



Industrial Development Fellowship

Description

The Industrial Development Fellow will work on projects focused on equitable and small business development in three of the most dynamic neighborhoods in New York City.

Within the Southwest Brooklyn Industrial Business Zone (IBZ), which stretches across the working waterfront of Red Hook, Gowanus and Sunset Park, the Fellow will play a lead role in SBIDC's Industrial District Analysis project that will provide COVID-19 business support. The fellow will also support two community-driven planning projects (in Red Hook and Gowanus) to develop more quality employment opportunities for local residents.

Through this work, the Fellow will have the opportunity to meet and work with a broad spectrum of business owners, community-based organizations, city agencies, and elected officials with whom SBIDC partners.

Tasks will include:

- Delivering services to industrial and manufacturing businesses in the IBZ
- Referring businesses to our evolving programs, including a worker cooperative development initiative
- Engaging with SBIDC's advocacy partners on advancing industrial and manufacturing policy
- Collecting data on IBZ businesses and properties to inform SBIDC programming
- Attending workshops and training sessions, including at NYC Small Business Services (SBS) regarding merchant organizing and business services
- Assisting with SBIDC grant reporting
- Providing research and administrative duties as needed

SBIDC interviews applicants and selects those who best fit the organization's mission and its work. Each fellow is assigned to a staff "mentor" who supervises their work and provides field training and career mentorship.

The position requires a commitment of 15-20 hours per week over the course of four months. The Fellow is paid a stipend of \$2,000 per month, and may have the opportunity to continue with paid work past the four-month mark.

The ideal candidate has:

- A motivation, commitment to, and passion for helping small businesses and the greater Southwest Brooklyn community
- Interest in a career in local economic development
- An alignment with SBIDC's equitable economic development and planning goals
- Familiarity with New York City industrial and economic policy
- Excellent writing and research skills
- Strong analytical skills, including data analysis
- The ability to work remotely as part of an energized and cohesive team
- Knowledge of relevant rezoning proposals, such as the City-led Gowanus Rezoning proposal, is a plus
- Basic computer skills, with familiarity in Salesforce or an equivalent CRM program a plus
- Knowledge of Spanish, Mandarin, or Cantonese is a plus

About SBIDC

Southwest Brooklyn Industrial Development Corporation provides advocacy and services to help businesses in the Sunset Park, Red Hook and Gowanus neighborhoods grow and create employment opportunities for local residents.

We are advocates for industrial employers and businesses because they provide essential support to the New York City economy while creating strong career pathways for residents facing barriers like limited English language proficiency, limited educational attainment, or prior interaction with the criminal justice system.

Our services fall into three primary categories: business services, workforce development, and equitable development planning.

We provide a package of assistance services within the IBZ, helping hundreds of industrial employers annually to secure financing, access cost-saving tax incentives, navigate complicated government agencies, create business plans and streamline operations.

SBIDC also provides workforce services. Since 2016, we have operated the Brooklyn Workforce Industrial and Transportation Career Center at The Brooklyn Army Terminal. And all of our workforce services are geared toward unemployed or underemployed individuals.

Through our leadership roles on citywide and neighborhood-based advocacy coalitions, SBIDC works with elected officials and other champions on policies that support quality employment and the building of career pathways. And in all three of our neighborhoods, SBIDC is playing a lead role in community-driven planning exercises.

To Apply

Interested applicants who have completed at least two semesters of a graduate program in urban planning, public administration or related field should send a resume and brief cover letter as a single PDF (with their name in the PDF's title) to Jesse Solomon, Deputy Director, at

jsolomon@sbidc.org and Cc: Micaela Skoknic at mkoknic@sbidc.org with subject: "SBIDC Industrial Development Fellowship." Applications will be accepted until March 1, 2020, but reviewed on a rolling basis.