

Connecticut AI Alliance (CAIA)

AI Computing Access Program

Application Form: AI Course Delivery Support

Award Period: Summer 2026 – Fall 2026 | Total Track Allocation: ~\$100,000

Program Overview

The AI Course Delivery Support track provides cloud computing credits to faculty who are teaching dedicated AI, machine learning, data science, or closely related courses and need computing resources to support hands-on coursework, assignments, and in-class demonstrations. Awards provide access to GPU computing (via Google Colab Pro/Pro+ or JupyterHub) and/or LLM API access (via Google Vertex AI) so that students can work directly with industry-standard AI tools and infrastructure as part of their learning experience.

This track is intended for courses where AI/ML computing is integral to the curriculum—not for general-purpose computing needs. Applications are evaluated by a peer-review committee of CAIA faculty.

Eligibility: Full-time or part-time faculty (including adjuncts and lecturers) at CAIA member institutions who are the instructor of record for an AI-related course scheduled for Summer or Fall 2026. A current list of member institutions is available at ctaialliance.org.

Section 1: Instructor Information

1. Full Name

2. Email Address

Please use your institutional email.

3. CAIA Member Institution

Select your institution from the dropdown list.

4. Department / Program

5. Title / Rank

e.g., Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Lecturer, Adjunct

Section 2: Course Information

6. Course Title

7. Course Number

e.g., CSCI 4410, DSCI 6612, AIML 6002

8. Course Level

- ☐ Undergraduate (100–400 level)
- ☐ Graduate (500–600+ level)
- ☐ Combined undergraduate/graduate section

9. When will this course be offered?

- ☐ Summer 2026
- ☐ Fall 2026
- ☐ Both Summer + Fall 2026 (separate sections)

10. Expected Enrollment

Number of students expected per section.

11. Number of Sections Included in This Application

If you are teaching multiple sections of the same course, indicate how many.

12. Is this a new course or an existing course?

- ☐ New course – first time being offered
- ☐ Existing course – being taught with new AI computing component
- ☐ Existing course – computing resources previously available through other means

13. Course Description

Provide a brief overview of the course content, learning objectives, and how AI/ML methods are covered. (300 words max)

14. Course Syllabus Upload

Please upload a current or draft syllabus (PDF). This helps reviewers assess alignment between computing needs and course content.

Section 3: Computing Resource Integration

15. How will cloud computing resources be used in this course? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Hands-on assignments / homework (students train or fine-tune models)
- ☐ In-class labs or live coding demonstrations
- ☐ Course projects (multi-week student projects requiring compute)
- ☐ LLM-powered tools integrated into coursework (e.g., RAG, chatbot, code assistant)
- ☐ Student experimentation with pre-trained models (inference only)
- ☐ Automated grading or assessment using AI tools
- ☐ Other (please specify below)

16. Describe the specific assignments, labs, or activities that require computing resources.

Include details on what students will do, which tools/frameworks they will use (e.g., PyTorch, TensorFlow, Hugging Face, LangChain), and approximate compute per student per activity. (400 words max)

17. What type(s) of computing resources are you requesting? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ GPU Computing – Google Colab Pro/Pro+ (individual student accounts)
- ☐ GPU Computing – JupyterHub (shared managed environment)
- ☐ LLM API Access – Google Vertex AI

18. If requesting GPU computing, what level of GPU access is needed per student?

- ☐ Basic (T4, 16 GB VRAM) – sufficient for most coursework
- ☐ Standard (A100 40 GB) – needed for larger model training in advanced courses
- ☐ Flexible / instructor will manage allocation

19. If requesting LLM API access, specify:

a. Which models will students use?

e.g., Gemini Pro, Gemini Ultra, PaLM 2, Claude (if available via Vertex), etc.

b. Estimated API usage per student per semester

e.g., ~50,000 tokens/student/week, or ~200 API calls/student/assignment

c. How will API access be distributed to students?

- ☐ Shared project-level API key managed by instructor
- ☐ Individual student API keys

- ☐ Through a course application/interface (e.g., custom chatbot, Jupyter notebook)
- ☐ Other (please specify below)

20. Estimated total cloud credit budget requested.

Provide your best estimate in USD. Awards for this track are typically in the range of \$500–\$5,000 per course section. A helpful formula: (# students) × (est. cost per student) × (# sections).

