



LEARN TO CODE & DO <BIG> SOMETHING </BIG>

## TTS WRAP UP MANUAL

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# Congratulations!

Dear TTS Graduate,

Congratulations! You did it! You just finished the Tech Talent South 8-week code immersion course and we couldn't be more proud.

We're so glad you chose to expand your skill set with Tech Talent South and we're so proud of how far you've come. We're your biggest cheerleaders moving forward in your career and are happy to continue to support your dreams in any way that we can.

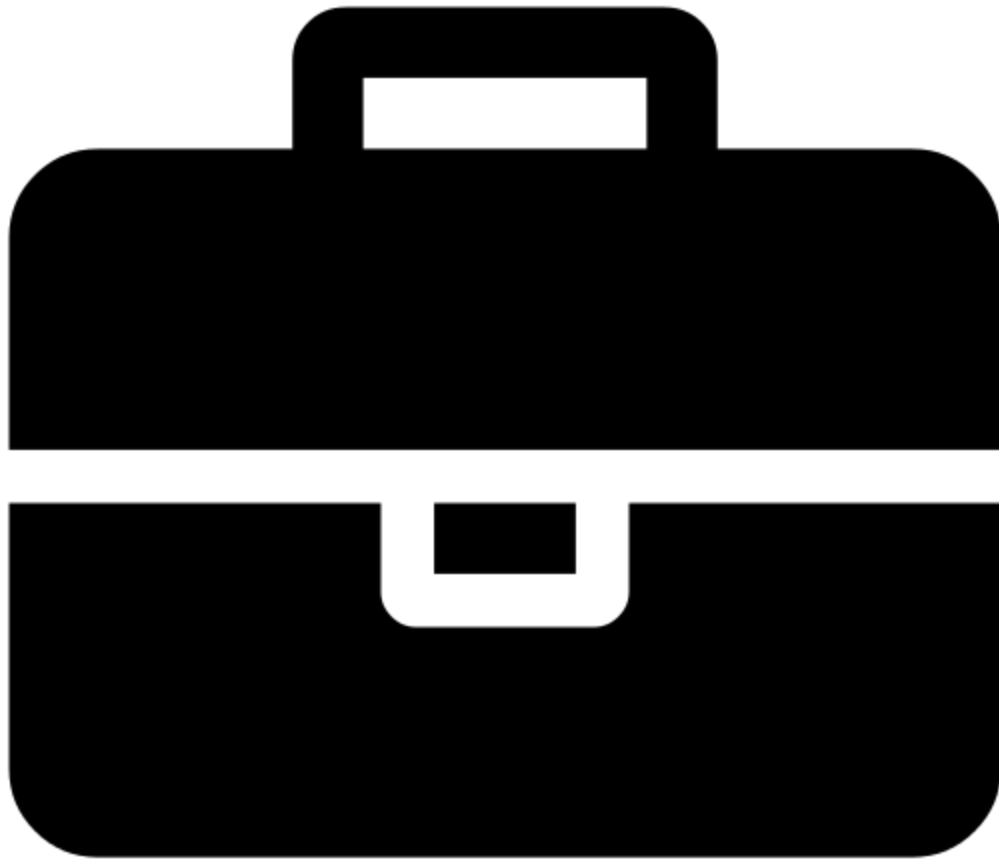
Tech Talent South is a community, a family - and we're still around for you--even when you're not in the classroom anymore. We have wonderful and growing communities in each of the TTS cities. You're always part of the TTS family! So be sure to join us whenever you can.

Cheers!

Betsy and Richard



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# LAND A NEW OPPORTUNITY



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# BUILD OUT YOUR ONLINE PORTFOLIO

**The Lowdown:** Your portfolio is one of the first items that a potential employer will review. It needs to be an accurate depiction of your skill set. You need to have it completely coded, launched onto [GitHub Pages](#) and displaying all of your work.

Take time to put the finishing touches on the smaller applications made during the course. Even if they are very simple, these projects show how hard you work, how fast you learn, that you can complete projects, as well as the variety of projects you have completed.

## FILL UP YOUR PORTFOLIO

**The Lowdown:** Check New Orleans TTS Alumna [Katie Patch's Portfolio](#). She landed a job with [ContingaSoft](#)! Read on to see how else you can flex your portfolio muscles!

