Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle launched One Summer Chicago 2014 with the aspiring goal to have 22,000 youth complete a meaningful skill-building summer work experience. For the third year in a row, One Summer Chicago exceeded that goal. Over 22,500 youth completed six or more weeks of work or career programming where they contributed their skills and talents to our vibrant economy.
One Summer Chicago is a City-County initiative to provide youth and young adults between the ages of 13 and 24 with meaningful summer employment and learning opportunities. The goal of One Summer Chicago is to maximize the availability of and access to summer job programs for Chicago’s young people and keep them learning all summer long. To achieve this goal, City and County public agency partners leverage their resources to provide the maximum number of high-quality work opportunities for youth.
What is exciting about working with children in a summer job is the thought of making a difference. I want to give back to the community what was given to me. I had a host of great mentors in my life who have guided me and put an immense effort into helping me to become the successful young woman that I am today. It is only right that I do my share in giving back to help out the younger generation.”

OSC Youth Applicant
Seeking to increase access to opportunity, One Summer Chicago launched a mobile friendly site for applicants. It was an immediate success. Over 50% of youth accessed the One Summer Chicago job application through a mobile device.

**Top 5 reasons youth wanted a summer job:**

- **41%** Get work experience
- **29%** Earn money to help support my family
- **39%** Learn new skills
- **29%** Have something to do during the summer
- **33%** Earn money for college

*34,254 youth responses from OSC application*

**Innovation Highlight:**

50% of youth

Seeking to increase access to opportunity, One Summer Chicago launched a mobile friendly site for applicants. It was an immediate success. Over 50% of youth accessed the One Summer Chicago job application through a mobile device.
22,506 youth completed a summer job or internship, contributing their skills and talents to our vibrant economy.

One Summer Chicago targets youth across age groups, introducing younger teens to the world of work early in their career pathway.
**One Summer Chicago** attracts a greater number of youth in the critical high school years when youth are making their college and career choices. Increased attention was paid this year to engaging 1,025 “Opportunity Youth”, who are neither enrolled in school nor working.

**Demographic distribution** of Chicago’s youth enrolled in One Summer Chicago.

- **6%**: Not Enrolled
- **11%**: College/Vocational/Post-Secondary
- **76%**: High School
- **6%**: Elementary School

**Gender distribution** reflects One Summer Chicago’s major effort to produce a gender balance in workforce opportunity.

- **43%**: Male
- **57%**: Female
2,618,200 hours of work were accomplished by youth, making them a key contributor to Chicago’s thriving summer economy. Youth had 531 unique work site experiences to choose from across Chicago neighborhoods.

Innovation Highlight:

**1,000 youth**

1,000 One Summer Chicago youth volunteered in a “Pitch In” day of service to clean up Garfield Park, Jackson Park, Washington Park, Douglas Park and Humboldt Park.

“I always enjoyed coming to my internship because it was a place I could get focused and really take myself to the best limits possible. I always discover something new about myself and have a more determined outlook on life because of this program.”

*OSC Youth*
One Summer Chicago youth proudly represented all 77 Chicago communities and 50 Aldermanic Wards.

These twenty-five communities had the highest percentage of youth enrolled in One Summer Chicago:

- Ashburn
- Auburn Gresham
- Austin
- Belmont Cragin
- Chatham
- Chicago Lawn
- East Garfield Park
- Englewood
- Grand Boulevard
- Greater Grand Crossing
- Humboldt Park
- Morgan Park
- Near West Side
- New City
- North Lawndale
- Roseland
- South Chicago
- South Lawndale
- South Shore
- Uptown
- Washington Heights
- West Englewood
- West Pullman
- West Ridge
- Woodlawn
72% of OSC employers surveyed would hire their youth employee if they had an open position and 75% would recommend their youth for a similar position, demonstrating that youth are a powerful source of entry-level talent for the Chicago economy.

“Our intern was by far our top performer. What surprised us the most was that this was his first work experience!”

OSC Youth Employer

Innovation Highlight:

15,400 youth

15,400 youth earned a One Summer Chicago “Master” or “Skilled” digital badge rewarding workplace attendance, a critical career readiness metric.
In 2012, W.K. Kellogg Foundation’s New Options Project selected Chicago’s 21st century skills initiative, MHA Labs, to be one of four national workforce innovators. This summer, thirty-three partners launched the MHA Labs One Summer Chicago Employee Appraisal where 3,083 youth received overwhelmingly positive performance reviews, highlighting the workforce potential of our city’s young people.

