



Are you an Advanced Manufacturing business looking for a new growth opportunity?

What are we doing?

[Jobs for the Future \(JFF\)](#) is working with [Facebook Reality Labs](#) and [Augmentir](#), an augmented reality (AR) technology provider, to explore the potential of using AR for small business employee training. Augmented reality solutions have been found to reduce technician training time by 80% and assembly time by 20%. We believe that over time AR will bring the cost of training down, open up new market opportunities and increase competitiveness for small businesses. This spring 2021, we will be conducting a pilot study and training employees in advanced manufacturing businesses using AR. The study will help us learn more about the needs, opportunities and challenges that exist for AR in small businesses and take some first steps in transforming the small business training market. It is an exciting win-win opportunity for you to strengthen your business and help other small businesses.

We are currently recruiting advanced manufacturing businesses for this pilot.

What is Augmented Reality (AR)?

Augmented reality is a technology that presents digital information, such as data and images, on top of what we see around us (reality) using a device like a smartphone, tablet, or smart glasses. Common applications for augmented reality in advanced manufacturing include:

- **Remote assistance or “see what I see”** - allowing a frontline worker to contact an expert and show photos or video of a situation with machinery or other elements of the work environment, allowing the expert to diagnose issues or recommend fixes without needing to be on site
- **Digital work instructions** - replacing paper or laptop-based instructions for complex assembly or repair with step by step digital instructions, often digitally mapped onto the real object in the physical environment, so the worker clearly sees what step to take next without having to take time consulting a resource

This makes learning new skills and procedures easier and retention higher, because workers are seeing real time instruction within their work environment as they go through work tasks, and not remembering it from a book or a classroom.

AR training solutions are best suited for employees who have some training under their belts and desire to increase their efficiency and effectiveness in key business tasks.



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For examples of AR technology, see:

- **Augmentir demo of remote assistance:**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mJWTmhVejQM>
- **Upskill/Boeing demo of digital work instructions using smart glasses:**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qTbIKJjTadQ>
- **Librestream demo showing a variety of hardware use cases:**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y0jyIDw0RFQ>

Why should your business participate?

[Jobs for the Future](#) (JFF) is a 38 year old national non-profit that promotes socio-economic mobility in education, policy and the workforce. As part of our mission, we develop programs that support the well-being of American workers. Your participation has the potential to give your business a competitive edge, make your business more efficient, lower training costs, help your employees feel more confident in the work they do and open up new opportunities for your business.

Is your business a good fit?

- Advanced Manufacturing businesses with a need for or interest in solutions to increase the skills and efficiency of their frontline workforce, such as making standard operating procedures easier to use or making expert help more accessible
- Businesses with up to 500 employees
- Businesses with approximately 10 or more employees who can and would use an AR solution regularly throughout a typical working week
- Familiarity with smartphones and/or tablets; ideally, these devices are already used in the regular flow of work
- Able to allocate one “champion” in the business to be the main contact and advocate for the pilot within the business
- Stable, high speed internet on site, where several users can simultaneously use a single or multiple connections
- Believe that employee success and retention are at the center of business growth



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What you can expect?

- The pilot will start in spring 2021 and end in summer 2021
- The training is being provided at no cost to your businesses
- The training will be provided through a smartphone/tablet
- JFF and the Augmentir will provide:
 - Onboarding and training for all participating employees
 - Support in promoting this opportunity to your employees
 - Support for you and your employees around creating accounts and using training solutions, including a single “help desk” point of contact
 - Full access to user data and analytics in the AR platform
 - Progress tracking and documentation of insights
- As a participating business, you will be asked to:
 - Provide a single point of contact in your business for pilot management
 - Attend regular check-ins to help JFF gather feedback
 - Help your workers familiarize themselves with the training, create training accounts with training partners, and complete training
 - Help your workers and managers complete a feedback survey at the beginning, middle and end of the pilot
 - Participate in up to two short interviews and feedback sessions

What should you do next?

If you believe you are a good fit for this pilot, contact Jordan Lin at jlin@jff.org and let us know you are interested. Please include your company website, contact name and phone number.

The first steps will be an intake questionnaire that will take you about 15 minutes to complete and then an intake interview with a JFF staff member to ensure you are a good fit for the pilot and will get the best results from your participation.

If you know of any other Advanced Manufacturing businesses that may be interested, please spread the word!