



CareerWise New York Stakeholder Update

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Edition #10

Why Is Youth Apprenticeship a Key Strategy During Recovery?

With economies revving up their engines after months of “stay at home” orders, we want to start this week by reprinting an excerpt from [a blog post](#) published by think tank [New America](#) that discusses why youth apprenticeship is so important to our economic recovery and how the work of HERE to HERE’s CareerWise New York can create real and lasting impact.

*“Generation Z—the teens and early-twenty-somethings now in high school and college—will soon enter the most inhospitable job market since the Great Depression. Already, the unemployment rate for Gen Z workers has **surpassed 25%**, with more than **5 million Americans under the age of 24** filing for unemployment in just four weeks in April.*

*Like the Millennials, whose working lives began in the wake of the Global Financial Crisis (GFC), Generation Z will soon be the second consecutive generation of young Americans to launch their careers in an unstable, uncertain economy. The long-term consequences for Millennials were **brutal and lasting**. Youth unemployment remained persistently high years into recovery, resulting in record levels of **student debt** and **underemployment** that have made it difficult for this generation of Americans—now in their late 20’s and 30’s---to **accumulate assets, build wealth, and secure a foothold** in the American economy.*

*This time we can and must do better for Gen Z—not just for their sake, but for the sake of the economy we all share. Federal and state investment to stimulate the economy must include strategies that ensure youth can participate in the recovery, while earning the skills and credentials they’ll need to thrive in the future economy and whatever shocks to it lie ahead. Access to paid work experience and affordable postsecondary education are critical building blocks for economic success, **particularly for young adults from low-income backgrounds**. COVID-19 has exacerbated existing barriers to accessing both and further jeopardizes the prospects for mobility, wealth, and well-being of yet another generation of American youth.*

*Come fall, millions of students who planned to enroll or return to college will defer those plans to take the first jobs they find—likely temporary, low-wage positions—that allow them to contribute to family expenses or continue in caretaking roles they’ve assumed during the pandemic. Even those without such responsibilities will be **wary about taking on debt** to fund degrees that cannot guarantee jobs in this uncertain economy. Whatever their situation, there will be few easy decisions and fewer sure options.*



Youth apprenticeship, which combines paid, on-the-job work experience with no-debt college coursework, is a promising solution to address the unique set of challenges young adults now face. Youth apprentices work part-time, which allows them to earn an immediate wage but does not put them in direct competition with adult workers for family-sustaining incomes. This experience, paired with a structured mentorship component and related college coursework that leads to industry-valued credentials and degrees, ensures youth apprentices are ready for well-paying work in the near-term and are prepared to grow into successful careers in the future.

*In the Great Recession, youth apprenticeship helped countries like Germany and Switzerland maintain the lowest youth unemployment levels among OECD countries and avoid the destabilizing effects of youth disconnection experienced by some of their **near neighbors**. On a much smaller scale, youth apprenticeship programs in the U.S.—and the public-private partnerships that support them—are already serving critical crisis-response needs. As schools closed and many employers shuttered in the early months of 2020, the intermediary organizations that coordinate youth apprenticeship programs began connecting apprentices and their families to relief resources, smoothing transitions to virtual learning, and facilitating safe virtual and in-person work arrangements. In these and countless other ways, these partnerships are minimizing disruption and accelerating the pace at which young people, employers, and communities are adapting to rapid economic change.”*

Fall 2019 Cohort 1 Updates

As we close out May and continue to gather the results from the supervisor's performance evaluation of their apprentices, we kick off June with the rollout of the apprentices' self-assessment. In the self-assessment, apprentices will utilize the competency rubrics to assess their performance on both their technical and career-ready competencies. Following the completion of the assessment, supervisors should provide actionable feedback, identify training needs, and set goals for the coming months.

- Last week Chancellor Carranza released information regarding summer school 2020 in a virtual environment, please read this [letter](#) from the chancellor for more details.
- The temporary suspension on internships has been lifted and updated with guidelines that enable students to conduct internships remotely, from **May 11 through June 26, 2020**. For more guideline details, please review this [document](#).
- Summer “work from home” guidance is still in development. NYC DOE will be making decisions based on updates from us, including any unforeseen circumstances that may arise.



