AUTO DIGITID AFRICA

STUDENT COURSE & CAREER GUIDE

# Your guide to learning, certification and careers in AIDC

Everything you need to understand the Auto DigitID Africa learning ecosystem, choose where to start, and see where each pathway leads.

Auto DigitID Africa · 2026 Edition · autodigitid.africa
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WELCOME

# Start here

## Thank you for investing your time, energy and curiosity in this field.

Automatic Identification and Data Capture sounds technical, and some of it is. But at its centre is a very ordinary idea: an organisation can only act well on information it can trust, and information can only be trusted if it was captured accurately, at the moment and place the work actually happened.

You have already relied on this today. The parcel you signed for. The medication checked against a wristband before it was given. The stock on a shelf that was there because a system knew it had sold. None of that is magic. It is identification, capture, connection and decision - designed by people, deployed by people and justified by people.

This guide explains what Auto DigitID Africa teaches, how the pathways differ, what each stage costs where a public rate exists, and how to decide where you should begin. Read it straight through, or use the page list below to go where you need.

### WHAT IS IN THIS GUIDE


| | |
|---|---|
| Pages 3-6 | What AIDC is, where it is used, how the whole learning ecosystem fits together, and every path at a glance |
| Pages 7-9 | The technical and commercial certification tracks, and how Commercial Expert is built |
| Pages 10-11 | The university and TVET academic pathways |
| Page 12 | How academic study and certification differ - and why that separation matters to you |
| Pages 13-14 | Choosing your starting point, and the career directions each pathway opens |
| Pages 15-17 | How progression and credentials work, the seven steps to certification, and what each stage costs |
| Pages 18-19 | How to prepare, and the roadmap from first topic to leadership |
| Pages 20-21 | Frequently asked questions, and what to do next |


> One thing to know before you read on: Auto DigitID Africa runs two different kinds of learning. Professional certification teaches you to deploy, integrate and assure systems. Academic study teaches you to design and justify them. Neither replaces the other, and you do not need both.

THE FIELD

# What is AIDC?

Automatic Identification and Data Capture is how the physical world becomes trusted digital information.

Every AIDC system, in every industry, is the same chain. Once you can see the chain, you can see it everywhere - and you can tell where a given job sits on it.

**OBJECT, PERSON OR EVENT**
Something real happens: a pallet arrives, a patient is admitted, a parcel is sorted

↓

**IDENTIFY**
Barcode · RFID · Biometrics · Machine vision · Sensors

↓

**CAPTURE**
The identifier is read and validated at the point where the work happens

↓

**CONNECT**
Data crosses a secure, monitored interface into the wider estate

↓

**ENTERPRISE SYSTEM**
ERP, WMS, TMS, POS, EMR or MES is updated - the system of record

↓

**AUTOMATE, ANALYSE, DECIDE**
Now something can be acted on automatically, or reported honestly

## WHY IT MATTERS

### Accuracy
Fewer keystrokes means fewer errors. Data describes what actually happened.

### Visibility
You can answer where something is, and when it moved, without a phone call.

### Speed
Work is recorded as it happens rather than reconstructed afterwards.

### Automation
Reliable identification is the precondition for every automated decision above it.

> Automation cannot be more reliable than the identification underneath it. That is the whole reason this field has a career ladder.

THE MARKET

# Where AIDC is used

AIDC skills are not tied to one industry. The chain is the same; the stakes and the regulation change.