### WHAT TO PUT IN YOUR PORTFOLIO

#### ● Passion Projects

- Your portfolio is also a great place to distinguish between your “passion projects” and your professional projects. Including projects that you have chosen to work on just for fun, shows that you are passionate about this line work.

- “If I ask a candidate what they like to do for fun and coding isn’t something they say, they probably won’t make the cut,” said Kate Stuckwisch, Project Manager for Human Resource Specialist for [Sparkhound](#).

- These passion projects can help display:

- Who you are
- What kind of work you do
- How you do that work
- Where you want to go next
- And who YOU really want to work with.

#### ● What and How

- Having a detailed explanation of each item in your portfolio can help employers distinguish between your projects and the thousands of others they have to skim through throughout the hiring process.
- Be sure to explain exactly what the project is and what it does. Tell how you created your work. Describe the specs or goals for the projects, how you

came up with the solution, the tools or methods you used, the obstacles you overcame, the lessons you learned, the skills you gained, the benefits of the end result, etc.

- **Testimonials**

- After completing any Freelance work that you are proud of, don't be shy to ask your client and anyone you collaborated with for a testimonial. If you're brand new to the industry, have a former co-worker write a character testimonial about working with you.
- Writing can be a bit daunting for some, offer to write up a draft and have the person approve it.

- **Badges**

- Showing potential employers or clients that you have a mastered skills through badges is a good complement to the projects in your portfolio. Try a program like [Open Badges](#) to test and show off your skills!`

- **Your Education**

- Make sure to remember to include the best 8 weeks of your life in your portfolio! Here is a quick blurb to include everything you have learned through Tech Talent South and a little background.
- Don't shy away for including any information about online courses you have taken, as well.

- **Tell Your Story**

- Create an "About" page and utilize this space to thoroughly introduce yourself to the world. This page should show off your interests, personality and your journey to this point in your career.

## DO FREELANCE PROJECTS

**The Lowdown:** A great way to add more to your portfolio is to do freelancing on the side. It'll give you the chance to build your experience while helping you round out your portfolio. These projects don't need to be large. You can offer, to re-do the navigation for a local restaurant's website or to create an HTML newsletter for a charity organization.

There are tons of sites that can help you find Freelance work. New Orleans based dev shop CEO, Gerard Ramos of Revelry, suggested starting with a very low hourly wage for freelance projects, in order to attract offers and to provide yourself with a wider selection of projects that you can handle. Complete one project at that low rate and then up your price with each new project.

- [Freelancer](#)
- [People Hour](#)
- [UpWork](#)

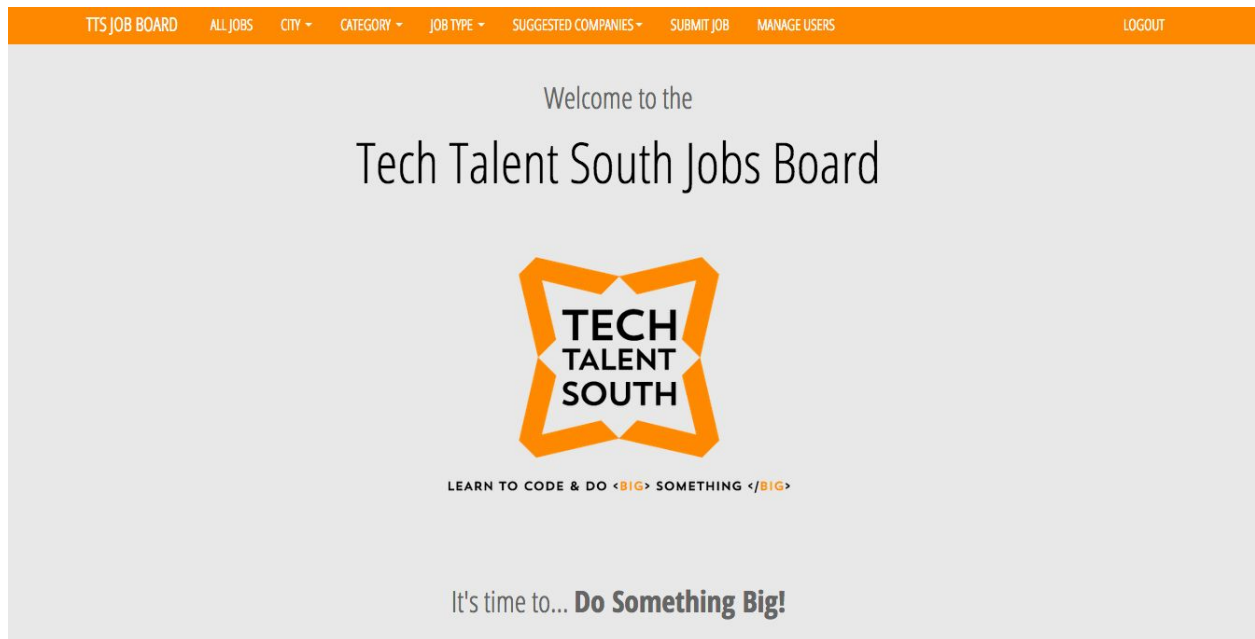
- [Guru](#)

