

Recommendation on LinkedIn Learning for UTC Employees

The Technology Training Task Force, a subgroup of the UTC Information Technology Advisory Council, recommends the purchase of a campus license from LinkedIn Learning for a period of three years (2020-2022) for \$25,300 per year (\$27,500/year minus 8 percent discount) or a total investment of \$75,900. The license agreement would allow employees access to online courses for professional development and skills training. Employees are defined as regular full-time and part-time staff and faculty. Pricing from LinkedIn Learning is based on institutional FTE as reported through IPEDS.

We recommend funds be made available in the FY20-FY22 budget years through the Information Technology annual budget to support this initiative. Rollout of access to LinkedIn Learning to occur on or before January 1, 2020, or once the appropriate single sign-on and LMS integrations are implemented.

Background

UTK entered into a 5-year agreement with LinkedIn Learning on September 12, 2017, to cover all faculty, staff, and students at UTK and UTHSC, and employees at IPS, IA, and the UT System Office for a total contract price of \$662,500. At the time of the contract negotiations in early 2017, UTC chose not to participate.

UTC IT conducted a trial of LinkedIn Learning (formerly Lynda.com) and Pluralsight on May 2018 until July 2018. Offerings in K@TE were also reviewed.

For comparison,

- K@TE has approximately 400 courses
- [Pluralsight](#) has approximately 6,500 courses
- [LinkedIn Learning](#) has approximately 7,250 video courses, 230,000 individual videos, 16,000 hours of video content, 240 curated learning paths, and 40+ new courses published every week.

As a result, UTC IT moved forward with 20 named licenses for LinkedIn Learning for FY19 at a cost of \$6,500. These current IT licenses expire in December 2019.

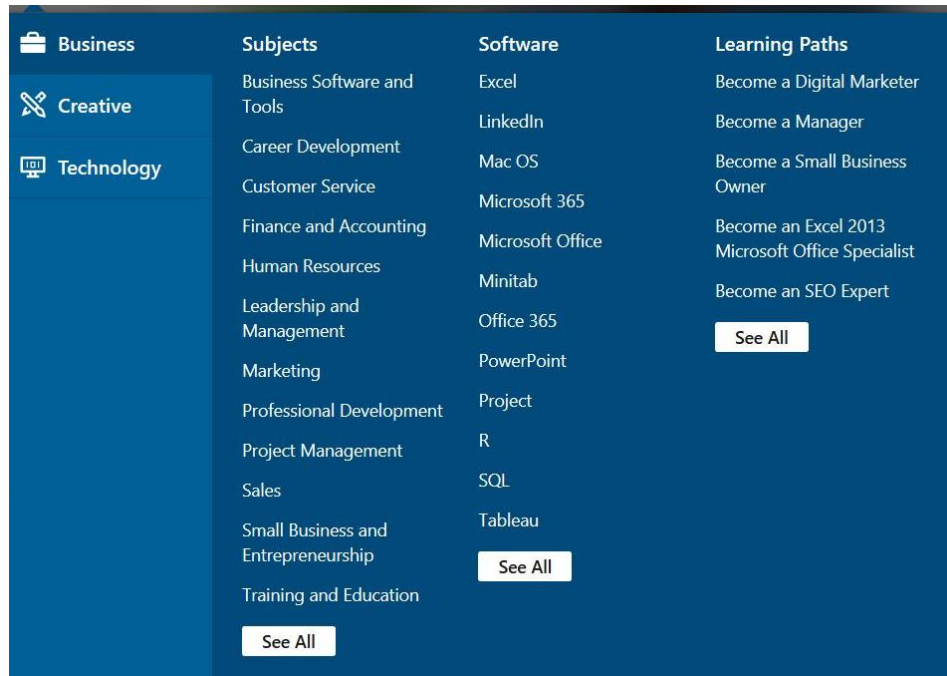
Support for Recommendation

A request has come from the UTC Administrative Support Professionals (attached with this recommendation) to provide LinkedIn Learning at UTC for staff development. There is potential to assign courses to employees as part of ongoing professional development or to be used by staff for credentialing and promotions.

Employee utilization at UTK has been requested to provide additional validation for this recommendation.

Course Offerings

In a review of courses offered through LinkedIn Learning and cross-referencing the UTC Software Inventory, many software applications and technology topics are addressed. The screenshot below highlights the three key areas for professional development and skill enhancement (both hard and soft skills in Business, Creative, and Technology).



LinkedIn Learning provides an extensive catalog on all the Microsoft, Adobe, and SAP (aka IRIS) applications in addition to tutorials ranging from ArcGIS to Autocad to SPSS to Canvas and Camtasia. Course audiences range from novice to advanced users providing a wide spectrum of topics to the UTC learning community.

Integrations and Pricing

Single Sign-On (SSO) and LMS support are standard with LinkedIn Learning Campus, which includes Canvas (LTI1.1) and K@TE (Cornerstone) integrations. UTK leverages a K@TE integration that may be available to us and likely the appropriate place for employee access.

Users are not required to have a LinkedIn account to access LinkedIn Learning.

LinkedIn Learning Partial Campus which includes all faculty and staff (1,451 FTE) is priced at \$27,500 per year (\$18.95 per FTE). An 8 percent discount is available for signing a three-year agreement. This would align with the expiration of the current contract for UTK/UT System (August 28, 2022) at which time UTC could renegotiate to participate with the UT System.

Funding Sources for Current and Future Investment

- IT pays full amount for first year (to come from the Student Tech Fee)
- Shared funding could come from IT/Academic Affairs/HR in future years
- Other model or source to be determined based on ITAC direction