Section 4: Pedagogical Value & Student Outcomes

21. How will access to these computing resources improve student learning outcomes compared to the alternative (no access or limited local resources)?

Be specific about what students will be able to do that they otherwise could not. (300 words max)

22. What AI/ML competencies will students develop through the computing-intensive components of this course? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Model training and evaluation (supervised, unsupervised, reinforcement learning)
- ☐ Deep learning with neural networks (CNNs, RNNs, Transformers)
- ☐ LLM prompt engineering and application development
- ☐ Data preprocessing and feature engineering at scale
- ☐ Model deployment and inference optimization
- ☐ Experiment tracking, hyperparameter tuning, and MLOps basics
- ☐ Responsible AI practices (bias detection, fairness evaluation, interpretability)
- ☐ Working with cloud computing infrastructure
- ☐ Other (please specify below)

23. Will course materials developed with these resources be shared or reusable? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Yes – assignments/labs will be shared via CAIA's resource repository
- ☐ Yes – Jupyter notebooks or Colab notebooks will be published (e.g., GitHub)
- ☐ Yes – course modules can serve as templates for other CAIA institutions
- ☐ Possibly – willing to share if materials are refined
- ☐ No – materials are institution-specific

24. How will you assess the impact of computing access on student learning?

e.g., pre/post surveys, assignment performance comparison, student feedback, portfolio quality. (150 words max)

Section 5: Technical Readiness & Course Logistics

25. What is the current computing setup for this course?

- ☐ No computing resources currently available for AI/ML workloads
 - ☐ Limited local/institutional resources (e.g., shared lab machines, CPU-only)
 - ☐ Some cloud access through another provider (expiring or insufficient)
 - ☐ Students use personal machines (insufficient for course objectives)
 - ☐ Other (please specify below)
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26. Do you or your students have prior experience with the requested cloud platform(s)?

- ☐ Yes – instructor is experienced; students will be onboarded
- ☐ Partial – instructor has some experience; will need setup guidance
- ☐ No – both instructor and students are new to the platform

CAIA will provide onboarding materials and technical support for all awardees.

27. Will you need Teaching Assistant (TA) support for managing computing resources?

- ☐ Yes – I have a TA who will help manage student access and troubleshoot
- ☐ No – I will manage resources directly
- ☐ I would benefit from TA support but do not currently have one

Section 6: Responsible Use & Data Practices

28. Will students work with any of the following in their coursework? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Real-world datasets containing PII or sensitive information
- ☐ Web-scraped or user-generated content
- ☐ Synthetic media generation (text, image, audio, video)
- ☐ Health, financial, or legal data
- ☐ None of the above – only standard academic datasets or synthetic data

29. How will you ensure responsible use of AI computing resources by students?

e.g., acceptable use agreement, academic integrity policy, AI ethics module in syllabus, usage monitoring. (200 words max)

Section 7: Prior Support

30. Have you previously received computing resources through CAIA or a similar program for course delivery?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If yes, briefly describe the prior award, how resources were used, and student feedback.

Section 8: Applicant Certification

By submitting this application, I certify that:

- I am a faculty member at a CAIA member institution and the instructor of record for the course(s) listed in this application.
- The information provided is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.
- Computing resources will be used exclusively for the course(s) described in this application.
- I will ensure all students agree to CAIA's Acceptable Use Policy and the cloud provider's terms of service before accessing resources.
- I will submit a brief end-of-semester report summarizing resource usage, student outcomes, and lessons learned.
- I will acknowledge CAIA and the Connecticut Office of Higher Education (OHE) in course materials where computing resources are provided.
- Awarded credits must be used within the Summer 2026 – Fall 2026 period and are non-transferable.

31. Electronic Signature (Full Name)

32. Date

Appendix: Review Criteria

Applications will be evaluated by a peer-review committee using the following criteria:

Criterion	Weight	Max Points
Pedagogical Value & Learning Outcomes	30%	30
Computing Integration & Curriculum Alignment	25%	25
Feasibility & Resource Justification	15%	15
Scalability & Shareability of Materials	15%	15
Responsible AI Practices in Teaching	10%	10
Cross-Institutional Reusability (bonus)	5%	5
Total	100%	100

Questions? Contact the CAIA Program Office at caia@newhaven.edu
ctaialliance.org