## CHECK OUT THE TTS JOB BOARD

**The Lowdown:** Tech Talent South has an internal jobs board for alumni! That's right, if you want to find opportunities in your city, or even the multiple other cities TTS is located, we've worked hard to bring to you this tool.

You can go to the job board here: <http://jobs.techtalentsouth.com/>

Once you register, please let your Community Organizer know! We'll need to change your status from student to alumnus in order for you to see the listings. We're adding positions weekly, so the listings will grow! In addition, if you work for a company with an applicable role, please reach out so we can get it posted for you!



TTS JOB BOARDALL JOBS

CITY

CATEGORY

JOB TYPE

SUGGESTED COMPANIES

SUBMIT JOB

MANAGE USERS

LOGOUT

Atlanta

Asheville

Charlotte

Dallas


Raleigh

New Orleans

Other

Welcome to the

h Talent South Jobs Board



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It's time to... **Do Something Big!**

TTS JOB BOARDALL JOBS

CITY

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SUGGESTED COMPANIES

SUBMIT JOB

MANAGE USERS

LOGOUT

Current Available Jobs




**Junior LAMP Developer** at Couchster

New Orleans

Back-end

Fulltime

Last updated about 3 hours ago




**<https://chapterspot.com/>** at ChapterSpot

New Orleans

IT support

Fulltime

Last updated about 3 hours ago




**Back-end Developer** at Dinner Lab

New Orleans

Back-end

Fulltime

Last updated about 3 hours ago



**Software Development Engineer** at zlien

New Orleans

Back-end

Fulltime

Last updated 6 days ago



Introducing Seller Availability! Learn how it works here >>

Search Jobs...



SAVED SEARCHES



Current Search

Save

You haven't created any saved searches yet

LOCATION

- ☒ All Jobs 6,002
- ☐ Remote Jobs only 5,824
- ☐ On-site Jobs near me 0

CATEGORIES

# Jobs 6,002 found

Sort by Latest

Virtual assistant to advise me of the most suitable t...

BUDGET



Ian M.

UNITED KINGDOM



POSTED 8 MINUTES AGO



REMOTE



BE THE FIRST



0

SEND PROPOSAL

Accessories Illustrations

BUDGET



L.L.

UNITED KINGDOM



POSTED 9 MINUTES AGO



REMOTE



BE THE FIRST



0

SEND PROPOSAL

Hi! We'd like to set these regional settings for you:

\$ USD

🇺🇸 New Orleans, Louisiana, US

SAVE

# INTERVIEWING FOR A JOB

**The Lowdown:** So you landed the interview! Congratulations! Here are a few tips and tricks for rocking your tech interview and landing the job offer.

- Be Articulate and Communicate Clearly
- Be Ready to Whiteboard
- Bring your laptop
- Be Familiar With the Job Listing
- Refresh on the Core Principles and Basics
- Bring in a Portfolio of Your Work
- Prepare Yourself Mentally
- Don't Be Afraid to Ask Questions
- Have a Strong Closing
- Follow-up and Send a Thank You Note

