

Exploring the intersection of education and technology

CatapultED – Bridging Tech Talent Gaps

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Empowering learners with innovative tech-driven educational opportunities for success



The Challenge of Education Reform

Bridging the gap between traditional learning and technology

The **disconnect between outdated textbooks** and rapid technological advancements creates a significant challenge for educators. Students are left unprepared for the evolving job market, as they lack exposure to essential tech skills

65% of tech employers report skills gaps in new hires (NSF, 2024), while underrepresented students face barriers accessing career-ready training.

Key Stakeholders



Learners

Learners bring unique perspectives and **innovative solutions** to the educational landscape.



Employers

Leading companies like Unity and CAE-CO are eager to **collaborate** with educational institutions to fill skill gaps.



Academia

Universities like UNH play a crucial role in fostering **connections** between industry demands and student education.



Emerging Technologies

Utilizing Cybersecurity, Gaming, Mixed Reality, creates engaging learning experiences, enhancing accessibility and relevance in education.





Stackable Micro-Credentials

These micro-credentials allow students to develop **specific skills** in emerging technologies, fostering their readiness for careers in rapidly evolving fields.

Cybersecurity jobs will grow **35%** by 2030 (BLS), yet only **24%** of programs align with industry certifications.



Industry-Recognized Certifications

Achieving industry-recognized certifications ensures students gain **valuable credentials** that enhance their employability and provide a competitive edge in the job market (Amazon, Google, IBM, Microsoft, RedHat, Unity).

Bridging Skills and Opportunity

Unlike traditional degree pathways, CatapultED offers modular, employer-validated credentials—similar to IBM's SkillsBuild—but tailored for interdisciplinary tech fields.



Collaborative Learning

A collaborative learning environment encourages students to engage, network, and **share ideas**, paving the way for innovative solutions to modern industry challenges.



Environmental Analysis

	Credit-Bearing	Diversity-Focused	Employer Recognition
Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)	✗	✗	✗
Bootcamps	✗	⚠	✓
CatapultED	✓	✓	✓

Resources and Needs



Partners

Building relationships with **innovative organizations** is crucial for program success.



Funding

Securing adequate financial resources will drive our **technology initiatives forward**.



Policy Support

Advocating for supportive policies will enhance our **educational transformation efforts**.

Project Roadmap and Milestones

Credential Launch

First cohort of students certified successfully

Students attain essential skills through diverse pathways.



Community Engagement

Building partnerships with local organizations and industries

Collaborative efforts increase awareness and support for initiatives.

Program Expansion

Expanding offerings to include more technologies

New pathways are developed to meet evolving industry needs.

Continuous Improvement

Regularly evaluating and updating curriculum and resources

Ensuring the program remains relevant and impactful for students.



Strategic initiatives with Saudi Arabia to launch CatapultED with new cybersecurity & gaming focused micro-credential programs in A.Y. 2025 /2026



Thank You

Get in touch for more **information about our initiatives** and partnerships.

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