

# TECH JOBS ACADEMY

A Microsoft Pilot Program for Skilled Workforce Development

## PROBLEM

Many cities find themselves faced with two sides of a hard problem. On one side, local businesses are eager to hire specific technical skill sets yet they often can't find people with those abilities. On the other side, many talented people are eager to find meaningful employment but do not have the skills for which employers are looking. Tech Jobs Academy is filling the skills gap by empowering talented people with the in-demand skills to meet the needs of industry.

## SOLUTION

In January 2016, Microsoft and its partners launched Tech Jobs Academy, an intensive, 16-week technical training pilot program preparing underemployed and unemployed New Yorkers for in-demand tech jobs in cloud and server administration. A collaboration between Microsoft Corporation, the NYC Tech Talent Pipeline and the City University of New York (CUNY), the pilot version of Tech Jobs Academy serves underemployed and unemployed New Yorkers who are passionate about technology and ready to launch a new career in the field. Microsoft designed the curriculum and recruited both participants and employers, the NYC Tech Talent Pipeline put workforce training dollars behind this evidence-based approach, and CUNY delivered the program via its City Tech campus in downtown Brooklyn.

Tech Jobs Academy participants spend 16 weeks developing highly sought-after skills in cloud and server administration, while also building professional skills to help them land and maintain a job upon completion. Certified training addresses networking fundamentals, Azure infrastructure, Windows server, private cloud, and more.

Microsoft is uniquely suited to sponsor Tech Jobs Academy due to its global network of hundreds of thousands of partner companies (third-parties that collaborate with and build on top of Microsoft technologies), its leading IT curricula, and its trusted brand.

## **TARGETED OUTCOME**

Tech Jobs Academy aims to provide people with careers that start at significantly higher salaries than their current less-skilled work. The program assists each participant who successfully completes the program with interview placement with companies specifically in the market for their newly-acquired skills sets.