## ● Practice Ruby:

- <http://exercism.io/>

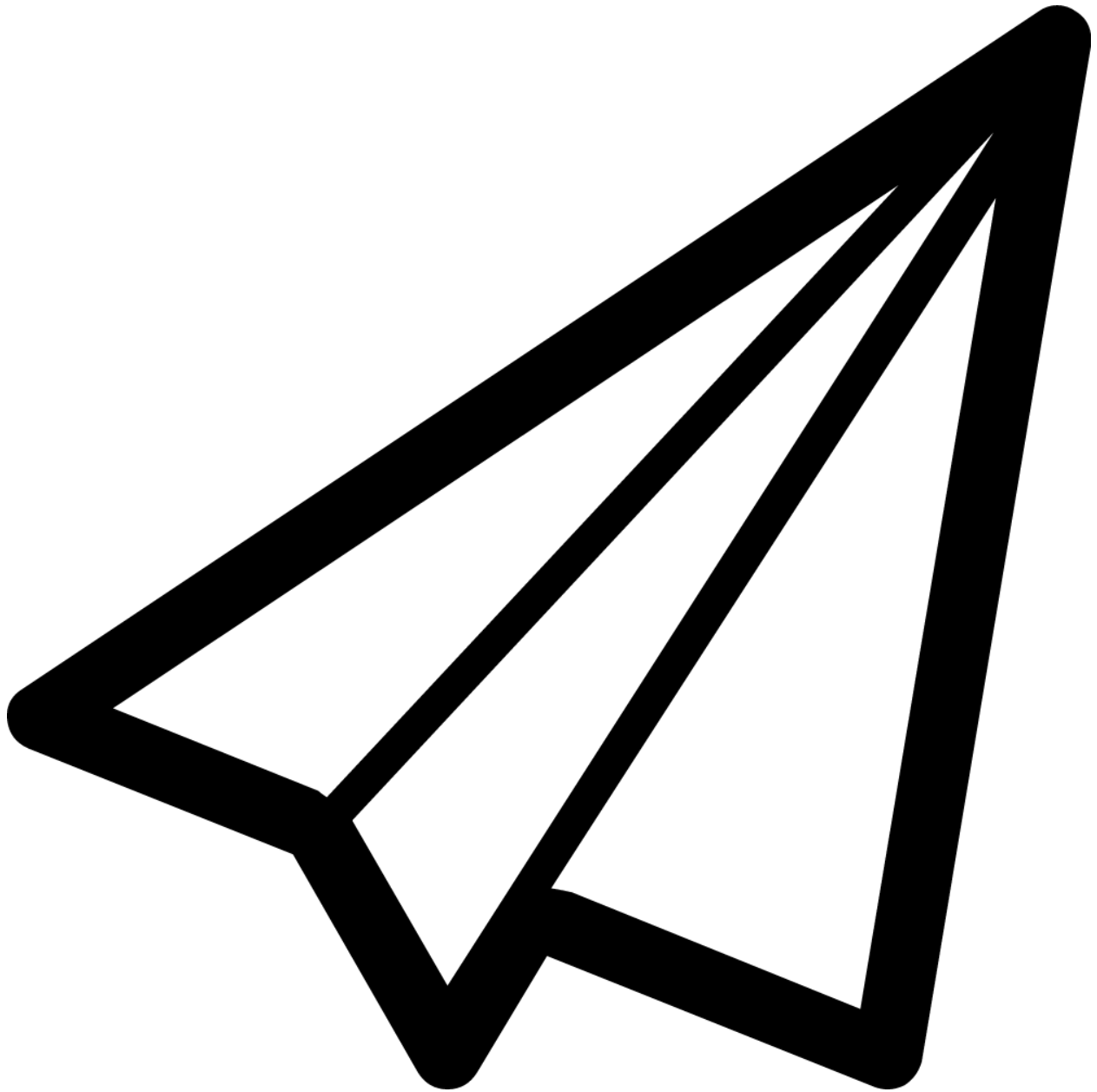
## ● Ruby Tips:

- Have a consistent, **idiomatic style**. GitHub's Ruby Style Guide is a good place to start. Some things are non-negotiable and in order to work well with the other developers you'll need to follow them. Employers like to see candidates who care that their code is easy for other people to read.
  - For example: Ruby code is always indented with two spaces per indentation level.
- Know how to read and **navigate the documentation** at <http://ruby-doc.org/>.
- Ruby has many ways to **iterate**. Know them. `while ... do ... end`, `enum.each { |...| ... }`, `Integer#upto`, `Integer#downto`, and `Integer#times` are often the most direct way of expressing the kind of loop you want to do.
- **Blocks**. Know how to identify them using both the `{ |a,b,c| ... }` syntax and the `do |a,b,c| ... end` syntax. Know how to write methods that accept blocks as arguments using both the `yield[/style]` syntax and `[code]&block / block.call` syntax.
- Be comfortable with core **Enumerable types**, how to iterate over them, and when it is appropriate to use each one. That means being comfortable with `Array`, `Hash`, and `Range` at a minimum. Bonus points for using `Set` where appropriate.

