

More about Code Louisville and TechHire

By 2020, there will be 1 million more computer programming jobs in the U.S. than workers to fill them, and 10,400 of those jobs will be in the Louisville Metro area – the 12-county training region. Currently, the Greater Louisville region has more than 1,700 technology job openings. Salaries start at \$45,000-\$60,000 with no degree necessary. Code Louisville was created to close the skills gap and prepare the region's residents to demonstrate those job-ready skills for these high-paying tech jobs.

Code Louisville offers free training to prepare people for computer software coding jobs. Code Louisville is a collaboration of the Office of Civic Innovation, EnterpriseCorp, the Louisville Free Public Library, KentuckianaWorks, Greater Louisville's Workforce Investment Board and administrator of the program, Region 10 Workforce Board in southern Indiana and area employers. Already, more than 20 IT employers are working with Code Louisville in the mission to fulfill tech jobs. The program uses the Treehouse learning platform and provides free software training for a new generation of coders. It also connects successful students to available jobs. The goal for Code Louisville is to get a minimum of 850 coders trained and working for local companies over the next three years.

Code Louisville courses last 12 weeks and cover skills such as front- and back-end Web development, and development of software and applications for mobile devices. Students work independently on their own schedule and meet one day a week in the evenings for two hours to review their work, get "unstuck" and learn from experienced mentors in the tech community. At the end of each course, students have compiled a portfolio of work to show prospective employers at a job fair or interview, most often arranged by Code Louisville. Most students will need to complete more than one 12-week course to be ready for a software developer job.

Code Louisville began as a program of KentuckianaWorks in November 2013. KentuckianaWorks was recently awarded a federal Workforce Innovation Fund Grant by the Department of Labor to expand the reach of Code Louisville, using the Treehouse online learning platform, to people outside of Louisville and offer the free coding education to hundreds of residents in Bullitt, Henry, Oldham, Shelby, Spencer and Trimble counties in Kentucky and Clark, Crawford, Floyd, Washington, Harrison and Scott counties in Southern Indiana. The grant also provides for helping graduates of the course find jobs with leading technology companies in the region with the help of career specialists at the Kentucky Career Centers and Work One in Southern Indiana.

Because of Code Louisville and other local efforts to build Louisville's information technology workforce, Louisville was selected as one of 21 cities to participate in [TechHire](#), a new federal initiative to connect middle-class Americans to technology jobs. [Code Louisville](#) was one of the programs used by the Obama administration to develop the TechHire initiative. Part of the initiative requires empowering every American with the education and training they need to earn higher wages. TechHire is a bold multi-sector effort and call to action to empower Americans with the skills they need, through universities and community colleges but also nontraditional approaches like "coding boot camps," and high-quality online courses that can rapidly train workers for well-paying jobs that do not require a four-year degree.

Louisville joins 20 other major cities and states in the TechHire initiative to work with each other and with national employers to expand access to tech jobs. The other TechHire communities are New York City, Colorado, St. Louis, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, Nashville, Rochester, Chattanooga, Portland, Philadelphia, Delaware, City of Kearny and Buffalo County, NE, Salt Lake City, San Antonio, Kansas City, Memphis, Rural Eastern Kentucky, Detroit, San Francisco and Albuquerque.

For more information, go to www.codelouisville.org .