**Supervisors who agree or strongly agree with youth achievement of performance goals:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>84%</td>
<td>Effectively completed his/her assigned duties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79%</td>
<td>Effectively communicated at work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85%</td>
<td>Effectively worked with coworkers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82%</td>
<td>Effectively worked independently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82%</td>
<td>Attendance and timeliness were satisfactory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Supervisors who agree or strongly agree with supervisor experience goals:**

- **84%** This employee had a positive impact on this organization.
- **79%** I strengthened my supervisory skills managing this employee.
- **85%** I enjoyed supervising this employee.
Community volunteers have a long history of helping to revitalize and beautify Chicago neighborhoods, and I commend the youth of One Summer Chicago for their commitment to strengthening our communities through service,” said Mayor Emanuel. “Chicagoans of all ages can follow the lead of these young people to keep our neighborhoods safe, clean and vibrant.”
Community volunteers have a long history of helping to revitalize and beautify Chicago neighborhoods, and I commend the youth of One Summer Chicago for their commitment to strengthening our communities through service,” said Mayor Emanuel. “Chicagoans of all ages can follow the lead of these young people and keep our neighborhoods safe, clean and vibrant.”
81% of 9,000 youth surveyed said that their supervisor or instructor helped them set and achieve clear learning goals. This outcome was driven by 136,370 additional training hours focused on financial literacy education, job skills development, college preparation and community service.

“This internship was the best thing that happened to me because I was losing hope in my career pathway but when I got here the people were just so nice. Most of them took me under their wing and gave me an inside look of what they do and that really helped me in my post secondary education choice.”

OSC Youth
Over 50% of youth surveyed reported receiving direct college and career planning support, empowering their path to college and career success.

Reported by youth
direct educational supports:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Support</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>56%</td>
<td>Researching colleges or majors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56%</td>
<td>Understanding the financial aid process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54%</td>
<td>Researching college tuition and the total cost of attendance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54%</td>
<td>Explaining the college admissions process to parents/guardians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51%</td>
<td>Preparing for college admissions tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51%</td>
<td>Completing college applications and meeting deadlines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48%</td>
<td>Understanding how to research and apply for scholarships</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reported by youth
direct career supports:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Support</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>64%</td>
<td>Learning 21st century skills that support success on the job</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62%</td>
<td>Dressing appropriately for job interviews or work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60%</td>
<td>Setting career goals and plans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57%</td>
<td>Completing job applications, writing resumes, and preparing for job interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54%</td>
<td>Learning more about career pathways that align to interests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50%</td>
<td>Finding a career mentor or career coach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Connecting to full-time employment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
83% of 9,000 youth surveyed believe they can apply skills learned in their One Summer Chicago experience to success in career and/or further education. With the significant majority of youth enrolled in high school, 70% reported that their experience helped them see that earning a high school diploma is important to their career goals.

Innovation Highlight:

34,254 youth pledged as part of their One Summer Chicago experience to complete high school, pursue post-secondary opportunities, support Chicago’s communities, and be lifelong learners.
**Educational impacts of One Summer Chicago:**

Helped see that further education is now an option for career goals 67%

Increased understanding of what education is needed to follow desired career path 64%

Helped select a specific education pathway to follow after high school 55%

Used skills learned from school such as English, Math, Social Studies, and Science 52%

Helped decide next school, career, or further education plans (college, trade school, vocational school, etc.) 51%

**Career impacts of One Summer Chicago:**

The work I did challenged me to learn new skills 83%

Made me more prepared to work in a professional environment 79%

Made me more likely to get a job in the future 79%

Increased the number of professionals in my social network 65%

Increased understanding of what skills are needed to follow my desired career path 66%

Increased skills related to doing the job 76%

Increased 21st century career readiness skills 78%

Helped select a specific career pathway to follow 49%
78% of net wages earned by youth had a direct economic benefit to the City of Chicago. Based on the end-of-summer youth spending survey, an estimated $10.4 million dollars went to support their families and sustain local businesses and nearly $1.8 million dollars were saved for future goals.

