

# ZIP CODE WILMINGTON

*SCHOOL OF CODING*



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# Message from the Director of Admissions and Professional Development

In 2015, our co-founders launched Zip Code Wilmington, a nonprofit coding bootcamp designed for people who are ready to reinvent their path and earn their way into a tech career. What started as an experiment has grown into one of the top sources of tech talent on the East Coast.

I joined Zip Code in 2018, and in that time I have watched hundreds of students change the direction of their lives in just 12 weeks. They've come from every background imaginable: truck drivers, food servers, teachers, athletes, cashiers, advocates, and police officers.

And that doesn't even scratch the surface. They all embody the three characteristics that define a Zipcoder: integrity, respect, and grit. They show up prepared, they support one another, and they take ownership of their growth.

I have seen students walk into Zip Code Wilmington unsure if they even belonged in tech. I have seen those same students land roles they once thought were out of reach. I have seen parents, career changers, and first-generation professionals build confidence, skills, and momentum that reshaped their futures.

Zip Code is challenging. For many Zipcoders, it is the most challenging thing they have ever done.

But with challenge comes reward.

The reward of knowing you can do hard things.

The reward of becoming someone who sees a problem and knows how to find the solution.

The reward of being transformed in ways you may not have thought possible.

We know this because we've seen it over and over again. Zipcoders who did the work are now building careers, contributing to teams, and shaping the industry in meaningful ways. More importantly, they are changing their own lives. They are setting the example for their children, spouses, friends, and neighbors that transformation is achievable.

If you're ready to reinvent your path, we invite you to take the next step.

## All the best,

Dan Stabb

Director of Admissions and Professional Development



## Quick Facts

**300+**

hours of individual coding work

**800+**

students graduated from Zip Code

**30+**

hours of professional development, interview coaching and soft skills training

**75+**

hours of collaborative projects

**175+**

hours of live, instructor-led lectures

**12:1**

student-to-instructor ratio

# Discover the Zip Code **difference.**

In just 12 weeks, Zip Code Wilmington equips individuals with the coding skills, professional development and employer connections you need to launch a high paying tech career.

## Hands-on data engineering or software development experience

Gain practical, real-world experience by building projects, solving coding challenges, and working in collaborative teams using the tools and technologies used in today's tech industry.

### Experienced Instructors

Learn directly from industry professionals with 30+ years of experience.

### Collaborative Team Environment

Students work closely with peers on weekly group projects and end-of-program capstone projects.

## Professional development and career services support

Build your career with expert guidance, hands-on support, and resources designed to help you succeed in tech.

### Resume & Interview Coaching

Students get personalized support to rework their resumes for the tech industry and participate in multiple mock interviews with volunteer tech professionals.

### Job Placement Assistance

Students receive hands-on support to build their LinkedIn profiles, connect with tech companies, and work directly with our career services team for placement support.

## AI-integrated curriculum

Our curriculum blends core coding skills with AI-driven tools and concepts, preparing students to solve real-world problems and stay ahead in today's tech landscape.

### Hands-On AI Projects

Apply AI concepts through real-world projects using: VS Code + GitHub, Copilot, Claude AI Integration, Prompt Engineering, AI-Assisted Testing, Enterprise AI Tools.

### Industry-Relevant Skills

Students work on projects that mirror industry challenges, learn the tools and workflows used by employers, and develop problem-solving, teamwork, and professional communication skills.



## Introductions to Zip Code's corporate partners and tech employers.

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### Connections to Employers

Build connections with companies that hire Zip Code graduates.

Build meaningful connections with Zip Code's network of corporate partners through twice-weekly "Meet the Expert" sessions and immersive site visits. Students engage directly with tech professionals, gain real-world insight, and expand their network while exploring career pathways.

## Post graduation internship with Zip Code

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### Build Experience

Work on real-world software development and data engineering projects after graduation to keep your skills sharp.

### Real Projects, Real Impact

Contribute to community-focused projects that strengthen your portfolio and showcase your abilities.

### Ongoing Career Support

Continue receiving guidance and support from our team while actively pursuing full-time opportunities.

## Weekly workshops

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Weekly workshops build confidence, communication skills, and a professional mindset to help students succeed in tech careers.

### I-AM Sessions

A weekly workshop designed to help students overcome imposter syndrome, and develop a strong professional mindset to step confidently into their tech careers.

