



“ ALL MY HARD WORK HAS PAID OFF.
I didn't do it on my own — I had my team at GE and Year Up — but now I am proud to tell my parents that I have a career and am making something of myself. ”

Ann Sactourn,
Year Up graduate

Year Up Chicago Updates

Dear Partners, we hope you are enjoying your summer.

Here at Year Up, we are continuing our efforts to close the Opportunity Divide by ensuring that Chicago's young adults between the ages of 17-26 gain the skills, experiences, and support that will empower them to reach their potential through careers and higher education.

While our January 2022 cohort gets ready to start their internship journey with Corporate Partners including Bank of America, Facebook, JP Morgan Chase, Uber, and Salesforce, we are preparing to welcome a new Fall cohort of talented and motivated young adults to start their professional careers with the skills, experience and support Year Up provides.

We are still accepting applications for the following professional tracks:

- [Project Management](#)- beginning in September 2021.
- [Banking and Financial Services](#)- beginning in November 2021.

We offer young adults:

- Three to six months of professional training in-demand technical and professional skills.
- Six months of a corporate internship with a respected company where we carefully match interns to employers based on intern skills, interests, and workplace culture.
- Trainees earn while they learn with regular stipends during training and internship.
- Wrap-around support services and dedicated coaches to guide them through the program.



Year Up has achieved wonderful outcomes, including 100% placement of qualified students in internships, and 90% of graduates are employed or in school full time within 4 months of completion with an average starting salary of approximately \$43K a year.

If you like to partner with us to reach more young adults or talk directly with your students, do not hesitate to reach out to me by replying to this email. To start the application process, interested individuals should sign up to attend one of our information sessions to learn more about the program, ask questions, and decide if this would be a good fit for their career goals. Students can RSVP for an information session by [completing this form](#). Alternatively, you can also nominate a young adult by [completing this form](#). If you have any questions or concerns, you can reach us at adi...@yearup.org.

We appreciate all your support to continue serving the young adults in Chicago.

In Partnership,

Chanel Davis, M.Ed.

Director of Recruitment & Admissions

Year Up Events

Virtual Information Sessions



Tuesdays 4:00 PM CST
Thursdays 12:00 PM CST

RSVP at
<http://bit.ly/ready2succeednowchicago>

Every Tuesday and Thursday of the week, our Recruitment Team has info sessions for students interested in Year Up. This is a great opportunity to meet other students, asked questions, and learn about the admission process.

If you want to know more about our program or know anyone ready to start their Year Up journey in 2021, save your spot at the following link: bit.ly/ready2succeednowchicago

Year Up Open Virtual Houses for our Community partners and organizations

We want to learn more about you and share our latest updates!

During August, we will host 3 different Virtual Open Houses for our community partners, educators, community advocates and leaders, and anyone wanting to get more insight about Year Up!

We also want to learn more about you and your organization. We created these spaces for our partners to network and learn more about our collective impact on our Chicago youth and opportunities to partnership moving forward.

Bring questions, and don't forget your coffee!

Click on the image to reserve your spot.

A promotional poster for Year Up Chicago's Virtual Open House. The background is a solid mustard yellow. At the top center is the Year Up Chicago logo, which consists of a stylized human figure with arms raised above the text "yearup" in a bold, lowercase sans-serif font, with "CHICAGO" in a smaller, uppercase font to its right. Below the logo, the text "YEAR UP CHICAGO INVITES YOU TO ATTEND A" is written in a small, uppercase, sans-serif font. The main title "VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE" is prominently displayed in a large, bold, white, uppercase sans-serif font. Underneath the title, the dates and times for the three events are listed in a medium-sized, white, sans-serif font: "Thursday, August 12th, 3 pm CST", "Wednesday, August 18th, 3 pm CST", and "Thursday, August 26th, 2 pm CST". The lower half of the poster features a graphic of five hands of different skin tones (blue, teal, orange, pink, and purple) reaching towards the center and overlapping. At the bottom, the text "Reserve your spot at" is followed by the URL "https://yearupschedule.as.me/YearUpOpenHouse2021" in a white, sans-serif font, with the URL underlined.

yearup CHICAGO

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VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

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Reserve your spot at
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Year Up Spotlights

Alumni Stories

Monica Packnett: Owning the Unfamiliar

During orientation week for Year Up Chicago's January 2019 cohort, Monica Packnett attended a panel and heard a simple statement that she continues to draw on as a source of strength. "One of the women said she just had to learn to be comfortable with being uncomfortable," Packnett recalls.