### Logistics & 3PL
Warehousing, transport, EPCIS events, cold chain and RTLS

### Healthcare
Patient and product identity, DataMatrix, UDI, privacy and safety

### Manufacturing
MES, work in progress, RFID, vision and industrial connectivity

### Retail & Omnichannel
2D at point of sale, Digital Link, inventory and consumer information

### Public Sector & Identity
Proofing, credentials, biometrics and service delivery

### Banking & Financial Services
Identity, authentication, fraud evidence and secure workflows

### Energy & Utilities
Asset identity, field service, rugged operations and lifecycle evidence

### Courier, Express & Postal
Parcel identity, events, sortation and exception handling

## INDUSTRY CONCENTRATION BADGES

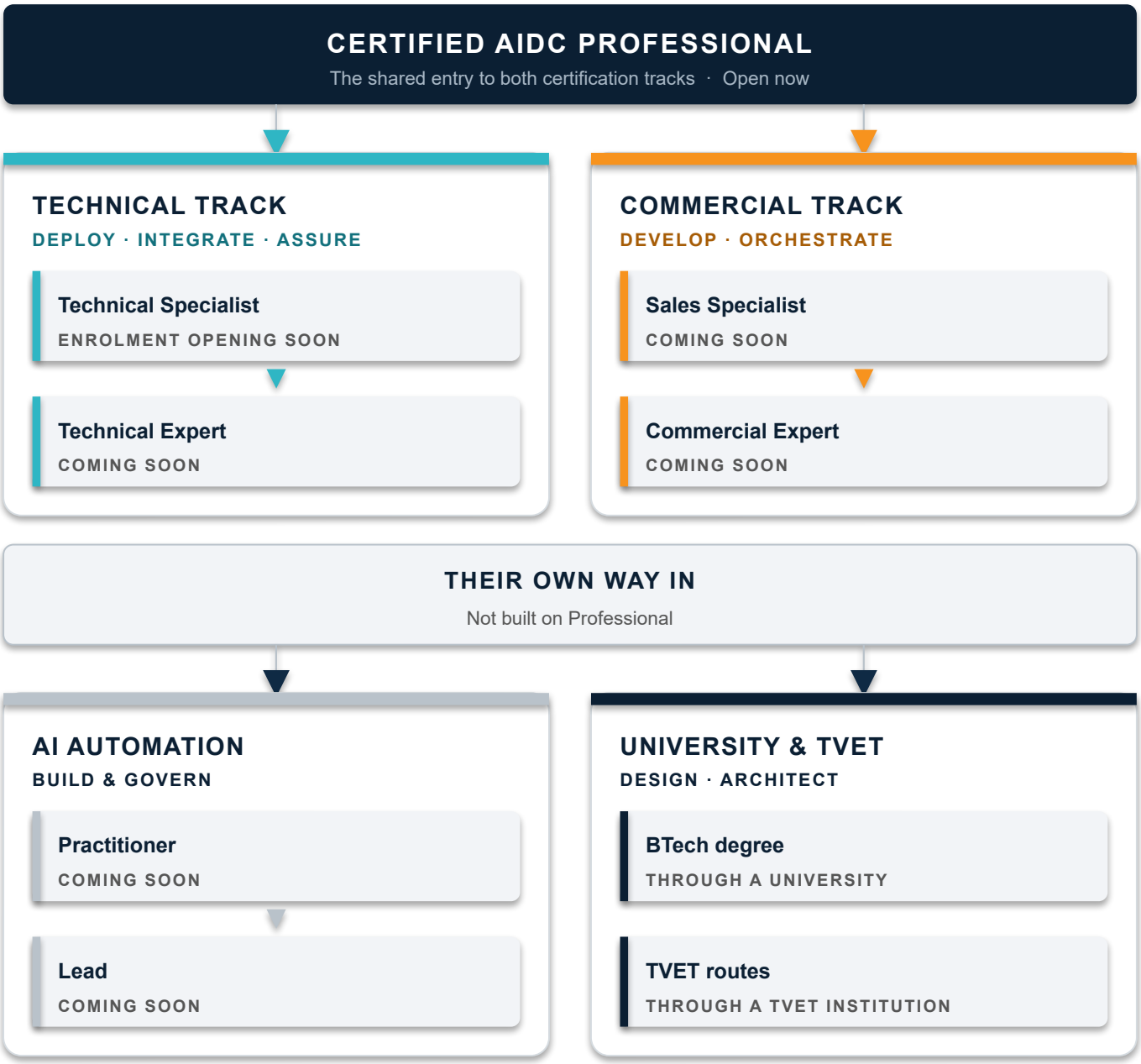
Sector fluency is credentialled separately, as a horizontal badge rather than a fourth level. A badge becomes available once you hold Certified AIDC Technical Specialist, and is issued against your certification record. It requires an industry case or project with assessor sign-off, and is reviewed or renewed every two years - sooner after a material regulatory change in the sector.

A badge adds depth in one sector. It never changes the role boundary of the credential you already hold - and there is no all-access pack, because holding every vertical would signal specialisation in none.

| BADGE | STUDENT RATE | ACADEMIC PARTNER |
|---|---|---|
| $595 standard | $495 | $395 |

# The Auto DigitID Africa learning ecosystem

One shared entry to two certification tracks, and two routes with their own way in.




**One entry, two tracks**

You take Certified AIDC Professional once; it is the entry to BOTH certification tracks. Technical builds and assures the system; commercial finds, justifies and orchestrates the business around it. Equal in seniority, different in profession.

**Their own way in**

AI Automation is a standalone ladder and needs no AIDC credential. University and TVET are academic qualifications, not certifications, and neither requires the other.

## AND AI RUNS THROUGH ALL FOUR, DIFFERENTLY

**TECHNICAL**

Deploy it, integrate it, and assure it.

**COMMERCIAL**

Position it honestly, and lead the programme.

**AI AUTOMATION**

Build it, then govern it. Here it is the subject.

**ACADEMIC**

Design it and govern it, as assessed credits.

# Every path at a glance

What each credential is, which track it belongs to, whether it is open, and what it asks of you first.

| CREDENTIAL | STATUS | BEFORE YOU START |
|---|---|---|
| **SHARED ENTRY TO BOTH CERTIFICATION TRACKS** | | |
| **Certified AIDC Professional** | OPEN NOW | Open entry: no prior AIDC experience; basic digital literacy. |
| **TECHNICAL TRACK** | | |
| **Certified AIDC Technical Specialist** | ENROLMENT OPENING SOON | Professional award or verified equivalent deployment competence. |
| **Certified AIDC Technical Expert** | COMING SOON | Technical Specialist award plus verified integration experience. |
| **COMMERCIAL TRACK** | | |
| **Certified AIDC Sales Specialist** | COMING SOON | Certified AIDC Professional - the shared AIDC foundation. |
| **Certified AIDC Commercial Expert** | COMING SOON | Sales Specialist, plus a concentration and the Expert defence. |
| **AI AUTOMATION - ITS OWN LADDER** | | |
| **Certified AI Automation Practitioner** | COMING SOON | No coding prerequisite. No AIDC credential is required. |
| **Certified AI Automation Lead** | COMING SOON | Practitioner, or the challenge route. |
| **UNIVERSITY AND TVET - ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS** | | |
| **BTech in AIDC & Intelligent Automation** | THROUGH A UNIVERSITY | Set by the adopting university. 4 years / 8 semesters, 128 credits. |
| **TVET routes** | THROUGH A TVET INSTITUTION | Set by the institution. Institutions should contact Auto DigitID Africa about adoption. |

