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New York Plans to Improve Worker Skill Training

*Mayor Says 30,000 People a Year Will Be Trained
for 'Middle-skill Occupations'*

BY JOSH DAWSEY

New York City will reshape its \$500 million workforce-development program and force contractors to prioritize hiring city residents, Mayor Bill de Blasio said Friday.

City officials said workforce-development programs had previously not focused on enough skills training, particularly in burgeoning industries like technology.

The mayor said his administration would train 30,000 people a year for “middle-skill occupations,” calling it another front in his fight against inequality.

Without giving many specifics, city officials said they would require contractors who reach a certain threshold in city work every year to consider city workers when making hires.

Maria Torres-Springer, the city Small Business Services commissioner, said compliance measures were still being hammered out.