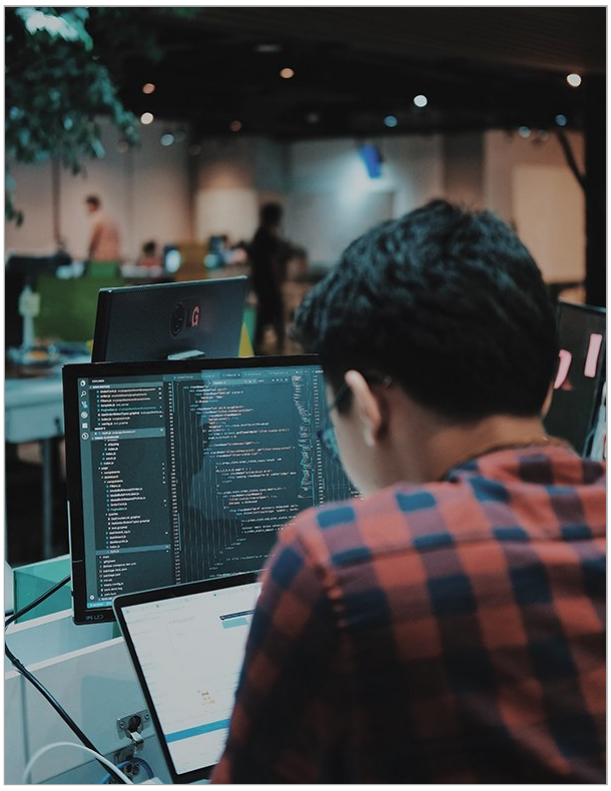

Commentary/Op-Ed - December 2019

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 Direcor 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.

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