Coming soon means exactly that: the credential is described so you can plan, but it cannot be bought yet. There is no price, no pre-order and no deposit until it opens. Professional is open now. Technical Specialist is released and priced, and its enrolment opens when its course is live on the learning platform.

Coursework evolves as technology, standards, regulation and employer requirements change. Examples, tools, laboratories and assessments are updated through controlled curriculum governance, while the purpose and capability boundary of each certification stay fixed.

TECHNICAL TRACK

# The technical certification pathway

For people who make the system work: deploy it, connect it, and keep it running in production.

## Certified AIDC Professional

DEPLOYMENT & SUPPORT

Deploy, commission, support and troubleshoot within an approved design.

Entry: No prior AIDC experience; basic digital literacy. · 120-160 guided hours over 3-4 months

### WHAT YOU LEARN

- An AIDC technology primer, before anything is configured
- AIDC foundations and the physical-to-digital data flow
- GS1 identifiers, 1D/2D barcodes and Digital Link readiness
- Barcode printing, verification and quality control

### ROLES IT OPENS

- AIDC Technician
- Device Configuration Specialist
- Support Engineer
- Field Service Technician

Evidence you produce: Configured environment, commissioning record, troubleshooting evidence and support handover pack.

## Certified AIDC Technical Specialist

INTEGRATION & TRACEABILITY

Integrate AIDC devices and data into secure, observable enterprise workflows.

Entry: Professional award or verified equivalent deployment competence. · 180-240 guided hours over 5-6 months

### WHAT YOU LEARN

- Process discovery, personas and requirements
- Enterprise systems and canonical data modelling
- Secure APIs, webhooks and data contracts
- Event-driven integration and messaging

### ROLES IT OPENS

- AIDC Solution Engineer
- Integration Engineer
- Workflow Automation Analyst
- IoT Systems Engineer

Evidence you produce: Working integration, API and event artefacts, tests, observability and stakeholder documentation.

## Certified AIDC Technical Expert · Coming soon

ENTERPRISE DELIVERY & ASSURANCE

Lead and assure complex implementations against approved business and architectural intent.

Entry: Technical Specialist award plus verified integration experience. · 220-300 guided hours over 6-9 months

### WHAT YOU LEARN

- Blueprint interpretation and delivery planning
- Secure-by-default enterprise AIDC rollouts
- Resilience, capacity, performance and high availability
- Multi-site cutover, migration and change enablement

### ROLES IT OPENS

- Enterprise AIDC Implementation Lead
- Technical Delivery Manager
- AIDC Platform Owner
- Deployment Assurance Lead

Evidence you produce: Delivery portfolio, security and resilience exercise, and a defended production-readiness capstone.

**The ladder ends at expert practitioner and delivery leadership. Certified AIDC Technical Expert interprets and challenges architecture; it does not replace the accountable architect, researcher or strategist.**

COMMERCIAL TRACK

# The commercial certification pathway

For people who have to find the opportunity, justify the investment and win the business.

**Starts with Certified AIDC Professional · $295 · Open now**

The same shared entry described on page 7. A commercial professional needs the technology fluency before the commercial competence means anything.

## Certified AIDC Sales Specialist · Coming soon

SELL & GROW

Identify, qualify and develop AIDC opportunities by translating operational problems into credible business and technology value propositions.

Entry: Certified AIDC Professional - the shared AIDC foundation. · 70-90 guided hours

### WHAT YOU LEARN

- The AIDC commercial professional and the buying environment
- Customer and operational discovery
- Solution and use-case positioning; industry opportunity development
- Consultative and value-based selling; opportunity qualification

### ROLES IT OPENS

- AIDC Account Manager
- Solution Sales Specialist
- Business Development Manager
- Pre-sales Consultant

Where it stops: Trained to recognise, discover, qualify and commercially develop the solution - not to configure it.

## Certified AIDC Commercial Expert · Coming soon

LEAD & ORCHESTRATE

Orchestrate complex, multi-stakeholder enterprise and public-sector AIDC business - strategise, engineer value, negotiate, close and grow.

Entry: Sales Specialist, plus a concentration and the Expert defence. · 90-120 guided hours

### WHAT YOU LEARN

- Enterprise commercial strategy and strategic account management
- Complex opportunity leadership
- Advanced value engineering and investment cases
- Executive and board-level selling

### ROLES IT OPENS

- Enterprise Sales Lead
- Strategic Account Director
- Channel / Distribution Leader
- Commercial Manager

Where it stops: A Commercial Expert cannot describe themselves as an AIDC solutions architect without the corresponding technical qualification.

