# University Engagement Examples – Enterprise Computing

As an advocate on IBM zSystems looking to engage with a university / school please use this document as preparatory material/ talking points to drive engagement with IBM zSystems learning content and Academic Initiative program.

Here are a few activities you can review/discuss with the university / school personnel (Educator) that they can do to drive IBM zSystems awareness on their campus. You can start small with amplifying the upcoming IBM zStudent Contest, all the way to a very interested school who would like to offer Mainframe curriculum.

## 1. Amplify the Student Contest

* University advertises the [IBM zStudent Contest](http://ibm.biz/ibmzstudentcontest) to students
* Why should students participate in the IBM zStudent Contest?
	+ Develop in-demand skills,
	+ Earn industry recognized digital badges,
	+ Opportunity to win cash prizes as Global / Regional winners,
	+ US students who earn the Concepts badge will be invited to a virtual jobs fair in Nov 2022, with clients looking to hire students interested in IBM zSystems. We plan something similar in Europe for 2H22.

## 2. Host Guest Lectures

* Host an [IBM Z Xplore workshop](https://ibm.ent.box.com/folder/148398583841?v=ibmzxplore-kit) virtually or on campus
* IBM or IBM Z Client delivers Guest Lecture(s) on Enterprise Computing or related IBM Z topics. Here are some [Guest Lectures](https://ibm.ent.box.com/notes/995686056631) to get you started!
* IBM and a Client who is looking to hire graduates or interns from a university run an [IBM Z Career Connection Workshop](https://ibm.biz/zcc-box) on campus.
	+ Introduction to Enterprise Computing. (IBM)
	+ 1 Hour Hackathon / IBM Z Xplore workshop for hands-on experience. (IBM)
	+ Client talks about their business, why IBM Z is so critical, the roles they have, the career opportunities, training available etc.
* Use the kits provided here or if you need help reach out to IBM Z Academic Initiative team to schedule one of these sessions: zskills@us.ibm.com

## 3. Engage with IBM Z Xplore

* [IBM Z Xplore](https://ibm.ent.box.com/folder/148398583841?v=ibmzxplore-kit) included in the curriculum or set as assessed work for the students.
	+ Z Xplore is a free, online, self-paced learning platform with all the instructions
	+ students need – no previous experience is required.
	+ Educators can get reports on their student’s progress.
	+ Spanish & Portuguese language versions available
* To get setup on the IBM Z Xplore platform as an educator with access to customized dashboards to help track student progress, please reach out to IBM Z Academic Initiative team at: zskills@us.ibm.com

3. Engage with IBM Z Academic Initiative

* University uses the [IBM Z Academic Initiative](https://www.ibm.com/academic/topic/ibm-z) resources to deliver IBM Z content as part of their syllabus.
	+ The Academic Initiative includes system access, teaching materials, tools, Guest Lectures database etc. Here are few [Guest Lectures](https://ibm.ent.box.com/notes/995686056631) to get you started
	+ Local IBM/Client SME’s could help to deliver the content.
* To get connected with local IBM/Client SMEs and for any questions on the Academic Initiative content please reach out to: zskills@us.ibm.com

## 4. Offer Mainframe curriculum

* University offers an Enterprise Computing module or curriculum.
	+ Hogeschool Ghent (Belgium) mainframe module (resources) available for other universities to use for free.
	+ The Ghent model is a 50/50 split of formal training at the university and work experience with local IBM Z clients.
	+ This year the students from Ghent were invited to IBM Montpellier and attended a 2 day workshop. Belgian client ZBC participated.
* Client collaborates with the university to offer a degree apprenticeship programme
	+ Barclays and Manchester Metropolitan University have a 4 Year programme in UK. The students are recruited & paid by Barclays and work at Barclays gaining hands critical on IBM Z Experience when they are not at university.
* Want to get started with offering Mainframe curriculum? Engage with our IBM Z Academic Initiative team at: zskills@us.ibm.com

Please share this [IBM zSkills Resources for Educators](https://ibm.ent.box.com/file/995402189187) with the educator / your connection at the University/school along with the key resource links

Need Help? Have questions?

Please reach out to our Academic Initiative team at: zskills@us.ibm.com