Packnett had never heard it put that way before, but she realized that forcing herself outside of her comfort zone — and being at peace with that discomfort — would be her ticket to a finance internship. "Especially as a black woman, there are many spaces where I haven't felt perfectly comfortable," she says. "To hear this successful woman say that she feels that way too validated feelings I hadn't understood and made me feel better about pushing myself."



Packnett was raised in Chicago's south side, where her parents owned and operated a small neighborhood trophy shop. Packnett began helping her mother at the shop and taking courses at a community college. "I knew what I wanted and that I had the ability, but without a diploma or any experience, I didn't see how I was going to get into the finance industry," she said. While scrolling through a job site, she saw a sponsored link with a description of Year Up and some of the graduate stories. "It said I would go through an educational process, earn credits toward my degree, get an internship, and be compensated through it all," Packnett recalls. "It didn't seem possible."

Through Year Up Chicago, Packnett landed a finance internship as a portfolio management assistant at Bank of America Private Bank (formerly U.S. Trust) Private Wealth Management. Everything was new, and Packnett was eager to learn it all. Now she works as an Assistant Portfolio Manager and has never looked back since. She's even gone back to school to complete her degree while maintaining her full-time position. "I still find myself uncomfortable in The Big D," Packnett chuckles, "but I've since become comfortable with being uncomfortable."

“

I think people in my life saw that I had potential, they believed in me and I'm beyond grateful for their contributions.

”

Career Track of the Month
Project Management Track

PROJECT MANAGEMENT TRACK

Some companies our young adults intern with:



Careers they will be prepare for:

Operations Support
Specialist



Project
Coordinator



Business Operations
Analyst



Suppose you are or know someone that is an organizer—a doer. Project Management is the right track for them. As an intern, they will help teams plan, execute, and complete work- In time and on a budget. They will create tools and processes that enable teams to archive goals and skillfully manage issues that arise along the way.

Skills training includes: Building a project proposal including milestones and budget.

Defining, measuring, and communicating goals and outcomes.

Analyzing and visualizing data in Microsoft Excel, pivot tables, and other graphical tools.

Meeting logistics, including via Microsoft Outlook.

What to expect: The trainee will be responsible for creating project plans, communicating between teams, managing vendors, and identifying and resolving issues with the project.

Upon completion of the internship, graduates are equipped to Support project managers and teams. Use the analytical framework to support the successful design and execution of a project.

Track and document project costs, progress, and processes.

We have last-minute spots for our Project Management track. Today is a great day to apply!

Let's Meet Our Chicago Team



Name: Janet Luna

What is your Role at Year Up?

Student Services Manager

Tell us a little about your role. I work directly with our young adults and provide them year-round support. I provide solution-focused counseling and resources. My priority are always the students and making sure they have what they need to overcome any barriers that may impact their success in the program.

What's your why? Our young adults and our underserved communities. It is a privilege to work with our young adults and witness all the perseverance in just a year. All the success and growth are truly inspiring, and admirable. Our young adults make me motivated to come to work every day.

What's one of your favorite Year Up moments: I am a huge advocate for mental health. My favorite thing to see is our students engage in mental health conversations, and see them start prioritizing their overall health. One of my favorite thing to hear from students is, "Janet, I wish I would have started therapy sooner."

Fun fact? I love traveling, and if could be on any T.V show it would be The Challenge or Amazing Race.

Community Announcements and Resources

Chicago Housing Authority



The Chicago Housing Authority provides homes to more than 63,000 households while supporting healthy communities in neighborhoods throughout the city. Designated a Moving to Work agency by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, CHA has used that flexibility to create innovative partnerships that expand choices and opportunities for the low-income families and individuals it serves. At the start of 2018, 63 percent of work-able CHA residents were working and earning a yearly average of almost \$22,000.

The Chicago Housing Authority offers many paid opportunities where youth from the ages 16-24 can spend their summer working, learning, creating, and developing skills through a combination of programs that will include virtual learning opportunities for youth and limited in-person employment opportunities.

Find out more about the Summer Youth Employment Program <https://youth.thecha.org/>

Center for New Horizons



Founded in 1971, Centers for New Horizons, Inc. (Centers) is a nonprofit organization that assists children, youth, and families in becoming self-reliant, improving the quality of their lives, and participating in rebuilding their community. With 300+ full-time staff, provides programs in 13 locations throughout Chicago that reach over 6,000 families daily.

The agency exists to serve and partner with community residents in their efforts to bring about positive changes providing the following programs: Early Childhood Education, Youth Development, Adult and Family Services, Violence Prevention and Intervention, Workforce and Economic Development, Older Adults and Senior Services.

To learn more about Center for New Horizon and ways you can support them, please visit: <https://www.cnh.org/>