

Cisco is partnering to build our next generation STEM workforce

Around the world, governments, industry and community leaders recognise the benefits of educating and growing a workforce capable of capturing the opportunities of the information age.

In a recent report, Australia's Chief Scientist, Professor Ian Chubb, identified that building new jobs and creating wealth required a focus on STEM: science, technology, engineering and mathematics. It is the almost universal action area that underpins plans for boosting productivity and economic growth.¹

Engaging early and often with students and young people to make STEM education and career path attractive is important and requires a range of strategies and programs to increase participation in STEM education.

The 21st Century workforce needs to develop a new set of STEM skills. We also need to ensure that all Australians, particularly women, girls, under-represented minorities, and low income students have access to STEM education and career opportunities.

Cisco invests in STEM education and engagement programs from Kindergarten to University and beyond to prepare a diverse generation of young people for careers in STEM.

These programs include:



Cisco Networking Academy



STEM Mentoring



Investing in Innovative Not for Profits



Women Rock IT

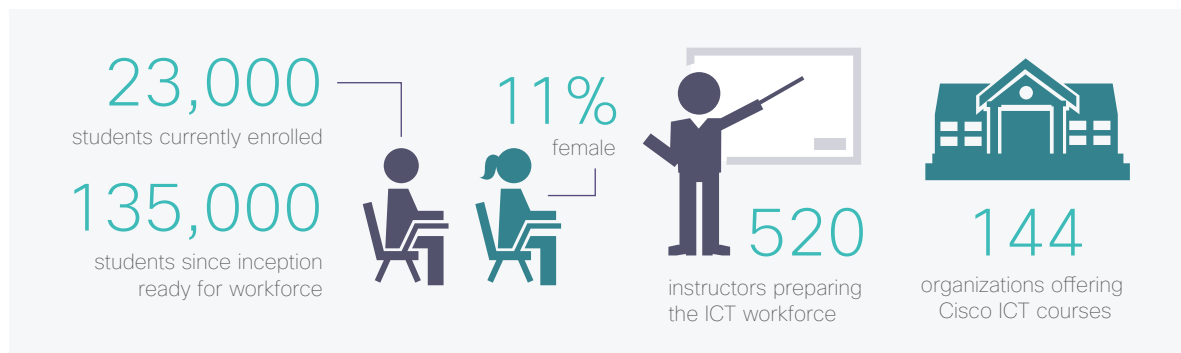
Cisco's STEM Programs



Cisco Networking Academy

Cisco Networking is our flagship workforce training program that has educated over 130,000 students in Australia and New Zealand to-date. It addresses the "T" in STEM by helping young people prepare for industry-recognised certifications and entry-level information and communication technology (ICT) careers. Students develop foundational skills in ICT while acquiring vital 21st century career skills in problem solving, collaboration and critical thinking.

Networking Academy Impact in ANZ*



*As at 28/07/14



STEM Mentoring

Cisco is a partner with the University of Technology Sydney in the 'Lucy STEM Mentoring Program' which sees Cisco employees provide over 40 hours of mentoring to female STEM students at UTS. Cisco has also committed to building an alliance of business and other stakeholders as part of 'AUSTEM2020', an initiative that connects STEM professionals with young people. By 2020, 20% of Cisco's Australian employees will provide at least 20 hours of STEM mentoring per year.



Investing in Innovative Not-for-Profits

Cisco partners with non-profit organisations in Australia and New Zealand to develop technology-based solutions in STEM education. These investments are focussed on underserved communities and solutions that harness the power of the Internet and technology. Supported organisations include WorkVentures, Cisco Academy for the Visually Impaired - Curtin University, Yarn'n and Taira Whiti Computer Hub Trust.



Women Rock IT

The Women Rock IT webinar series is a quarterly event for girls and women who are potential IT students and professionals. The series highlights ICT careers as important and viable opportunities for females by profiling prominent women from a wide range of Technology backgrounds each with their own inspiring story of how they turned their passion for Technology into meaningful + successful careers.



To learn more about Cisco's investments in STEM education visit csr.cisco.com
Or visit our FaceBook page at www.facebook.com/cisconetworkingacademy