



Commentary/Op-Ed - December 2019

Apprenticeships Can Help Expand Access to Tech Careers in NYC

New York City's thriving tech sector has become a crucial source of middle-class jobs. But too few of those jobs are accessible to New Yorkers without a college degree and work experience, which means thousands are being left out of the boom. To help more residents access these powerful opportunities, New York will have to build much stronger pathways into tech employment—and tech apprenticeship should be part of the solution.

by Jonathan Bowles and Eli Dvorkin

To help more residents access jobs in the city's fast-growing tech sector, New York will have to build much stronger pathways into tech employment. In this op-ed for the *New York Daily News*, CUF Executive Director Jonathan Bowles and Editorial & Policy Director Eli Dvorkin argue that there's a lot New York City needs to do to expand access to the good jobs being created in tech—and apprenticeships are one strong place to start.

[Read the op-ed in the *Daily News*.](#)

This op-ed is a continuation of the Center for an Urban Future's research on the promise of apprenticeship programs and opportunities to expand access to tech careers, including our 2019 report, [Expanding Tech Apprenticeships in New York City](#), and our 2018 report on [The Promise of Apprenticeships in New York](#), both of which were generously supported by Barclays.

General operating support for CUF has been provided by The Clark Foundation, the Bernard F. and Alva B. Gimbel Foundation, and the Lucius N. Littauer Foundation.

Center for an Urban Future is an independent, nonprofit think tank that generates innovative policies to create jobs, reduce inequality and help lower income New Yorkers climb into the middle class. For 20 years, CUF has published accessible, data-driven reports on ways to grow and diversify the economy and expand opportunity that are anchored in rigorous research, not preconceived notions about outcome. Our work has been a powerful catalyst for policy change in New York City and serves

as an invaluable resource for government officials, community groups, nonprofit practitioners and business leaders as they advocate for and implement policies to address some of New York's biggest challenges and opportunities.

RELATED PRESS

[New Yorkers Face a Training Gap for Tech Jobs, but a Study Finds Hope](#)

The New York Times, by Steve Lohr, February 12, 2020

[Lack of awareness, registration hurdles hurt NYC tech apprenticeship growth](#)

HR Dive, by Ryan Golden, December 17, 2019

[Lack of city tech apprenticeships hurts New Yorkers: report](#)

Crain's New York, by Ryan Deffenbaugh, December 10, 2019

[Brooklyn Leads in Tech Workforce Amongst Outer Boroughs But Lacks Diversity](#)

Brooklyn Reader, February 18, 2020

[Improving NYC's Tech Training](#)

Inside Higher Ed, by Madeline St. Amour, February 25, 2020

[Opportunities for tech education in Queens are slim: Report](#)

QNS, by Jacob Kaye, February 13, 2020

[Kingsborough Community College Offering Maritime Apprenticeships](#)

Brooklyn Paper, by Jessica Parks, February 26, 2020



CENTER FOR AN URBAN FUTURE
120 Wall Street, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10005

cuf@nycfuture.org © All Rights Reserved.