Commercial Expert core + one concentration + the Expert defence = Commercial Expert. The core alone earns no credential. The next page shows what is in the core, and what each concentration adds.

# One core. Two senior careers.

Everyone who earns Commercial Expert completes the same core. What you add on top is the half that changes.

## Commercial Expert core

**12 modules**

Everyone who earns Commercial Expert completes the same core. It is not sold separately and it earns no credential on its own.

- Enterprise commercial strategy and strategic account management
- Advanced value engineering and investment cases
- Pricing, margin, procurement and negotiation
- Complex opportunity leadership
- Executive selling and commercial deal architecture
- Ecosystem strategy, lifecycle growth and commercial governance

**THEN ONE CONCENTRATION**

## Enterprise Sales

**12 modules**

Win and grow complex enterprise and public-sector AIDC opportunities.

- The enterprise sales landscape and strategic account development
- Executive stakeholder strategy and board-level communication
- Enterprise discovery and transformation roadmaps
- Enterprise value engineering and programme commercialisation
- Procurement, competitive strategy and strategic negotiation
- Expansion from pilot to enterprise standard, and a defended pursuit simulation

*Assessed by: An enterprise transformation pursuit, defended before a panel.*

## Channel Leadership

**14 modules**

Design, build and lead AIDC partner ecosystems that create scalable coverage and profitable growth.

- Channel economics and the AIDC partner ecosystem
- Channel strategy, partner segmentation and tiering
- Partner recruitment, onboarding and enablement
- Joint business planning, co-selling and pipeline management
- Channel economics, partner performance, conflict and governance
- Distribution leadership, ISV alliances and Pan-African channel strategy

*Assessed by: A multi-country channel design, defended before a panel.*

### WHY THE TWO ROUTES DIFFER IN SIZE

| | |
|---|---|
| **Enterprise Sales route** | `12 core + 12 concentration = 24 modules` |
| **Channel Leadership route** | `12 core + 14 concentration = 26 modules` |
| **Both concentrations** | `12 core + 26 concentration = 38 modules` |

Both concentrations sit at the same Commercial Expert level. Channel Leadership is 14 modules to Enterprise Sales' 12 - a difference of curriculum scope, not of credential seniority.

ACADEMIC ROUTE

# The university pathway

An architecture-first degree for people who want to decide what should be built, and defend that decision.

**Bachelor of Technology in Automatic Identification, Data Capture (AIDC) & Intelligent Automation**

| DURATION | CREDITS | ALIGNMENT | MODE |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4 years / 8 semesters | 128 credits | NQF Level 7 | Full-time / modular / hybrid |

Architecture-first, vendor-neutral, Africa-contextualised. It produces architects and systems thinkers, and is deliberately separated from the certifications, which own deployment and tooling.

## FOUR YEARS, FOUR WAYS OF THINKING

YEAR 1
### UNDERSTAND
**Foundations of AIDC systems**
Build conceptual clarity of AIDC as enterprise infrastructure. Conceptual labs only - no physical device configuration.

YEAR 2
### STRUCTURE
**Systems, standards & architecture**
Develop systems thinking and architecture understanding across enterprise systems, identity, security and interoperability.

YEAR 3
### DESIGN
**Industry system design & integration**
Translate business problems into defensible system architectures across logistics, healthcare, retail and the public sector.

YEAR 4
### ARCHITECT
**AI, automation & enterprise strategy**
Develop architect-level thinking and strategic command, ending in a real architecture project defended before a mixed academic and industry panel.

## THE CAPSTONE

The Year 4 capstone is an architectural defence, not a build project. A pass requires demonstrated reasoning under questioning by a mixed academic and industry panel.

> Laboratories focus on systems design, data-flow modelling and architectural reasoning. Scanner configuration, RFID tuning, printer setup and device management are deliberately excluded from the degree and remain part of the certification pathway.

## NO ELECTIVES, AND WHERE AI SITS

There are no electives and no optional units. Every one of the 128 credits is credit-bearing and assessed. The 128 divide as 74 core AIDC and systems, 18 integration, AI and automation, 18 university common, 12 research and capstone, and 6 industrial attachment. Here AI is 18 assessed credits across Years 3 and 4, and 15% of the capstone mark.

ACADEMIC ROUTE, SECOND LANE

# The TVET pathway

Technical and vocational education brings something the degree deliberately does not: sustained, equipment-rich, workplace-assessed practice.

### Equipment-rich practice

Sustained workshop hours on real scanners, printers, readers and mobile devices

### Maintenance and safety

Servicing, fault-finding, safe working practice and preventive maintenance

### Workplace assessment

Competence evidenced by an employer in a real operating environment

### Employment-linked

Built around learners who are already working, or moving quickly into work

## HOW TVET CONNECTS TO EVERYTHING ELSE

- TVET retains equipment-rich workshop, maintenance and workplace-assessment value.
- Professional and Technical Specialist may complement trade pathways and workplace evidence.
- Protected TVET value: workshop hours, equipment practice, maintenance, safety and employer assessment.