Innovation Highlight:

3,598 youth

3,598 youth earned a “Chicago Financial Scholars” digital badge on Everfi’s online financial literacy and entrepreneurship programs, sustaining One Summer Chicago’s commitment to financial literacy.
Innovation Highlight: 

banking practices

The Office of the Treasurer, One Summer Chicago and banking partners are working to transform youth banking practices by increasing access to no- and low-cost banking products, increasing the number of youth who are banked, and building pathways to the financial mainstream. Through a partnership with the Bank On Chicago initiative, a new website was launched providing One Summer youth the freedom to easily research, compare and choose from 11 approved banking products targeted to meet their needs.

53% of youth learned about saving this summer

29% of youth opened a bank account

“This job helped me understand the importance of saving more money and investing in things that could keep more money coming in.”

OSC Youth
6,377 youth more hopeful about the future
71% out of 9,000 youth surveyed, reported that their One Summer Chicago work experience made them more hopeful about the future.
Our Delegate Agencies

Alternative Schools Network
Alternatives, Inc.
Arab Action Network
Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council
Beloved Community Family Services
Better Boys Foundation
The Black Star Project
BUILD, Inc.
Careers through Culinary Arts Program, Inc.
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago
Center for New Horizons
Central States SER
Chi-Town Chicagoland Cheerleaders
Chicago Area Project
Chicago Botanic Garden
Chicago State University Foundation
Chicago Training Center
Chicago Urban League
Chicago West Community Music Center
Children’s Home & Aid Society of Illinois
Chinese American Service League
Christopher House
Columbia College Chicago Department of Science and Mathematics
Community Television Network
DePaul University Driehaus College of Business
Dime Child Foundation
DuSable Museum of African American History, Inc.
Elevarte Community Studio
Employment & Employer Services
Ensemble Espanol
Erie Neighborhood House
Free Spirit Media
Gads Hill Center
Gary Comer Youth Center
Goodcity
Green Star Movement
Growing Power
Heartland Human Care Services
Holsten Human Capital Development
Howard Area Community Center
Illinois Institute of Technology
Illinois Math and Science Academy
Impact Beyond, Inc.

IMPACT Family Center
Institute for Positive Living
Instituto del Progreso Latino
JHP Community Center, Inc.
K.L.E.O. Community Family Life Center
Kuumba Lynx
Lawrence Hall Youth Services
Leave No Veteran Behind
Liberation Christian Center
Love To Serve Incorporated
Loyola University Chicago School of Social Work
Marilyn G. Rabb Foundation
Metropolitan Family Services
Mikva Challenge
The Miracle Center, Inc.
National Museum of Mexican Art
Near West Side Community Development Corporation
New Birth Christian Center
Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum
Phalanx Family Services
Puerto Rican Arts Alliance - Logan Square
Pui Tak Center
Redmoon Theater
Roseland Community Development Corporation
Saint Sabina Employment Resource Center
SGA Youth & Family Services
South Shore Drill Team & Performing Arts Ensemble
South Suburban College
South-East Asia Center
Street-Level Youth Media
The Support Group
UCAN
UIC Center for Literacy
Umoja Student Development Corporation
Universal Family Connection, Inc.
University of Chicago Arts Incubator
University of Illinois at Chicago Chance Program
Urban Alliance Chicago
Voice of the City
Westside Health Authority
West Town Bikes NFP
YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago
Youth Guidance
Youth Outreach Services
Our Sponsors
City of Chicago
Cook County

Our Supporters
The Chicago Community Trust
Citi Foundation
Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund
JPMorgan Chase & Co.
TCF Bank
United Airlines Eco Skies

Our Leaders
Chicago Department of Family & Support Services
After School Matters
Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership
Chicago Department of Transportation
Chicago Housing Authority
Chicago Park District
Chicago Police Department
Chicago Public Library
Chicago Public Schools
City Colleges of Chicago
Forest Preserves of Cook County
Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities
Office of the Treasurer

Our Partners
Bandit Park
Bark Design
Chicago Cares
Chicago City of Learning
Civic Leadership Foundation
Everfi
Fullline Printing
Junior Achievement
MHA Labs
Moneythink
TraceRoute
Urban Youth Trauma Center