Singapore Employers Tap Funded AI Training to Build Workplace Tools

A new corporate AI training programme in Singapore aims to help employees build and deploy practical artificial intelligence applications without writing any code. United Ceres Workforce Learning has announced the GenAI Builder Sprint, a two-day, 14-hour course funded under the SkillsFuture scheme. The programme is designed for employers who want their staff to create real AI tools for everyday work tasks.

Public classes will be held at the company's Bugis location, with the next session scheduled to run on 3 December 2026. The full fee for the GenAI Builder Sprint is S$1,600 before GST. For eligible companies, the cost can be reduced through course fee funding from SkillsFuture. Non-SMEs may receive up to 50 percent funding, while SMEs and Singapore Citizens aged 40 and above can receive up to 70 percent. Employers can also claim absentee payroll support of S$4.50 per training hour for eligible fully sponsored employees, up to a maximum of S$100,000 per company each year. The course is regulated by the Singapore Workforce Development Agency under the OR-PEI framework, formerly ATO-PEI.

How the Training Works

Under the GenAI Builder Sprint model, each employee brings a real workplace task to the course. Over two days, they learn to build an AI application that addresses that specific task, and they leave with a deployed tool they can use immediately. The programme requires no prior coding knowledge, which opens the door for workers from non-technical roles to participate.

Employers can send staff to the public classes held in Bugis, or they can request a customised training programme tailored to their organisation's needs. The customised option goes beyond AI and digital skills to cover business and management, English and workplace communication, and service and hospitality. That flexibility makes the programme suitable for a broad range of industries and job functions.

Why Funded AI Training Matters

The availability of funded AI training Singapore is part of a wider push to equip the local workforce with digital skills. Many companies recognise that artificial intelligence will reshape how work gets done, but they often lack the internal expertise to build or deploy AI tools. Short, hands-on programmes that produce a usable outcome help bridge that gap more directly than longer theoretical courses.

For employers, the financial incentives provided by SkillsFuture funding reduce the barrier to entry. When the government covers a portion of the course fee and offers payroll support for training hours, the effective cost of upskilling employees becomes much lower. That encourages more companies to invest in AI capability building, which in turn helps Singapore maintain a competitive workforce.

The fact that the GenAI Builder Sprint is regulated under the OR-PEI framework also gives employers confidence in the quality and standards of the training. Regulatory oversight means the programme meets certain criteria for delivery and assessment, which is important for companies that need to justify training expenditures to their boards or shareholders.

How Such Programmes Typically Work

Training of this kind usually follows a project-based approach. Participants are not simply learning abstract concepts; they are working on a concrete task that matters to their job. That hands-on element tends to increase engagement and retention because the learner sees immediate value in what they have created.

No-code AI tools have become more common in recent years. They allow users to build models, automate processes, or generate content through graphical interfaces rather than programming. This lowers the skill threshold for AI adoption across an organisation. Employees in marketing, operations, human resources, or customer service can all potentially benefit from being able to create their own small AI applications.

Employers who sponsor such training often find that the tools employees build during the course solve real pain points in the business. A worker might automate a repetitive data entry task, build a chatbot to handle common customer questions, or create a tool that summarises lengthy documents. The variety of possible applications is wide, and the course structure encourages creativity within the bounds of what is achievable in two days.

The Role of SkillsFuture in Singapore's Workforce Development

SkillsFuture is a national movement in Singapore that promotes lifelong learning and skills mastery. It provides subsidies and grants to individuals and employers who invest in training. The programme covers a wide range of skills, from technical subjects like AI to soft skills like communication and management.

For employers, the funding available through SkillsFuture can significantly reduce the cost of training. In the case of the GenAI Builder Sprint, a non-SME might pay S$800 out of pocket after the 50 percent funding, while an SME or an older worker might pay as little as S$480 after the 70 percent subsidy. When combined with the absentee payroll support, the overall investment becomes very manageable.

This financial model encourages companies to think of training as an ongoing investment rather than a one-off expense. It also makes it easier for smaller businesses, which often have tighter budgets, to give their employees access to high-quality AI training.

What Employers Should Consider

For companies evaluating whether to send staff to a programme like the GenAI Builder Sprint, the key factors are the relevance of the training to their business needs and the readiness of their employees to engage with a fast-paced, project-based format. Since each participant works on a real task, the training is inherently customised at the individual level, but the overall structure is fixed at two days and 14 hours.

Employers who need training that covers broader topics or longer durations can explore the customised programmes offered by United Ceres Workforce Learning. Those programmes can be tailored to cover a range of subjects, including AI and digital skills, business and management, English and workplace communication, and service and hospitality. That makes the provider a potential partner for organisations looking to build a comprehensive training plan.

With the next public run of the GenAI Builder Sprint scheduled for December 2026, employers have time to plan and register their staff. The availability of funded AI training Singapore through SkillsFuture means that cost does not have to be a barrier to entry. For many companies, the question is not whether they can afford to build AI capability, but how quickly they can start.