- **Enumerable methods.** At a bare minimum you should know how to use, implement, and explain the workings of `Enumerable#each_with_index`, `Enumerable#inject`, `Enumerable#map`, and `Enumerable#select`. You should be able to spot code that can be refactored using these methods. If you want to go deeper, understand how to implement `map` and `select` using `inject`.
- **Classes and objects.** Be able to define them. Understand how instance variables work. Understand why class variables in Ruby, i.e., `@@class_variable`, are almost never what you want. Understand what `attr_read`, `attr_writer`, and `attr_accessor` do. Better yet: be able to implement your own versions of each. Understand SOLID (object-oriented design) and how it applies to Ruby code.

### ● **General Web and Rails-Specific Questions**

- Mostly you have to understand what's "really happening." I'm a big fan of giving candidates a pre-built Rails application with bugs and other issues and asking them to fix the problems.
- Understand the HTTP request/response cycle. Do you know what an HTTP request looks like? It's all human-readable and in plain text, so the answer to this is very concrete. Have you even seen a raw HTTP request before?
- Understand the difference between "the internet" and "the web"
- ActiveRecord: know how it relates to SQL and how to use it idiomatically.
- Schema design: know how to design a properly normalized database schema and how to identify whether a database schema is well-designed or not.
- Know common bugs like "stackoverflow.com What is the n+1 selects issue?" Avoid them and know how to identify and verify them when they're present.
- Know where all the parts of a Rails application live. What goes where and why?
- Know what aspects of Rails are there for conventional or historical reasons, especially if they're part of the "Rails magic," e.g., auto-pluralizing model names to derive the underlying database table name.



# Tech Fun



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# PARTICIPATE IN A HACKATHON

**The Lowdown:** Simply put, hackathons are the bomb. No, really. The Tech Talent South team is in agreement on this one - hackathons are one of the best ways to pack in solid networking, team building, and skill-honing in (typically) less than 72 hours. You don't have to be a seasoned programmer to participate. Participants come from all different backgrounds and careers. Teams work together to utilize everyone's experience to give their best shot at taking home the prize. Learn from the best. Don't be shy.

## Here's a few that generate a lot of BUZZ:

- Atlanta Hackathons
  - [hackATL](#)
  - [Code for Atlanta](#) - Monthly Hack Nights
  - [Goodie Hack](#)
  - [HackGT](#)
- Charlotte Hackathons
  - [Hackathon CLT](#)
  - [Smart Cities Hackathon](#)
  - [Startup Weekend](#)
- Dallas Hackathons
  - [Tech Wildcatters Hackathon](#)
  - [HackDFW](#)
  - [Hackster.io](#)
  - [DowntownHack](#)
  - [HackUTD](#)
- New Orleans Hackathons
  - [Open Source Nola](#)
  - [Nola Tech Week](#) - not a hackathon per se, but many occur during this time!
- Raleigh Hackathons
  - [NC Datapalooza](#)
  - [City Camp NC](#) (works closely with [Code for Raleigh](#))
  - [Triangle Open Data Day \(TODD\)](#)
  - [Triangle Startup Weekend EDU](#)

# CONTRIBUTE TO OPEN SOURCE PROJECTS

**The Lowdown:** Contributing to open source projects will provide you with practice for contributing to work project. It also provides a benefit and frequently improving resources for the entire open source community. Here are some tips straight from GitHub on how to effectively contribute to open source projects.

## Create an Issue

If you find a bug in a project you're using (and you don't know how to fix it), have trouble following the documentation or have a question about the project – create an issue! There's nothing to it and whatever issue you're having, you're likely not the only one, so others will find your issue helpful, too. For more information on how issues work, check out our Issues guide.