- The BTech curriculum is structured for adoption by universities and TVETs, with articulation pathways for diploma and higher-diploma exits.
- The Professional credential is offered as a TVET- or university-bundled practical credential.

## WHO TVET SUITS

TVET suits a learner who wants to be genuinely capable with the equipment, is learning alongside employment or moving quickly into it, and values assessed practical competence over an architecture-first academic route. It is a different answer to a different question - not a lower one.

**What this guide does not state**

Auto DigitID Africa has not yet published an approved detailed TVET curriculum. Unit lists, credit values, qualification levels and TVET-specific pricing are therefore not stated here. Institutions should contact Auto DigitID Africa directly to discuss adoption.

# Academic study and certification

This is the page to read twice. The two kinds of learning look similar from outside and are genuinely different inside, and choosing on a misunderstanding costs you time and money.

**ACADEMIC STUDY**

THINK · DESIGN · ARCHITECT

+

**CERTIFICATION**

DO · DEPLOY · ASSURE

=

**BROADER INDUSTRY CAPABILITY**

Two kinds of professional judgement, developed in two different places

| | CERTIFICATION<br>Professional credential | UNIVERSITY / TVET<br>Academic qualification |
|---|---|---|
| TEACHES | Deployment, configuration, integration and execution | Architecture, systems thinking, design and decision-making |
| YOU END UP OWNING | Whether the system works, safely, in production | Whether the right system was chosen, and why |
| ASSESSED BY | Module work and labs, then a written exam and a practical, or a defended capstone | Coursework, ROI models and a defended architecture capstone |
| AWARDED BY | Auto DigitID Africa | The accredited institution |
| DURATION | 3-4 to 6-9 months per level | 4 years, with diploma exits earlier |

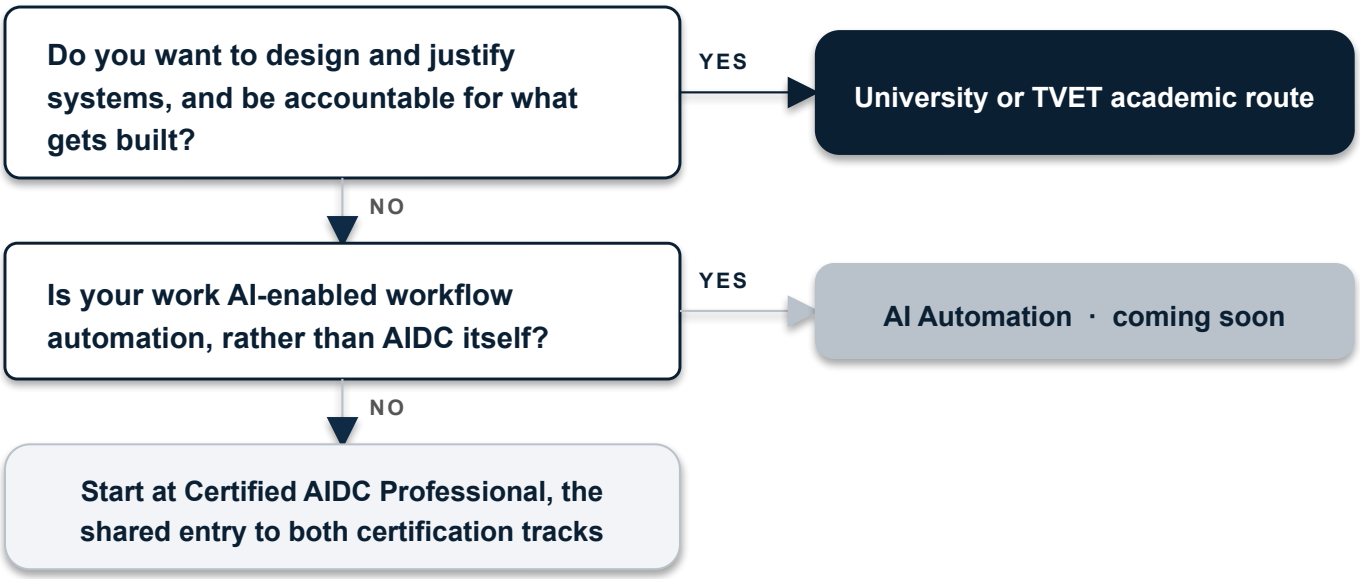
> Academic learning and professional certification are complementary pathways. One is not a substitute for the other, and neither is a requirement of the other.