- Additionally, some apprenticeships—like those in retail banking—will likely need to be redesigned for the duration of the second year. We are working with employers to determine the best course of action. In the meantime, all apprenticeships that require a physical presence will be upskilling from home. These lesson plans are being developed by CareerWise New York staff in collaboration with employers.

Fall 2020 Cohort 2 Updates

We currently have 52 offers issued, with 46 of those offers accepted! Much thanks to the resilient apprentices, their schools, and our fantastic employer partners. The CareerWise New York team will continue to support and encourage apprentices to submit profiles onto the Hiring Hub, while our employer partners continue to push forward with conducting virtual interviews.

All hiring must be completed by the end of June to ensure that students can attend bootcamp, which begins on July 7.

- We currently stand at 298 students approved to apply to apprenticeships; of those, 246 students have collectively submitted 926 applications
- Any apprentice starting in the fall must attend Apprenticeship Bootcamp, which will begin in July (more information on Bootcamp below).

HERE to HERE Business Council Update

The next HERE to HERE Business Council meeting is on June 16. Please be sure to RSVP. We look forward to seeing you there!

Last week our Business Council member, Unqork, announced an exciting initiative in partnership with CareerWise New York, [Unqork Forward](#). Unqork Forward will provide access to Unqork's technology platform and configuration experts to assist with the design and building of applications for participating small and medium businesses (SMBs), along with the first-year license at no charge. The Digital Resiliency Program will support SMBs as they work to digitize operations and adapt their business model to overcome these challenging times. Some of our CareerWise New York apprentices will participate by attending a two-week long training boot camp which begins July 7th, leading to a certification on the Unqork platform. This is a special opportunity to expose our apprentices to the new ["no code" movement](#) which is quickly transforming the landscape of tech.



Redesigned Apprentice Bootcamp for Cohort 2

Last fall, our Cohort 1 employers gave us valuable feedback regarding work readiness expectations and how these expectations could be integrated into a redesigned summer bootcamp for Cohort 2 apprentices. We're pleased to announce that we will be working with [Year Up](#) and their national initiative, [Grads of Life](#), to deliver a 7-week virtual, part-time apprenticeship bootcamp that will launch on July 7 and run through August 21. Year Up and CareerWise New York will also collaborate with [Genesys Works](#), a high school internship program, to share best practices and address the mutual challenges of training high school students via remote learning.

For more information please contact Joiselle Cunningham (jcunningham@heretohere.org), CareerWise New York's Training lead.

Resources

1. **CareerWise New York Website:** All of the weekly updates can be found on the [CareerWise New York website](#). Check here for apprenticeship-specific information including special messages and FAQs for our [apprentices](#), [employers](#), and [school partners](#). Please visit the [HERE to HERE](#) website for more expansive information about community resources and response.

REMINDERS

APPRENTICE RE-BOOTCAMP

- **Date Change!** Apprentice Re-Bootcamp will now be held via video conferencing on **Friday, June 5th** from 1:30 - 3:15 pm, all Cohort I apprentices are required to attend.

CWNY COACH TRAINING PT. I & II

- Next week, **Cohort I coaches** should expect an invitation detailing the upcoming training on **Monday, June 8th**. This will be a two-part training with **Part I taking place from 10:30 - 12:30 pm and Part II resuming from 1:30 - 2:30 pm**.



CWNY DESIGNATED APPROVER MONTHLY MEETING

- The next meeting for Designated Approvers and high school partners will take place **Wednesday, June 10th** (timing TBD), details to follow in the coming weeks.

HERE to HERE BUSINESS COUNCIL MEETING

- The **HERE to HERE Business Council** is scheduled to meet on **Tuesday, June 16th**, 10:00 - 11:30 am.

SUPERVISOR TRAINING PART II

- Part II of Supervisor Training will be held on **Friday, July 17th**, from 1:00- 4:00 pm via Zoom. This training is for Cohort II supervisors **ONLY**.

COHORT II VIRTUAL BOOTCAMP

- Mark your calendars, Virtual Bootcamp for our Cohort 2 Apprentices will span from **July 7th through August 21st**.

We will continue to update you on training as we approach the summer months.