE so we can help spread the word!

2025 Spring Webinar Series Available On-Demand

Did you miss any of our spring WORKability Wednesdays Webinars? No worries! Members can access recordings of the following webinars free of charge through the PE Institute. *Members are advised to consult their state licensing board to determine requirements for PDH or CPD credits.

- Board of Ethical Review: Case Review and Discussion
- My Way or the Highway? The Impact: Designing Flexible and Future-Ready RTO Policies That Work
- Trust Matters: Empowering Leaders to Foster Team Trust and Performance
- Design Liability in a Changing Climate
- Using Your Engineering Expertise as a Forensic Expert
- How Has Technology Shaped Workstyles Across Generations?

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