## THREE THINGS STUDENTS MOST OFTEN GET WRONG

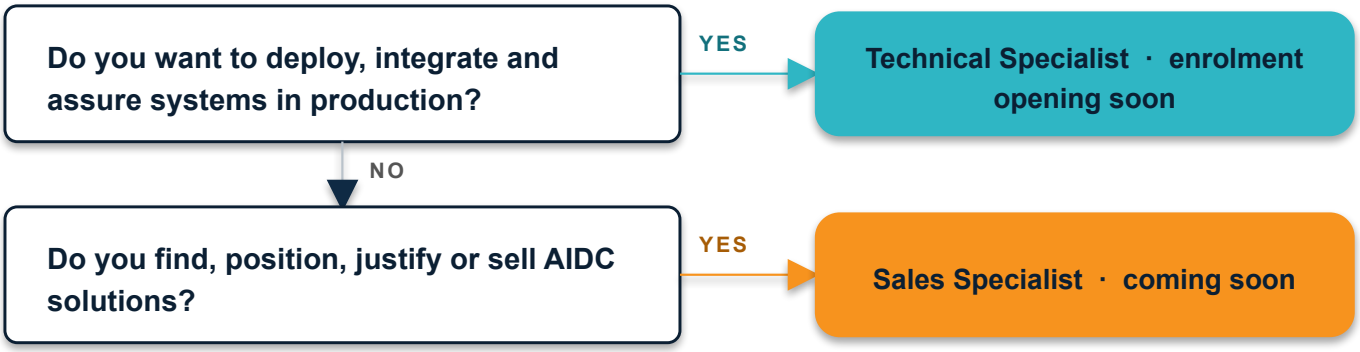
- Your degree does NOT include a certification, and there is no automatic dual award.
- You do NOT need both. Each is complete for a different kind of role, and neither is the junior version of the other.
- Certification does NOT exempt you from research, architecture, mathematics or the degree capstone.

# Choosing your starting point

Answer these in order. The first yes is a good place to begin - and you can combine pathways later.




## ONCE YOU HOLD PROFESSIONAL, CHOOSE A TRACK




## COMBINING PATHWAYS

None is blocked. Professional is taken once and opens either track, or both; a university student may take it in parallel. Moving from the technical track to the commercial one still means Sales Specialist and the Commercial Expert assessment - the competence is not waived - and a Commercial Expert is not an AIDC solutions architect without the technical qualification. AI Automation needs no AIDC credential and can run alongside any of them.

## IF YOU ARE STILL UNSURE

- No prior AIDC experience: start at Certified AIDC Professional. It assumes only basic digital literacy.
- Already deploying AIDC for a living: check your eligibility for the Professional Challenge route, then look at Technical Specialist.
- Studying, or about to: check whether your institution holds Academic Partner status before you buy anything.
- Buying for a team: instructor-led cohorts and organisation rates exist. Ask rather than buying seats individually.

# Where these pathways lead

Role families, not job promises. These are the directions the work opens.

### Operations & deployment
Commissioning, configuration, field support and device lifecycle

### Systems integration
APIs, events, enterprise data flow and traceability

### Delivery & assurance
Rollout leadership, production readiness, resilience and service transition

### Architecture & design
Enterprise architecture, standards strategy and original design

### Commercial & solutions
Discovery, value engineering, proposals and enterprise deals

### Channel & ecosystem
Partner strategy, enablement, distribution and alliances

### Consulting & transformation
Diagnostics, roadmaps, change enablement and adoption

### Governance & data quality
Privacy, compliance evidence, lineage and AI oversight

## HOW A CAREER TYPICALLY DEVELOPS

**LEARN**
Vocabulary and fundamentals

▶

**APPLY**
Real work, kept as evidence

▶

**SPECIALISE**
Technical, commercial or academic depth

▶

**LEAD**
Delivery, design or the commercial agenda

## WHAT AUTO DIGITID AFRICA DOES NOT CLAIM

- No employment guarantee, placement rate or salary expectation is published, because no verified evidence supports one.
- Certification proves demonstrated competence and production evidence. What an employer does with that is their decision.
- Roles listed in this guide are drawn from the approved framework's career map. They describe direction, not entitlement.

HOW IT WORKS

# Progression, assessment and credentials

## PREREQUISITES

| | |
|---|---|
| **Certified AIDC Professional** | Open entry. No prior AIDC experience; basic digital literacy. |
| **Certified AIDC Technical Specialist** | Professional award, or verified equivalent deployment competence. |
| **Certified AIDC Technical Expert** | Coming soon. Technical Specialist plus verified integration experience. |
| **Sales Specialist** | Coming soon. Certified AIDC Professional. |
| **Commercial Expert** | Coming soon. Sales Specialist, a concentration and the Expert defence. |
| **Industry badge** | Certified AIDC Technical Specialist, plus an industry case or project with assessor sign-off. A Technical Expert holder adds an assurance-level extension where it applies. |

## ROUTES TO THE SAME CREDENTIAL

Certification is the full learning programme, labs, assessment and credential, and suits most learners. Challenge gives experienced practitioners the same materials on a 90-day window with one practice attempt, and is eligibility-gated. Certification Plus adds a live revision clinic and one resit included, of the part you did not pass. Instructor-led cohorts are taught delivery with the credential included.

Every route leads to exactly the same independently assessed credential.

## ASSESSMENT INTEGRITY

- No award is earned through multiple-choice testing alone.
- Every level requires authentic work, evidence, documentation and demonstrated recovery from failure - not only a happy-path demo.
- Rubrics and evidence requirements are published before delivery.

## VERIFICATION AND RENEWAL

Credentials are issued as secure, verifiable digital credentials carrying the level and capability metadata, so an employer can confirm exactly what was assessed. Anyone can check one at verify.autodigitid.africa. Renewal every three years needs current competency evidence as well as the renewal fee. Industry badges renew every two years, because sector regulation moves faster than the framework around it.