### Issues Pro Tips

- Check existing issues for your issue. Duplicating an issue is slower for both parties so search through open and closed issues to see if what you're running into has been addressed already.
- Be clear about what your problem is: what was the expected outcome, what happened instead? Detail how someone else can recreate the problem.
- Link to demos recreating the problem on things like JSFiddle or CodePen.
- Include system details like what the browser, library or operating system you're using and its version.
- Paste error output or logs in your issue or in a Gist. If pasting them in the issue, wrap it in three backticks: `` ` so that it renders nicely.

### Pull Request

- If you're able to patch the bug or add the feature yourself – fantastic, make a pull request with the code! Be sure you've read any documents on contributing, understand the license and have signed a CLA if required. Once you've submitted a pull request the maintainer(s) can compare your branch to the existing one and decide whether or not to incorporate (pull in) your changes.

### Pull Request Pro Tips

- Fork the repository and clone it locally. Connect your local to the original 'upstream' repository by adding it as a remote. Pull in changes from 'upstream' often so that you stay up to date so that when you submit your pull request, merge conflicts will be less likely. See more detailed instructions [here](#).
- Create a branch for your edits.
- Be clear about what problem is occurring and how someone can recreate that problem or why your feature will help. Then be equally as clear about the steps you took to make your changes.
- It's best to test. Run your changes against any existing tests if they exist and create new ones when needed. Whether tests exist or not, make sure your changes don't break the existing project.
- Include screenshots of the before and after if your changes include differences in HTML/CSS. Drag and drop the images into the body of your pull request.

- Contribute in the style of the project to the best of your abilities. This may mean using indents, semicolons or comments differently than you would in your own repository, but makes it easier for the maintainer to merge, others to understand and maintain in the future.

## Open Pull Requests

Once you've opened a pull request a discussion will start around your proposed changes. Other contributors and users may chime in, but ultimately the decision is made by the maintainer(s). You may be asked to make some changes to your pull request, if so, add more commits to your branch and push them – they'll automatically go into the existing pull request.

## Pull Request Convo

If your pull request is merged – great! If it is not, no sweat, it may not be what the project maintainer had in mind, or they were already working on it. This happens, so our recommendation is to take any feedback you've received and go forth and pull request again – or create your own open source project.

