

Press Information

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ReDI School: Create opportunities with digital education

"We teach technology to break down barriers and connect the digital leaders of tomorrow." Anne Kjaer Bathel (born Riechert), CEO & Co-Founder ReDI School

ReDI School of Digital Integration is a non-profit tech school located in Germany, Denmark and Sweden. ReDI School was founded in 2015 in Berlin to make it easier for refugees to integrate into society and to find work. Today, ReDI School offers free high-quality tech education to newcomers as well as locals without access to digital education nor a professional network. In addition, ReDI School teaches soft skills, connects its students with mentors, and organizes networking events with companies for a speedy integration into the economy.

In view of the serious labor shortage of over 140,000 open IT jobs in Germany (*Bitkom, 2022), companies benefit from this program too. More than 100 partners from the public and private sector support ReDI, amongst them Accenture, Beiersdorf, Deloitte, Generali (incl. The Human Safety Net), Klöckner & Co, Microsoft, L'Oréal, Otto Group, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, the Bavarian State Ministry for Digital Affairs, Munich Municipality (MBQ) and Hamburg Municipality as well as the Beisheim Foundation, Cognizant Foundation, Coca-Cola Foundation, Chanel Foundation, JP Morgan Foundation, The Velux Foundation and the Holistic Foundation.

Since founding the first ReDI School, more than 13,000 students from over 120 nations have been trained for the German job market. Each semester more than 5,000 experts from more than 30 countries volunteer (as coaches, mentors or teachers) at ReDI School and accompany the students on their learning journey and their integration process. Today 65% of the students are female. Additionally to the high-end tech and coding-classes, ReDI School also offers digital literacy training to newcomers, as well as programs and workshops especially created for women, kids and teens.

The name ReDI derives from "readiness" and "digital integration". ReDI School is AZAV-certified (Accreditation and Licensing Ordinance Employment Promotion). The School received numerous awards for its work - e.g. as one of the 100 most innovative initiatives in Europe by the Financial Times Germany, the "Impact of Diversity Award 2021" and the "Eurocities Award 2022" with the Munich Municipality. Anne Kjaer Bathel, the founder of the school, also was awarded numerous times, e.g. with the "CIO Award 2023" in the category "Digital Future", as "Mutmacherin des Jahres 2018" ("Influencer of the Year 2018") by German business publication Handelsblatt and as one of the Top 50 female German founders in 2022. In 2020 she received the German Start-up Award as best female social entrepreneur and 2021 the Nordic Women in Tech Award.

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