## CORE, AND THE ENRICHMENT AROUND IT

Technical Specialist and Technical Expert carry optional enrichment. It is included in the rate, never examined, and updates as a living release.

### SHARED FOUNDATION

Professional: AI in AIDC is a required, examined module.

### TECHNICAL PATH

Technical Specialist integrates AI into workflows. Technical Expert governs it, with mission-critical communications.

### COMMERCIAL PATH

Sales Specialist sells AI honestly. Commercial Expert leads it as a programme.

# How to get certified, in seven steps

Every step, in order, under the assessment rules approved on 25 September 2026.

### 1 Learn all ten modules

Work through all ten modules, P0-P9. Every module is required - including P9, AI in AIDC, and the mission-critical communications in P6.

### 2 Pass each knowledge check

Each topic ends in a knowledge check. Score 80% and it unlocks the topics that build on it.

### 3 Pass each module

A module is passed when its checkpoint quiz is 80% or more, its written work is 80% or more - marked by an assessor, then reviewed and released by the Lead Assessor - and every competency gate is Met. Only then does the next module open.

### 4 Book your final assessment

Once all ten modules are passed, book at least 15 working days ahead: online, or supervised at an approved venue. University and TVET cohorts sit supervised through their institution; for anyone else it is a separately priced option, available on request. Adjustments: ask support@autodigitid.africa, normally 20 working days before. If a disability makes online delivery unsuitable, supervision is at no extra fee. The standard never changes.

### 5 Sit the written exam

Online, you sit it in Moodle under secured conditions: a live identity check-in at every sitting (your national ID, passport or driving licence is seen, never copied or stored), two-factor sign-in and the Safe Exam Browser on a Windows or Mac computer or an iPad. There is no webcam or AI proctoring. Or sit it supervised at an approved venue. Either way you have 120 minutes for 70 scored and 10 unscored pilot questions, and results are released after review. Pass: 80% overall and at least 60% in every domain (provisional until standard setting). Some online passes are followed by a short verification conversation - free, and not an attempt.

### 6 Complete the practical

For now it is supervised: observed in person by an approved assessor who is not your trainer, with faults injected while you work. An online observed practical on a hosted lab, with a short oral defence, will follow once it has been validated. Pass: 80% and all five gates - Safety, Security, Data integrity, Privacy, Production boundary. Fail one part and you resit only that part, keeping the other for 12 months.

### 7 Receive your certificate

The Lead Assessor checks your record and the awarding authority approves it. Your digital certificate arrives within 10 working days, is entered in the register with a QR code, and anyone can check it at verify.autodigitid.africa. Renew every three years with current competency evidence and the renewal fee.

AI may help you learn. In marked work use it only to explain or research, never to write, and add a one-line declaration. No AI in the exam or practical. Appeals are free. Help: support@autodigitid.africa.

WHAT IT COSTS

# Pricing guide

These are rates, not promotions. If you qualify, the rate is yours - there is no code to find and nothing to negotiate.

## TECHNICAL CERTIFICATION PATH

| | STANDARD RATE | STUDENT RATE | ACADEMIC PARTNER | CHALLENGE ROUTE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Professional** | $295 | $195 | $179 | $195 |
| **Technical Specialist** | $895 | $695 | $595 | $595 |
| **Technical Expert** | Coming soon | – | – | – |
| **Pathway (Prof + Spec)** | $1,050 | $785 | $685 | – |

## COMMERCIAL CERTIFICATION PATH

| | STANDARD RATE | STUDENT RATE | ACADEMIC PARTNER | CHALLENGE ROUTE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Professional** | $295 | $195 | $179 | $195 |
| **Sales Specialist** | Coming soon | – | – | – |
| **Commercial Expert** | Coming soon | – | – | – |

## AI AUTOMATION

| | STANDARD RATE | STUDENT RATE | ACADEMIC PARTNER | CHALLENGE ROUTE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Certified AI Automation Practitioner** | Coming soon | – | – | – |
| **Certified AI Automation Lead** | Coming soon | – | – | – |

## WHO QUALIFIES FOR WHICH RATE

| | |
|---|---|
| **Standard rate** | Open to everyone. No conditions. |
| **Student rate** | Verified current student status. |
| **Academic Partner rate** | Students at institutions holding an active Auto DigitID Academic Partner agreement. |
| **Challenge route** | Experienced practitioners who skip the topics but still pass every module's end-of-module assessment, then the final. Eligibility-gated. |

Eligibility rates do not combine with each other. You qualify for the best single rate, not a stack of them. Certification Plus has its own published rate at each open level, shown in the technical and commercial briefs. A credential marked coming soon cannot be bought yet: there is no price, no pre-order and no deposit, and its rates are published when it opens. All prices are in US dollars.

BEFORE YOU START

# How to prepare

These are recommended preparation, not entry requirements. The only stated entry condition for Certified AIDC Professional is basic digital literacy and no prior AIDC experience.

1. **Be comfortable with a computer**

   You do not need to code. You do need to be able to work confidently with files, settings and a browser.