### ProDev Sessions

Students develop career-ready skills through interactive, sessions led by a trained improv instructor, who also happens to be our Director of Admissions and Professional Development.

See what our ProDev sessions look like!



# Program Overview





# Zip Code Program Tracks

*We offer Software Development and Data Engineering & Analytics courses. Both of our best-in-class coding programs include hands-on training to get you ready for a new career in technology.*

*Along with Zip Code's rigorous coding curriculum, we focus on professional development skills such as resume writing, interviewing, and networking, all of which will ensure your success for years to come.*

## **JAVA SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT**

Java Software Development (Full Stack) is one of the most commonly used programming languages in the world. Websites, software programs, and applications simply won't work without it.

Our Software Development training program is centered on Java and other object oriented software programming languages.

Our training is led by passionate and experienced instructors who will prepare you to launch your career in this ever-growing industry!

Zip Code offers an immersive and practical training experience; our students are expected to dedicate 1000 hours towards the completion of their training.

## **DATA ENGINEERING & ANALYTICS**

Now is the time to transition into a high-paying software engineering career as a data engineer.

Software powers everything, but as a result the world is now drowning in data.

Data engineering is one of the fastest growing career fields in the world! It is projected to grow by 22% over the next ten years compared to other career fields that are only expected to grow by a mere 4%.

Zip Code offers an immersive and practical training experience; our students are expected to dedicate 1000 hours towards the completion of their training.



# Software Development Curriculum

## The Basics of Computational Thinking

- Algorithms, Pattern Matching,
- Decomposition, Abstraction
- Hardware: Storage, Memory, Servers
- Operating Systems (MacOS, Linux)
- Object-Oriented Programming & Design
- AI Agent Usage



## Languages

- Java (Primary Focus)
- TypeScript
- JavaScript
- SQL

## Frameworks

- Spring/Spring Boot
- Hibernate/JPA/JDBC
- React

## Real World

- Overview of Software
- Development at a Typical Corporation
- Agile/Scrum/Group Coding
- AI Agent Usage (Copilot & Claude Code)
- Code Reviews
- Software Project Work
- Requirements Gathering & Planning
- Release Management
- Version Control

## Tools in the Toolbox

- JUnit
- Kanban boards
- Maven
- Git
- MySQL/SQLite3/Postgres

**More details, visit us!**

[www.zipcodewilmington.com](http://www.zipcodewilmington.com)



# Data Engineering & Analytics Curriculum

## The Basics of Computational Thinking

- Algorithms, Pattern Matching,
- Decomposition, Abstraction
- Hardware: Storage, Memory, Servers
- Operating Systems (MacOS, Linux)
- Object-Oriented Programming & Design
- AI Agent Usage



## Languages

- Python (Primary Focus)
- SQL
- JavaScript

## Pipeline Tools

- Pandas, Numpy
- Data Visualization tools
- Apache Spark, Kafka
- Jupyter Notebooks

## Tools in the Toolbox

- Unittest
- Kanban boards
- SQLAlchemy
- Git
- MySQL/SQLite3/Postgres

## Real World

- Overview of Software
- Development at a Typical Corporation
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# Pricing and Scholarships





## The AI premium

*Why this investment pays off*

- Traditional bootcamp graduates: \$65,000-\$75,000 starting salary
- AI-enhanced developers: \$75,000-\$90,000+ starting salary
- Skills immediately applicable at 87% of Fortune 500 companies
- Future-proof career trajectory in high-demand field

**No additional training needed. You're enterprise-ready from day one.**

## Scholarships

A limited-time **Break Into Tech Scholarship** is available for eligible Delaware residents who meet program requirements.

## Pricing

Each of Zip Code's tracks cost **\$18,000** per student.

Accepted students are expected to pay the full \$18,000 upfront, unless they qualify for a loan or scholarship. Payment is typically due six days before a cohort starts.

## Loans

Accepted students may qualify for **income-based financing** through Stepping Stones Credit Union.

