MSU DENVER SKILLS LAB
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Metropolitan State University℠ OF DENVER

Innovative and Lifelong Learning

ABOUT

What is the MSU Denver Skills Lab?

The COVID-19 pandemic has devasted workers across the globe, and Colorado is no exception. The Skills Lab is designed to accelerate a return to work for those who have been laid off or need to retool for a different career.

The Skills Lab provides the skills and competencies needed in the high-growth industries of data science, e-commerce, IT and cybersecurity, and health and human services. Training in essential office skills is also available.

The Skills Lab is available in two formats:
- Industry-supplied software training
- MSU Denver faculty-led labs

What is the difference between the industry-supplied software training and the faculty-led labs?

The industry-supplied software has been developed by companies in growing industries. You will take their training on their website. An example is Tableau training in the data science industry area.

Faculty-led labs have been developed by MSU Denver faculty that help you apply the learnings to real-world situations. You will be given access to the lab and will be able to move through it at your own pace online.

Is there a cost to the Skills Lab and who can register?

No, there is not a charge for the Skills Lab! Anyone can take a lab, you do not need to be an MSU Denver student.

What industries or topics do the Skills Lab serve?

The Skills Lab currently serves the following growing industries: data science, e-commerce, health & human services, and IT & cybersecurity. Additionally, we also offer trainings on essential office skills.

How soon can I start taking a lab?

You can register today. All trainings are available online, and you can immediately begin gaining new, marketable, and in-demand skills.

Do I have to complete a industry-supplied software or faculty-led lab in a certain amount of time?

The labs are self-paced and you decide the schedule. You can start and end anytime you'd like.

Do I receive anything after completing an industry-supplied software training?

The company that offers the training may provide you some documentation on what you completed, but you should check with them to confirm.

Do I receive anything after completing a faculty-led lab?

After completing a lab, including a quiz, you will receive a digital badge that has the competencies you learned embedded in it. You can put the badge on your resume, LinkedIn profile, portfolio, or share it with an employer.

BEFORE YOU REGISTER

How do I register for the industry-supplied software training and the faculty-led labs?

Visit www.msudenver.edu/skillslab to review the industry topics. When you are ready to register, click on

the Register button. You will be prompted to select which trainings you are interested in, and to enter your name and e-mail address. The lab access information will be e-mailed to you.

Do I need access to anything special for the industry-suppled software training?
You just need to have an e-mail address, and access to the internet.

Do I need access to anything special for the faculty-led labs?
You will need an e-mail address, access to the internet, and a Microsoft Teams account. If you already have Office 365, you likely already have Teams. If not, it is free to download. Visit this website to learn how to download Teams - https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/microsoft-teams/free. Note: The e-mail address you use to sign up for a Skills Lab is the same one you should use for the Teams account.

WHILE TAKING A FACULTY-LED SKILLS LAB

How do I work through the labs?
The content is organized in five different modules: introduction, learning objectives, content, assessment (quiz), and conclusion. You will complete one before you move on to the other. There are instructions in each module on how to move on to the next module.

Can I download the content?
Yes! You can download any documents or videos that are provided in a lab.

Will I have the ability to interact with the instructor during the faculty-led lab?
Yes! The instructor will provide information regarding how to ask questions in their lab information.

AFTER I SUCCESSFULLY FINISH A FACULTY-LED LAB

ABOUT DIGITAL BADGES
What happens after I finish the lab?
After completing the lab, and the quiz with at least 70 percent correct, you will receive a link to the digital badge within 72 hours.

What is a digital badge?
A digital badge is a visual representation of skills and competencies you have gained.

How do I earn a badge?
You earn badges each time you complete one of MSU Denver's Skills Lab. Take the lab you want to build a unique set of credentials.

When will I receive the earned badge?
You will be emailed your badge within 72 hours of completing a Skills Lab, with at least 70 percent correct on the quiz.

How do I use a digital badge?
You can place or embed the badge on your resume, LinkedIn profile, portfolio, or share it with an employer. The skills learned are embedded in the badge.

Who can earn digital badges?
Anyone can earn digital badges. They are not for academic credit, and do not require you to complete prerequisites or apply to the University.

Questions?
Contact Kerra Jones at kjone154@msudenver.edu.