Computer programming training firm ramps up Scottsdale presence

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Catalyte CEO Jacob Hsu works with students at a Catalyte training hub.

Provided by Catalyte

<u>Catalyte</u>, a Maryland-based workforce development firm that uses artificial intelligence to screen applicants for potential success in computer programming, is creating a training hub in Scottsdale.

Rob Mansell, chief technology officer for Catalyte, said the firm advertises on job search platforms such as Indeed and

LinkedIn, and applicants complete an assessment to see if they fit the career path. About 10% to 15% of the applicants who complete the assessment are chosen for the program, which provides five months of free training in computer programming, then pairs up the person with a year-long gig at a Catalyte-partnered company. Once the year is over, the company has the option to hire that person. Prospective students do not have to have any programming background.

Catalyte is working with an unidentified Scottsdale company and has 10 students doing training near Loop 101 and Frank Lloyd Wright Boulevard. Catalyte has 20 employees in Scottsdale now, and is in talks with several unidentified larger companies looking to hire from the Catalyte program, Mansell said.

"We believe that there is an enormous amount of talent that goes untapped," Mansell said. "We have the ability to offer companies local talent."

Though Mansell would not divulge the names of any customers, Catalyte has worked with Nike, Cambia Health Solutions, Molson Coors Brewing Company and Media Audits International, according to its website.

Scottsdale is the sixth training hub for Baltimore-based Catalyte.

Mansell said the firm admits students as companies ask for them, but also "keeps a bench" of additional trainees in case a company joins and wants workers right away.

"We take more than we are committed to, then [companies] gobble them up on the other end," he said.