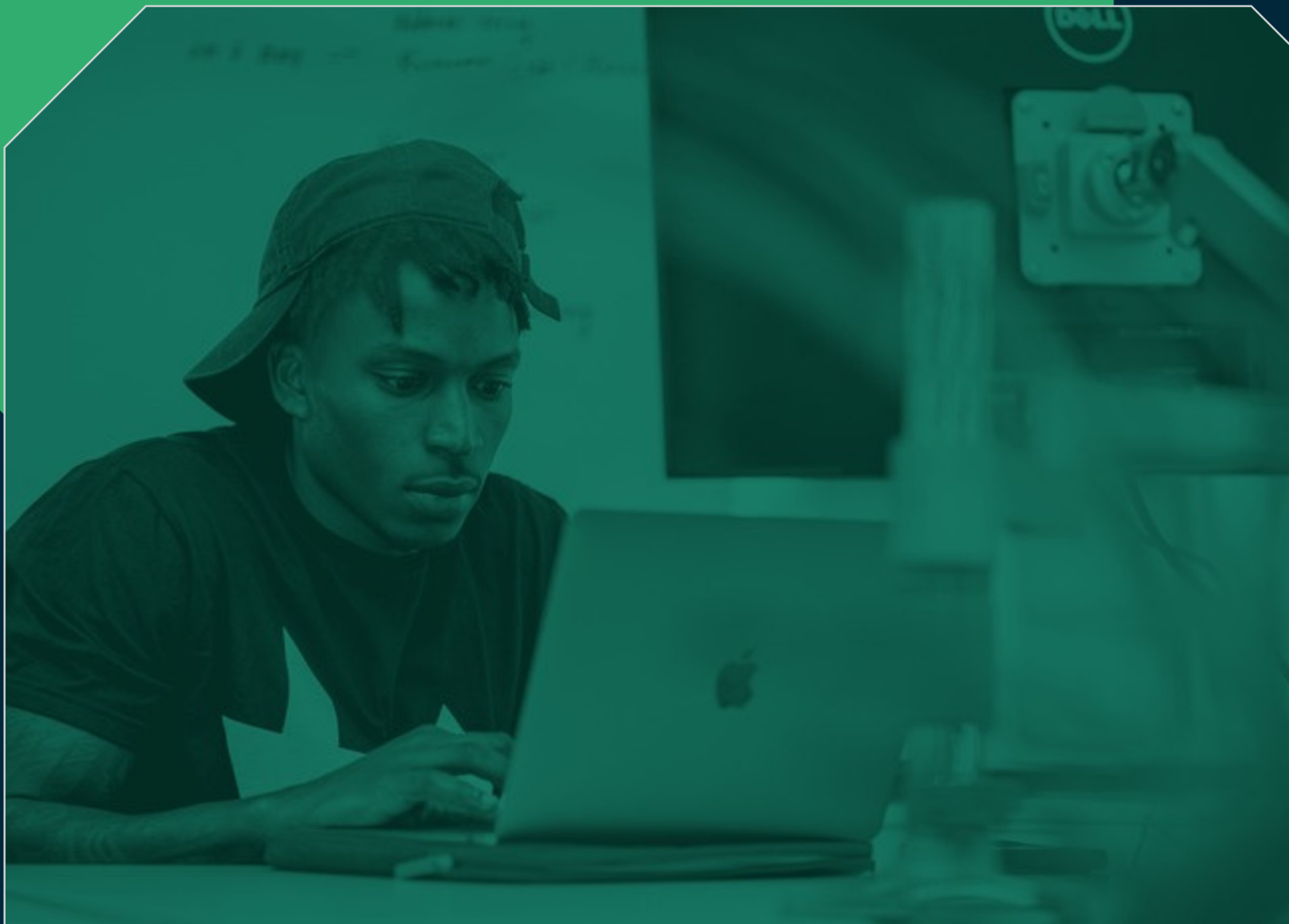
Loan recipients would be required to pay \$6,000 upfront before the program starts, with the remaining \$12,000 repaid over 3-5 years at 3% interest.

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**More details, visit us!**

[www.zipcodewilmington.com/pricing-and-scholarships/](http://www.zipcodewilmington.com/pricing-and-scholarships/)

# Admissions Process



# Application Timeline

The full admissions process typically takes 2-4 months from application to final decision, depending on scheduling and cohort timing. We offer multiple start terms per year: February, April, July, August, and October.

## 01 Apply

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Submit your application to begin the admissions process.

## 02 Submit resume & photo

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If you are selected to move forward in the process, you'll be asked to submit your resume and a recent photo. This helps our team and interviewers get to know you better as we prepare for the next stage.

## 03 Virtual Group Interview

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In this 60-minute session, you'll join 2-4 other applicants in collaborative activities that showcase your teamwork and problem-solving skills.

## 04 Virtual Technical Interview

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Applicants who advance from the group interview will be invited to a technical interview. In this session, you'll work through questions and exercises designed to highlight your computational thinking and logical problem-solving skills.

