



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL
MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in 2014, President Barack Obama set a goal to double the number of Registered Apprenticeships over a five-year period nationwide and proclaimed the first annual *National Apprenticeship Week* in 2015; and

WHEREAS, the National Registered Apprenticeship System was established to provide a renewed focus on expanding apprenticeships and has taken a leading role in creating opportunity and building a skilled workforce across all communities and industries; and

WHEREAS, National Apprenticeship Week offers local high schools, colleges, workforce agencies, and other apprenticeship sponsors the opportunity to showcase their programs, facilities, and apprentices while giving employers, educators, industry associations, labor organizations, elected officials, and other key stakeholders the opportunity to highlight how apprenticeships prepare a highly skilled workforce to meet the multifaceted demands of 21st century employers; and

WHEREAS, the rising costs of higher education makes apprenticeships an increasingly important career pathway leading to economic stability, especially for young adults not immediately pursuing college; and

WHEREAS, employers that establish apprenticeships have seen continued business growth, a more diverse workforce, greater productivity, and reduced turnover; and

WHEREAS, according to a recent landscape scan of progressive pathway programs for young adults commissioned by the Chicagoland Workforce Funder Alliance, programs such as apprenticeships specifically designed for individuals with high school diplomas are under-utilized in the Chicago region; and

WHEREAS, according to research commissioned by Thrive Chicago, over half of Chicago's nearly 60,000 opportunity youth, or 16-24 year-olds who are out of school and out of work, have at least a high school diploma and are increasingly seeking opportunities to concurrently gain paid work experience and industry-recognized skills training that learn-and-earn programs like apprenticeships offer; and

WHEREAS, according to a recent study conducted by Young Invincibles, young adults across Illinois are overwhelmingly interested in apprenticeships and we must always do everything in our power to give every resident every chance:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RAHM EMANUEL, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO do hereby proclaim November 13-19, 2017 to be APPRENTICESHIP WEEK IN CHICAGO and encourage all residents to join in recognizing the importance of involved workforce development through learn-and-earn programs like apprenticeships to create a more inclusive economy and brighter future.

Dated this 23rd day of October, 2017.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rahm Emanuel".
Mayor