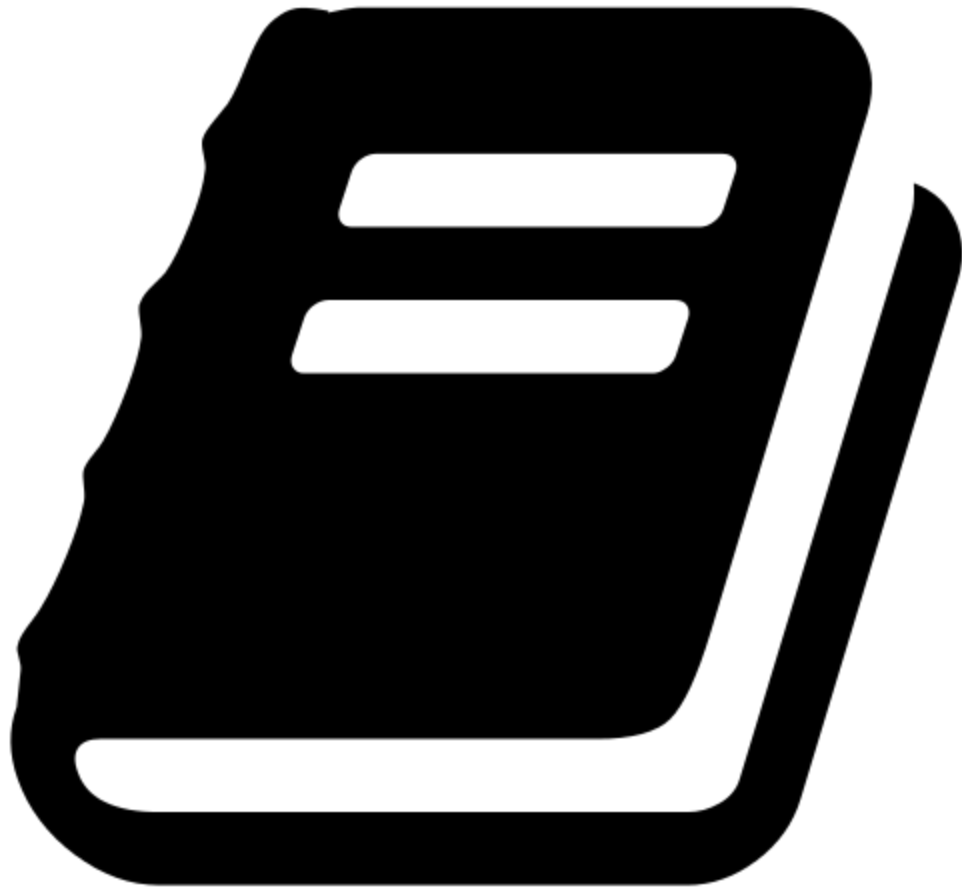
# MEET TECHIES ONLINE AND IRL

**The Lowdown:** Maintaining your relationships with your TTS classmates, teachers and guest speakers can be an integral part of your success in the industry. Those who code together stay together :). Networking and meeting new techies as well can not only help you find a job, but can also keep you in the loop of what is going on the industry and create friendships with people that have similar interests. Checkout these amazing tech meetups all over the south!

ATLANTA	CHARLOTTE	DALLAS	NEW ORLEANS	RALEIGH
<a href="#">Tech Talent South - Atlanta</a>	<a href="#">Charlotte Ruby</a>	<a href="#">Tech Talent South - Dallas</a>	<a href="#">Tech Talent South - NOLA</a>	<a href="#">Tech Talent South - Raleigh</a>
<a href="#">Atlanta Ruby Meetup Group</a>	<a href="#">Charlotte Front-End</a>	<a href="#">Dallas App Developers</a>	<a href="#">Hack Night</a>	<a href="#">Girl Develop It - RDU</a>

<a href="#">Women Who Code - Atlanta</a>	<a href="#">Code for Charlotte</a>	<a href="#">Startup Grind Dallas</a>	<a href="#">NOPC</a>	<a href="#">Triangle TechBreakfast</a>
<a href="#">Google Developer Group Atlanta</a>	<a href="#">Hackerspace Charlotte</a>	<a href="#">LaunchDFW Tech Startup Happy Hour</a>	<a href="#">NOLA Sec</a>	<a href="#">Research Triangle EdTech</a>
<a href="#">Atlanta Startup Village</a>	<a href="#">Hackathon Charlotte</a>	<a href="#">Girl Develop It - DFW</a>	<a href="#">Wordpress</a>	<a href="#">Stacked - Better Developers</a>
<a href="#">Code for Atlanta</a>	<a href="#">Girls Develop It</a>	<a href="#">GeekMeet Dallas</a>	<a href="#">Game Developer</a>	<a href="#">Triangle Area Recruiting Network</a>
<a href="#">Atlanta Web Technology Group</a>	<a href="#">Functional Programming</a>	<a href="#">The Grove Collaborators</a>	<a href="#">GNO Code</a>	<a href="#">RTP Angular.js</a>
<a href="#">Rails Girls Atlanta</a>	<a href="#">Skookum Tech Talks</a>	<a href="#">Genius Den Events</a>	<a href="#">Drupal Users</a>	<a href="#">Triangle Code for America</a>
<a href="#">Hackers &amp; Teachers</a>	<a href="#">Packard Place</a>	<a href="#">NoD Tech</a>	<a href="#">Cyber Security</a>	<a href="#">Raleigh Durham Web Design</a>
<a href="#">Adobe User Group of Atlanta</a>	<a href="#">IOS Developers</a>	<a href="#">The DEC Startup Events</a>	<a href="#">Tech For Youth</a>	<a href="#">Triangle Ruby Brigade</a>
<a href="#">Girl Develop It Atlanta</a>	<a href="#">Charlotte User Experience</a>	<a href="#">Women Who Code Dallas</a>	<a href="#">#frontendparty</a>	<a href="#">NC RiOT - Internet of Things</a>
<a href="#">Atlanta Mobile Developers Group</a>		<a href="#">Dallas Ruby Brigade</a>	<a href="#">No Fun</a>	<a href="#">RDU Geek Meet</a>
<a href="#">Atlanta Startup Founder 101</a>		<a href="#">The EdTech DFW Meetup</a>		
<a href="#">Opportunity Hub Happenings</a>		<a href="#">Texas DevOps Dallas</a>		
<a href="#">ATL Digital Rendezvous</a>				





# Never Stop Learning



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# FOLLOW INDUSTRY NEWS

**The Lowdown:** Living under a rock? Let's change that. Make sure you're continuing your education outside of the classroom AND outside of your local community. Stay in touch with new tech trends, big tech news, and companies that are making moves!

