🧭 Prerequisites for Attending the MCP (Model Context Protocol) Workshop

🎓 Knowledge Prerequisites

Area	Level	Description
AI / LLM Basics	Beginner–Intermediate	Understanding of what LLMs are, how they generate text, and what "tools" or "agents" mean. (No deep ML background required.)
Python or JavaScript	Basic coding familiarity	Able to read, run, and slightly modify sample code (FastAPI / Node examples).
APIs & JSON	Intermediate	Should understand what REST APIs are, what JSON looks like, and how requests/responses flow.
Docker (Optional)	Beginner	Awareness of how containerized apps work; not mandatory but helpful for deployment demos.
Postman	Beginner	Know how to test simple REST APIs (you'll use Postman for MCP tool testing).

⚙️ System Prerequisites

Requirement	Purpose	Notes
💻 **Laptop (Windows/Mac/Linux)**	Run MCP servers, LLMs, and Postman	At least 8 GB RAM; 16 GB preferred
🐍 **Python 3.10+**	For FastAPI-based MCP examples	Ensure pip, venv, and fastapi, uvicorn, requests are installed
🧱 **Node.js (v18+)**	For Node-based MCP or FastMCP demos	Optional but useful if exploring NPM publishing
🐳 **Docker Desktop**	For container-based MCP deployments	Optional; used in advanced section
🧠 **Local LLM (Ollama / Claude Desktop)**	Demonstration of MCP integration	Install Ollama or Claude Desktop if possible
🔌 **Postman App or Web**	Testing MCP tools	Used in the Postman MCP Generator demo

🧩 Recommended Pre-Workshop Setup

1. Clone or download these sample repos before the session:
    - Basic MCP (FastAPI)
    - https://github.com/aravind07d/MCP-RealTime-vs-non-Realtime-Weather-APP
    - MCP + Local LLM (Ollama)
    - https://github.com/aravind07d/MCP_with_LangGraph_LLM_Multiple_tools
2. Verify Python/Node environments are working (python --version, node --version).
3. Install Postman and test one public API (e.g., weather API) to confirm connectivity.
4. Optional: Pull a small LLM via Ollama (ollama pull llama3.2:3b).