

Obama administration expands "TechHire" jobs initiative

March 9 2016

The White House is adding 15 new communities to its "TechHire" initiative for getting low-skilled workers jobs in the tech economy.

The expansion comes a year after President Barack Obama announced the program and days before he's scheduled to speak at the South by Southwest technology festival in Austin, Texas.

The initiative pairs private employers with cities and states to create accelerated training programs such as coding boot camps.

The newest communities include two states—Hawaii and Virginia—and 13 cities from Flint, Michigan, to Jackson, Mississippi. No [federal money](#) is tied to the distinction.

Federal officials point to Rhode Island's 6-month-old program as a model.

Democratic Gov. Gina Raimondo says her state is working with employers to train and place 2,000 people over the next four years.

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Citation: Obama administration expands "TechHire" jobs initiative (2016, March 9) retrieved 19 September 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2016-03-obama-administration-techhire-jobs.html>

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