

Higher education IT leaders reveal why AI PCs are the future



AI is already shaping how many in higher education learn, teach, and work



80% of IT leaders see real value in AI PCs.¹

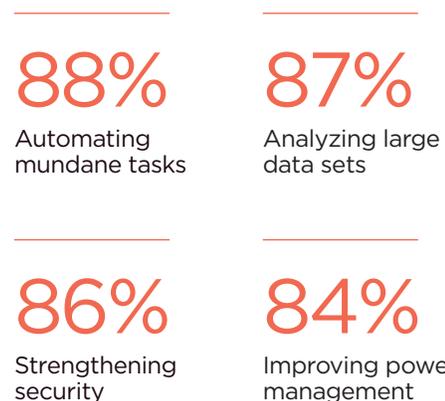
IT leaders are now facing the challenge of providing those AI advancements to everyone they support on campus – without sacrificing security or user experiences.

AI PCs were created to help accomplish this goal. Lenovo research reveals that **more than 80% of IT leaders see real value in AI PCs and 65% describe themselves as “excited” about AI PCs.**¹

Overall, education spending on AI is expected to **increase 2.6x** in the coming year, with a focus on GenAI for improved productivity and user experience.² AI PCs are set to play a crucial role in delivering those GenAI capabilities across the campus.

LENOVO RESEARCH KEY FINDINGS¹

IT leaders say AI PCs will be valuable for:



AI PCs built for business

Smarter
technology
for all

Lenovo

Productivity grows in importance



of higher education administrators say they want support for boosting their productivity with AI.³

Nearly 80% of higher education administrators, as well as nearly 70% of faculty, say they want support for boosting their productivity with AI.³ Already, 46% of education institutions are planning to integrate AI-powered PCs to boost operational efficiency.²

According to Lenovo's research, AI PCs are emerging as the key to solving these challenges. AI PCs boost productivity and the user experience with advanced features to streamline and customize their workflows. **88% of all PCs shipped by 2027 will be AI enabled.**²

There's an urgency to the rollout as 86% of higher education employees say they already use AI for at least one work-related task.³

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Productivity can't happen without reliable devices

Non-AI PCs average a three-year refresh cycle.¹ These frequent refreshes can lead to interruptions in productivity, higher costs, and increased generation of e-waste.

To push beyond the three-year refresh cycle, IT professionals want:¹



High-quality build materials, designed to withstand daily wear and tear



High-quality internal components that won't break down prematurely



Support and serviceability so devices are easy and fast to fix

ITDMs are demanding high-quality devices, equipped to fully realize AI-driven productivity, with an ecosystem of products, services, and support behind them.



intel
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Data support is top of mind

The most important quality education IT leaders are looking for in a partner is support for data management.² This means AI-enabled devices are just the start of the relationship.



ONLY 9% of higher education professionals say their institution's cybersecurity and privacy policies are adequate for AI-related risks.³

Only 9% of higher education professionals say their institution's cybersecurity and privacy policies are adequate for AI-related risks.³ It's clear that higher education IT partners must also offer an ecosystem of secure services and solutions for AI integration across the campus.

AI PCs offer the exact kind of foundation IT professionals want with:



Ease of use to reduce the time needed to complete day-to-day tasks



A clean interface without contextually unnecessary distractions



Integration with the education institution's ecosystem so data can be managed seamlessly and securely



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How Lenovo Aura Edition elevates the AI PC experience

Lenovo Aura Edition AI PCs offer premium options by tapping into the latest Intel® Core™ Ultra processors for smarter productivity, security, and experiences.

Personalized

Harness capabilities that adapt to each faculty and staff member's individual preferences and work habits. With Smart Modes, users can activate modes for different scenarios to automate common tasks and optimize system performance – whether on campus or at home.

Productive

Intel® Core™ Ultra processors with up to 48 NPU TOPS and locally processed AI workloads not only increase productivity for the education institution but also provide a seamless user experience. Lenovo Smart Share, powered by Intel® Unison™, provides users an instant, secure connection for sharing between phone and PC.

Protected

Strengthen your defenses with predictive and proactive security, fraud detection, data privacy, and cyber-resiliency. Lenovo ThinkShield® and Intel vPro® safeguard Lenovo Aura Edition AI PC devices with layered end-to-end protection, AI-driven threat detection, and BIOS self-healing firmware. Shield Mode enhances online security and privacy through auto prompt VPN, privacy alert, and privacy guard features.

Sources

- 1 Lenovo Quantitative Commercial Study, January 2025
- 2 IDC, "CIO Playbook 2025 Survey," commissioned by Lenovo, February 2025
- 3 EDUCAUSE, "2025 EDUCAUSE AI Landscape Study: Into the Digital AI Divide," February 2025
- 4 IDC, "Finding High-Impact Opportunities for AI in Education," March 2024

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Meet your Lenovo ThinkPad® Aura Edition Series

- ✓ The **Lenovo ThinkPad® X9 14 Aura Edition**, imagined with Intel®, has a unique, sleek style for an AI PC with this level of power.



- ✓ The **Lenovo ThinkPad® X1 2-in-1 Gen 10 Aura Edition**, imagined with Intel®, brings flexibility and AI-enabled power to a new generation of enterprise's favorite devices.



IT leaders have spoken. Lenovo and Intel listened.

Education IT sees an average return of 3.4x on their AI investments within 15 months.² Start your AI PC experience today, the smarter way.

Contact your **Lenovo team** or visit **Lenovo Aura Edition Education** to learn more.

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