# Understanding the Difference Between Academic and Industry Wine Education Programs

Professors · https://wineschool.us/help/understanding-the-difference-between-academic-and-industry-wine-education-programsprofe/

The National Wine School offers two distinct pathways for delivering wine certification programs, each designed to meet the specific needs of its audience: one for educators at colleges, universities, and wine schools, and another for professionals in the restaurant, hotel, and wine trade.

For **academic institutions and wine schools**, the **Wine Educators Access Program (WEAP)** offers a subscription-based model with discounted pricing. This option includes access to teacher training materials, PowerPoint slide decks, exams, and documentation to support in-class instruction. Professors are expected to teach and manage their own students, including grading and adapting course delivery. Institutions can choose from different support tiers depending on their compliance and instructional needs. Unless a support add-on is purchased, professors and instructors receive only AI and Knowledgebase support.

For those in the **wine and hospitality industries**, the National Wine School provides **fully online programs**. These are designed to be hands-off for employers—teaching, grading, and certification are all managed by the school. Group leaders can purchase between 2 and 100 seats at a time, with discounts based on volume. They can add or remove staff as needed, and benefit from **direct personal support** at no additional cost.

While both models lead to nationally recognized credentials, they differ in structure, responsibility, and support to serve the distinct goals of educators and industry professionals.