2. **Understand your own industry's workflow**

   Walk your workplace end to end. Where is something counted, signed, keyed in or checked by eye?

3. **Learn basic data concepts**

   What a record is, what a unique identifier does, and why two systems disagree about the same thing.

4. **Practise systems thinking**

   Follow one item from the loading bay to the invoice. Notice every point where it could be lost.

5. **Ask the question that matters**

   "What happens to the data after capture?" Almost every good AIDC decision starts there.

6. **Document what you build**

   Screenshots, decisions, what failed and how you recovered. This becomes your portfolio.

7. **Stay standards-aware**

   GS1, EPCIS, ISO and digital-identity guidance change. Knowing where to look matters more than memorising a version number.

## REQUIRED, VERSUS RECOMMENDED

Everything on this page is recommended preparation. It is not an entry requirement, and nothing here gates your enrolment. The only stated entry condition for Certified AIDC Professional is basic digital literacy, with no prior AIDC experience assumed. Prerequisites that DO gate enrolment are listed on pages 6 and 15.

THE JOURNEY

# Your learning roadmap

The same eight steps, whichever pathway you take.

01 **Start**

Choose a pathway and a level honestly - the one that matches the work you actually do, or want to do next.

02 **Learn**

Work through the structured topics. Do not skip the fundamentals because they look familiar.

03 **Practice**

Do the labs at your own keyboard. Break things on purpose and recover from it.

04 **Assess**

Pass every module, then the final assessment. For Professional, page 16 sets out all seven steps.

05 **Credential**

Earn a verifiable digital credential carrying the level and capability metadata.

06 **Apply**

Use it at work. The evidence you produce becomes your portfolio and your case for the next level.

07 **Specialise**

Add an industry badge, a second concentration, or the next rung.

08 **Lead**

Own delivery, design or the commercial agenda - and help the people behind you.

Intakes open on 1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October. There is no rush and no countdown: pick the intake that fits your year.

QUESTIONS

# Frequently asked questions

### What is AIDC?

Automatic Identification and Data Capture: the technologies and practices that turn a physical object, person or event into trusted digital information - barcodes, RFID, biometrics, machine vision, sensors and everything that carries their data into an enterprise system.

### Do I need an IT background?

No. Certified AIDC Professional assumes no prior AIDC experience and asks only for basic digital literacy. What helps far more is curiosity about how your own workplace actually runs.

### Technical or commercial - which should I choose?

Technical if you want to make the system work; commercial if you want to find, justify and win the business around it. Both start from the same entry, Certified AIDC Professional, so you are not locked in on day one. The commercial track is coming soon.

### Can I take more than one pathway?

Yes. Nothing blocks it. Certified AIDC Professional is the shared entry to both certification tracks, so you take it once. AI Automation needs no AIDC credential and can run alongside any of them.

### Can experienced professionals skip the coursework?

There is an eligibility-gated Challenge route: the same materials on a 90-day window with one practice attempt. You skip the topics, but still pass every module's end-of-module assessment before the final. It is published for Professional and Technical Specialist, the two released credentials.

### Does my university degree include a certification?

No. They are separate qualifications with separate enrolment, and there is no automatic dual award. A degree may run alongside a certification, but universities do not deliver certification content as part of academic credit.

### Can university students take certifications separately?

Yes, and many do. A verified student rate applies, and students at institutions holding Academic Partner status receive the Academic Partner rate.

### Will certification exempt me from parts of my degree?

That decision belongs to your institution, not to Auto DigitID Africa. It may support exemption from selected practical laboratories or electives - never from research, architecture, mathematics, programming or the degree capstone.

### How are credentials verified?

Each is issued as a secure, verifiable digital credential carrying the level and capability metadata, within 10 working days of approval. It is entered in the register with a QR code, and anyone can check it at verify.autodigitid.africa rather than taking a title on trust.

### How do I enrol?

Choose your pathway and level, check which rate you qualify for, and enrol at autodigitid.africa. Intakes open on 1 January, 1 April, 1 July and 1 October. Help: support@autodigitid.africa. General enquiries: info@autodigitid.africa.

NEXT STEPS

# Choose your path

One shared entry to two certification tracks, and two routes with their own way in. Start where your work is.

## Technical certification

DEPLOY · INTEGRATE · ASSURE

Start at Certified AIDC Professional, $295. Challenge route available if you already deploy AIDC systems.

## Commercial certification

DEVELOP · ORCHESTRATE

Same entry, then Sales Specialist and Commercial Expert with your chosen concentration. Both coming soon.

## AI Automation

BUILD · GOVERN

Practitioner, then Lead. Its own ladder, with no AIDC credential required. Coming soon.

## University & TVET

UNDERSTAND · DESIGN · ARCHITECT

A four-year architecture-first degree, or a TVET route. Talk to your institution, or to us about adoption.

## autodigitid.africa

Intakes: 1 January · 1 April · 1 July · 1 October
Verified student and Academic Partner rates apply on eligibility.
Check any certificate at verify.autodigitid.africa - or scan the code.
Help: support@autodigitid.africa · General: info@autodigitid.africa

Scan to verify