

A woman in a black top is pointing at a wall covered in numerous colorful sticky notes (yellow, pink, blue, green). Other people are visible in the background, also looking at the notes. The scene appears to be a collaborative workshop or meeting.

ACUMEN CIVIC ACCELERATOR: FUTURE OF WORK

Presented by the
PwC Charitable
Foundation



A GROWING PROBLEM

We live in an era of unprecedented speed with respect to technical innovation and adoption. A 2017 Brookings report found that nearly two-thirds of new jobs created since 2010 require either medium or high-level digital skills, yet in the US, a 50% shortage of computer/IT graduates is expected by 2024.

The consequences of this skills gap extend to individuals and communities. Individuals entering the workforce, without market-ready technical skills, may face barriers to enter middle-skill opportunities and higher earning potential, as those jobs requiring technical skills pay an average of 17% higher salaries.

Low-income and minority communities are more severely impacted. A Pew study found that roughly one-third of families with a household income less than \$50k and with children ages 5-18, don't have high-speed internet at home. This gap in access to digital services not only contributes to the "homework gap," the premise that low-income students are at a disadvantage without online access to complete homework, but also correlates with the finding that low-income and minority populations on average demonstrate lower rates of digital literacy.

THE SOLUTION

The Acumen Civic Accelerator: Future of Work, presented by the PwC Charitable Foundation – a 10-week entrepreneur boot camp – will help accelerate 10-15 innovative, scalable ventures that increase workforce access, readiness and success through:

EQUIPPING THE NEXT GENERATION

Developing tech capabilities among k-12 students to prepare for tomorrow's workplace

DIGITAL SKILLS FOR ECONOMIC MOBILITY

Training and access to higher-wage opportunities in the digital economy for working adults across gender, race, class, and geographies

ADDRESSING WORKPLACE AUTOMATION

Technical upskilling, on-site education and credentialing in industries undergoing digital transformation

ACCESS TO DIGITAL PRODUCTS & SERVICES

Inclusive access to high-speed internet, mobile communication, and connected devices

PROGRAM BENEFITS

EDUCATION

Curriculum and tools delivered by start-up specialists on revenue generation, funding strategies, and customer acquisition

PEER LEARNING

Work alongside and learn from peer entrepreneurs around the country

MENTORS AND NETWORKS

Connections to impact investors, business leaders, social enterprises and strategic partners

INVESTMENT

The two most promising ventures each receive a \$50,000 peer investment in the form of a grant.

CONTINUED SUPPORT

Post-accelerator support with growth strategy, ecosystem connections through the Acumen network, and peer advisory

SCHEDULE AND KEY DATES

SEPT 5	SEPT 16-19	SEPT 27	OCT 8-11	NOV 12-15	DEC 16-19
APPLICATIONS DUE	FINALIST INTERVIEWS	SELECTIONS ANNOUNCED	WORKSHOP 1 CHICAGO	WORKSHOP 2 SAN FRANCISCO	WORKSHOP 3 NEW YORK

NOTABLE ALUMNI



CELL-ED

Offers a complete mobile solution to reach, train and upskill today's workforce on any mobile device, including flip phones



Teaches students with cognitive disabilities social and work-ready skills for the tech-driven workforce



Creates pathways into the technology industry for under-represented students through highschool internship.



Creates on-ramps for Blacks and Latinos to gain living wage jobs in the tech sector

GET INVOLVED

ADVISE

Lend your time and expertise to the Acumen Civic Accelerator as a venture coach. Email Ben at bgarrett@acumen.org for details.

NOMINATE

Do you know a promising entrepreneur with a solution to advance middle skill workers and create onramps to the digital workforce? Nominate a venture at www.cvcx.org.

PROMOTE

Share our call for applicants with your network

www.cvcx.org

[@civicaccelerat](https://twitter.com/civicaccelerat)

ABOUT THE ACUMEN CIVIC ACCELERATOR

The Acumen Civic Accelerator, formerly part of Points of Light and joining +Acumen in 2019, is focused on accelerating for-profit and nonprofit early-stage ventures that are addressing critical social challenges. Each Civic Accelerator program provides up to \$100,000 in funding for two promising social startups.

ABOUT THE PwC CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

The PwC Charitable Foundation, Inc. is a section 501(c)(3) organization that invests in emerging solutions to society's greatest challenges in education and humanitarianism and supports the people of PwC in times of need. The Foundation's support of the Civic Accelerator: Future of Work program is one way in which the Foundation is helping to accelerate innovative solutions to provide educational opportunities for underserved populations to close the digital skills gap.