## 05 Virtual Professional Interview

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Applicants who advance from the technical interview will be invited to a professional interview. This conversation focuses on your background, goals, and overall fit for the program.

## 06 Admissions Decision

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After the professional interview, the Director of Admissions and Professional Development will contact you with an admissions decision.





# Student Experience & Support

Life at Zip Code Wilmington extends beyond the classroom. Students experience a collaborative, fast-paced environment where teamwork, daily coding challenges, and peer support are part of the routine. Outside of the program, students and alumni stay connected through networking events, community gatherings, and career-focused meetups that strengthen the Zip Code network long after graduation.

## A Day in the Life of a Zipcoder

### Morning

Students start the day reviewing concepts, participating in instructor-led sessions, and working through coding challenges that reinforce new skills.

### Midday

Much of the day is spent collaborating with classmates on hands-on projects, pair programming, and solving real-world technical problems in a team environment.

### Afternoon

Students continue project work while receiving guidance and feedback from instructors and mentors.

### Throughout the Week

Students also participate in professional development sessions and networking opportunities that help prepare them for successful careers in tech.

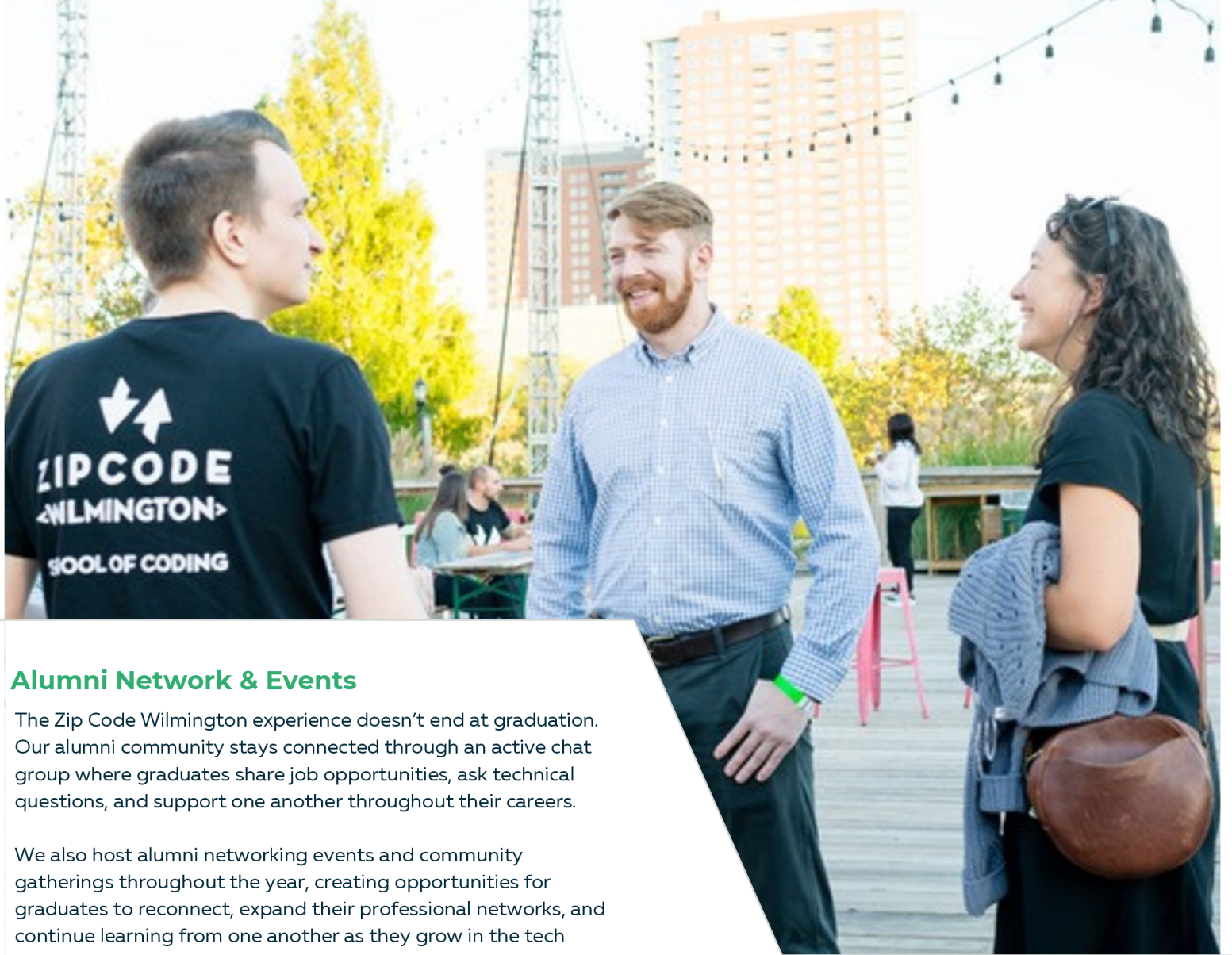
View our **NEW** location! →



## Zip Code Wilmington Location *Downtown Wilmington*

Nestled between New York City and Washington, D.C., and a stone's throw away from Philadelphia, Wilmington is a big city with a small-town feel, offering ample opportunity to eat, shop tax-free, play and learn. Wilmington also has 552 acres of picturesque parklands, which means plenty of room to enjoy the great outdoors!

Referred to as the "corporate capital of the world," more than half of the nation's Fortune 500 companies call Wilmington home, which makes it the perfect location for Zip Code Wilmington.



## Alumni Network & Events

The Zip Code Wilmington experience doesn't end at graduation. Our alumni community stays connected through an active chat group where graduates share job opportunities, ask technical questions, and support one another throughout their careers.

We also host alumni networking events and community gatherings throughout the year, creating opportunities for graduates to reconnect, expand their professional networks, and continue learning from one another as they grow in the tech industry.

## Tech Company Site Visits

Immediately after graduation, Zip Coders visit local tech companies hosted by our industry partners, seeing their skills in action, meeting professionals, and exploring career paths. These visits connect graduates with the tech community and provide real-world insight as they launch their careers.

