

NEWSLETTER

EDUCATION

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AI curriculum enters compulsory education pilots

China expanded AI literacy pilots within compulsory education in 2025, covering primary and junior secondary levels in 12 provinces. Over ~9.2 million students participated in basic AI, coding, and data-thinking modules. Government funding exceeded ~EUR 210 million, focusing on teacher training and standardized teaching materials. The program aims to reduce regional gaps in digital education access. (**Ministry of Education**)

Private universities accelerate industry-linked majors

Private higher-education institutions increasingly aligned curricula with labor-market demand in 2025. Over ~180 private universities launched new majors in smart manufacturing, digital media, and health management. Graduate employment rates from these programs exceeded ~89%, compared with the national average of ~84%. Corporate co-investment in labs and facilities reached ~EUR 260 million. (**21st Century Education Research Institute**)

Lifelong learning platforms expand among mid-career professionals

China's adult and lifelong learning market continued to scale in 2025, driven by reskilling demand among mid-career professionals. Online and hybrid platforms registered ~68 million learners, up ~19% YoY. Course revenues reached ~EUR 1.1 billion, with strongest growth in finance, digital marketing, and AI operations. Employers increasingly subsidized tuition as part of retention strategies. (**iResearch**)

Preschool quality upgrades drive consolidation

Policy-led quality standards accelerated consolidation in China's preschool sector in 2025. Approximately ~14% of small, independent kindergartens exited the market, while large chains expanded through acquisitions and management contracts. Capital expenditure on facilities and teacher certification exceeded ~EUR 320 million, supporting higher safety and curriculum standards. (**China National Institute of Education Sciences**)

Cross-border online degrees gain regulatory clarity

China issued clearer guidelines for cross-border online higher education in 2025, enabling recognition of selected foreign online degrees. Enrollment in approved programs reached ~96,000 students, up ~26% YoY. Tuition flows to overseas partner universities totaled ~EUR 410 million, with UK, Australian, and European institutions benefiting most. (**China Education News**)