Here are a few of our favorite resources across campuses:

ATLANTA	CHARLOTTE	DALLAS	NEW ORLEANS	RALEIGH
<a href="#">Hypepotamus</a>	<a href="#">Charlotte Observer</a>	<a href="#">LaunchDFW</a>	<a href="#">Silicon Bayou</a>	<a href="#">HQRaleigh</a>
<a href="#">ATDC</a>	<a href="#">Charlotte Business Journals</a>	<a href="#">The Grove</a>	<a href="#">Nola.com</a>	<a href="#">Raleigh 4 U</a>
<a href="#">Atlanta Tech Blogs</a>	<a href="#">Charlotte Five</a>	<a href="#">Fort Work</a>	<a href="#">New Orleans Business Journal</a>	<a href="#">Frontier RTP</a>
	<a href="#">Charlotte Agenda</a>	<a href="#">The DEC</a>	<a href="#">New Orleans Tech</a>	<a href="#">Parkland Slack</a>
		<a href="#">NoD</a>		
		<a href="#">DMN Tech</a>		
		<a href="#">Dallas Business Journal</a>		

And here are a few of our favorites nationally and globally:

- [TechCrunch](#)
- [Tech Drawl](#)
- [NYT Tech](#)
- [Washington Post Tech](#)
- [CNN Tech](#)

## Discounted Access to Online Platforms

**As we shared with you in your original kick off email, we've worked with Treehouse to bring you a student discount rate. Continue to maximize that resource.**

Is there another platform or web service you use that you want us to look into? We'd be happy to! Send it our way at [info@techtalentsouth.com](mailto:info@techtalentsouth.com).

## **Other Course Offerings from TTS**

If we may say so ourselves, we think these programs ROCK. Please note, some courses may not be available in your city YET, **so let us know what you want!** Even better, we offer alumni discounts. Just holler at your local Community Organizer if you want to hear more!

### **Intro to Website Design & Creation**

<http://techtalentsouth.com/web-design-and-creation.html>

### **The Graduate Program**

<http://techtalentsouth.com/graduate-program.html>

### **Intro to Programming For Business People**

<http://techtalentsouth.com/programming-for-business-people.html>

### **Game Development**

<http://techtalentsouth.com/intro-to-game-development.html>

### **Two-Day Workshop: Using the Internet to Grow Your Brand**

<http://techtalentsouth.com/grow-your-brand.html>

# LAST, BUT CERTAINLY NOT LEAST...

We probably said it at the Meetup where we first met you. We probably said it during your interview or tour. But here's what's important: ***we meant it.***

Tech Talent South is a **community**, a family - and we're still around for you--even when you're not in the classroom anymore.

## Ongoing TTS Resources

### Slack Chat Tool

You all are able to continue to use Slack. Please use the private channels or closed groups that you have been using to continue communication. All files shared are still in tact! Please continue to talk, listen, and learn from each other. For more general announcements, keep an eye on the "general" channel.

### TTS Portal Access

You will have access to the TTS Lessons Portal forever. If your email changes, let me know and I will tell you how to access the portal with your new address.

### Auditing Future Classes

This opportunity truly exemplifies what we mean when we say the "TTS Family." You are more than welcome to come audit the next cohort of the class you took, or any future cohort of the class you took, totally free. So, for example, if you completed the Code Immersion Program, you're welcome to pop back in on some classes during the next Code Immersion Program in your city. We do ask that you let your local community organizer know if you're planning on auditing so they can make sure you receive pertinent class emails and are able to access the classroom. Refer to the Tech Talent South website for the dates/times of future cohorts.

### Being a TTS Cheerleader

We've been able to expand TTS to 6 campuses because of our amazing students and instructors. Some potential students want to chat with past students to talk about their experience. If you are willing to do so, please let me know!

In addition, we frequently highlight alumni and "what they're up to now" on our social media channels. Keep us in the loop - we'd love to film a spotlight, post a write up, give you a shout on Twitter, or come support you at community events. Don't worry, we've got your back!

### Internal Jobs Board

\*Refer to earlier section on specifics about our jobs board.