## Post Zip Code Education Opportunities

After graduation, Zipcoders have the opportunity to continue their education by transferring credits to local institutions, including **Wilmington University** and **Goldey-Beacom College**. This pathway allows graduates to build on the skills and knowledge gained at Zip Code, pursue advanced degrees, and further their knowledge in tech.

See what **DEMO Day** is like! →



Zipcoders showcase their skills by presenting final projects to industry professionals.

## Delaware Department of Education

Zip Code Wilmington is an approved training provider through the Delaware Department of Education, ensuring our programs meet rigorous state standards for quality and workforce readiness. This designation reflects our commitment to delivering high-quality, career-focused tech education that prepares students for success in the local and national job market.

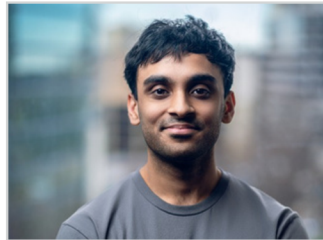


# Hear from Zip Code Wilmington Students



*"Building and presenting the final project makes me feel like a superhero. I feel like I can step into any room and speak about something that I created and that I'm passionate about."*

**Ieshia Miles**



*"You can be a curious person, you can be a technical person. Either way, this program would help you become a well-rounded person to employers in your future career."*

**Devesh Murali**



*"Zip Code helped me turn 20 years of restaurant experience into transferable tech skills."*

**Cole Jamison**



*"I always was skeptical about how to get into the industry. Zip Code drove that thought home, that tech can be for anybody even if it's later in the professional career."*

**Marc McGough**



*"At Zip Code, they have the ProDev section, and it's really ingrained a lot of things in my mind, and taught me a lot, not only about myself, but about how far it can take us."*

**Ben Rickert**



**Watch our recent cohort's journey through Zip Code.**



# Stay Connected with Zip Code

## Connect with us on LinkedIn

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Stay updated on student stories, alumni success, upcoming events, and life inside the Zip Code community.



## Meet with us, virtually

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Schedule a one-on-one virtual appointment with a member of our admissions team to have your questions answered and discuss your goals in tech.

## Explore our industry blogs

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Explore our blog posts for practical guides on breaking into tech, learning programming languages, and building a high-paying career in the industry.



## Subscribe to our newsletter

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Get a deeper look into the Zip Code Wilmington community. Our newsletter features alumni stories, community partnerships, tech industry insights, and updates on the work happening across the Zip Code network.

## Get involved as an employer

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Support the next generation of tech talent by getting involved with Zip Code Wilmington. Employers can volunteer by mentoring students, participating in events, hosting site visits, and sharing industry insights with our community.





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