

The Problem

Coding and programming have become some of the two most high-value skills in the world. Students are flocking in droves towards computer science programs at various high schools and universities. There is one core problem with these classes: they don't teach students to build on their own. They only provide students with theoretical scenarios and don't let them explore hands-on. Today, thousands of students are entering college and the workforce acing technical interviews, but don't actually possess the practical skills to bring their ideas to life.

Some students are using online tutorials and communities to supplement their learning. While they're both great resources, they don't build the real-life connection of collaborating with others.

These same students are entering the computer science field lacking the basic abilities to communicate and present their ideas effectively.

As Chicagoland approaches 10 million people, it has the potential to become a major player in tech, and local students will be at the forefront. Opportunities are lacking for talented and

motivated individuals, with **only one other high school hackathon** planned in 2024. Starting with your help, Windy City
Hacks **can become Chicagoland's biggest high school hackathon** in 2024.

The Solution

On June 22nd, 2024, we are hosting Windy City Hacks in Schaumburg, IL. 100+ (projected) attendees will come together to collaborate and hack on some amazing projects, building their wildest dreams into reality. We're combining the resources of industry professionals' mentorship, captivating beginner workshops, and ambitious Chicagoland high school students to turn their dopamine addictions into a hunger for creation. All to help educate students on topics that they wouldn't learn in a traditional computer science class—like cloud computing—with a little competition and teamwork.

Where You Come In

Your sponsorship is critical to helping our goal of having 100+ students learn practical, real-world coding skills. This event will cost upwards of \$5,000 – **we need your help**.

We're seeking your assistance to rent a venue, purchase food, prizes, and other critical supplies needed to host this important

event. By sponsoring Windy City Hacks, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, you're **single-handedly supporting the next generation** of computer science students.

How You Can Help

Donate money. This is the easiest way to help support our cause. We'll use your tax-deductible donation to execute our vision of inspiring the next generation of computer scientists. And—you'll also receive a suite of benefits below:

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Send representatives. Have industry professionals from your company come join us to help mentor attendees, and teach them the ropes. Whether you're assisting with a workshop, or leading a talk, students will benefit immensely from interacting with programming pros.

Provide tools. Attendees will be deploying code to the cloud, interacting with APIs, and using all the resources they can find to complete their projects. By providing your company's software/hardware/services, you'll tap into a new audience of future programmers.

Purchase meals. Meals are one of the highest costs of running Windy City Hacks, and we'll take any help we can get. Sponsoring one of our three meals will allow us to allocate our spending to the rest of the costs of organizing an amazing event.