

gig economy jobs chicago

The landscape of work is continuously evolving, and the gig economy jobs Chicago market is a prime example of this transformation. Offering unparalleled flexibility and diverse opportunities, these roles appeal to a broad spectrum of individuals, from those seeking supplemental income to full-time professionals embracing independent work. Chicago, a bustling metropolis with a dynamic economy, presents a fertile ground for gig workers across various sectors, including delivery services, ride-sharing, freelance creative work, and skilled trades. This article will delve into the multifaceted world of gig work in Chicago, exploring the most in-demand sectors, the benefits and challenges associated with these roles, and practical advice for navigating this exciting and often rewarding career path. Understanding the nuances of the Chicago gig economy is crucial for anyone looking to leverage their skills and time for flexible earning potential.

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Understanding the Rise of Gig Economy Jobs in Chicago

The gig economy, characterized by short-term contracts and freelance work as opposed to permanent jobs, has witnessed significant growth globally, and Chicago is no exception. Several factors contribute to this surge, including advancements in technology that facilitate connections between workers and clients, a desire for greater autonomy and work-life balance, and economic shifts that have led to

increased demand for flexible labor solutions. The sheer size and diverse economic base of Chicago make it an ideal testing ground and incubator for these new work models. Businesses in the Windy City are increasingly leveraging gig workers to scale operations, manage fluctuating demand, and access specialized skills without the overhead of traditional employment.

For individuals, the allure of gig work lies in its potential to offer a degree of control over one's schedule and workload. This flexibility is particularly attractive to students, parents, retirees, and those looking to transition careers or pursue passion projects alongside their primary income. The digital age has empowered individuals to market their skills directly to a wider audience, breaking down geographical barriers and fostering a more entrepreneurial spirit within the workforce. The infrastructure and services available in a major city like Chicago further support this growth, with readily available transportation networks and a high concentration of potential clients and employers.

Popular Gig Economy Sectors in Chicago

Chicago's vibrant economy supports a wide array of gig economy opportunities. These roles span across numerous industries, catering to diverse skill sets and interests. Understanding which sectors are most active can help individuals identify promising avenues for their own gig work.

Delivery and Ride-Sharing Services

Perhaps the most visible and accessible segment of the gig economy in Chicago is delivery and ride-sharing. Companies like DoorDash, Uber Eats, Grubhub, Instacart, Uber, and Lyft have established a strong presence, offering immediate earning potential for those with a vehicle and a smartphone. These services are in high demand within the densely populated urban environment and surrounding suburbs of Chicago, fueled by the city's active social scene and busy professional population. The convenience factor for consumers translates directly into consistent work for drivers and couriers.

Freelance Creative and Professional Services

Beyond the immediate service-based gigs, Chicago boasts a thriving ecosystem for freelance creative and professional talent. This includes graphic designers, web developers, content writers, social media managers, photographers, videographers, virtual assistants, and consultants. Platforms like Upwork, Fiverr, and Toptal connect businesses with skilled freelancers for project-based work. The city's strong presence in industries such as advertising, marketing, technology, and finance creates ample opportunities for specialized freelance professionals to find clients and build their portfolios.

Skilled Trades and Home Services

The demand for skilled tradespeople in Chicago is perennial, and the gig economy has opened new doors for independent contractors. Plumbers, electricians, handymen, painters, and cleaning professionals can find work through apps like TaskRabbit or by establishing their own independent client bases. The city's extensive housing stock and commercial properties require ongoing maintenance and renovation, ensuring a steady stream of potential projects for those with the requisite expertise and certifications.

Event Staffing and Hospitality

Chicago is a major hub for events, conferences, and conventions, creating a significant demand for temporary and on-call staffing. Gig roles in this sector can include event setup and breakdown, catering staff, ushers, brand ambassadors, and administrative support for events. These opportunities are often project-based and can offer a dynamic work environment for individuals who thrive in fast-paced settings.

Benefits of Pursuing Gig Economy Work in Chicago

The appeal of gig economy jobs in Chicago is rooted in a series of compelling advantages that resonate with a modern workforce seeking more control and flexibility. These benefits extend beyond mere income generation, touching upon personal and professional development as well.

Flexibility and Autonomy

The paramount benefit of gig work is the unparalleled flexibility it offers. Gig workers in Chicago can often set their own hours, choose which projects to accept, and work from locations that suit them best. This autonomy allows for better work-life integration, making it easier to manage personal responsibilities, pursue educational goals, or simply have more control over one's daily schedule. For instance, a parent might choose to work only during school hours, or a student can align their work around class schedules.

Diverse Earning Opportunities

The gig economy in Chicago is not a one-size-fits-all proposition. It provides a diverse range of earning avenues, allowing individuals to leverage multiple skills or explore new ones. One might start with ride-sharing to supplement income and then branch out into freelance writing or event staffing. This diversification can lead to a more stable overall income stream, reducing reliance on a single source of work and providing a buffer against economic fluctuations.

Skill Development and Portfolio Building

Engaging in various gig projects offers a unique opportunity for continuous skill development and

portfolio enhancement. By taking on different types of assignments, gig workers can acquire new competencies, refine existing skills, and build a robust portfolio showcasing their capabilities to future clients or employers. This is particularly valuable in creative and technical fields where practical experience is highly prized.

Potential for Higher Earnings

While not always guaranteed, many gig economy jobs in Chicago offer the potential for higher hourly earnings than traditional employment, especially for individuals with in-demand skills or those who work efficiently. By setting their own rates, taking advantage of peak demand times, and building a strong reputation, gig workers can often command competitive compensation for their services.

Challenges and Considerations for Gig Workers in Chicago

While the gig economy offers numerous advantages, it is essential to acknowledge and prepare for the inherent challenges. A realistic understanding of these aspects is crucial for long-term success and sustainability in the Chicago gig market.

Income Instability and Unpredictability

One of the most significant challenges is the lack of a guaranteed, consistent income. Gig earnings can fluctuate significantly based on demand, seasonality, and the availability of work. This unpredictability requires diligent financial planning, including budgeting for lean periods and maintaining an emergency fund. Unlike traditional employment, there are no predictable paychecks, making it difficult for some to manage personal finances and long-term financial goals.

Lack of Benefits and Protections

Gig workers typically do not receive traditional employee benefits such as health insurance, paid time off, retirement plans, or workers' compensation. This means individuals are responsible for securing their own health coverage, saving for retirement, and covering expenses during illness or injury. The absence of these safety nets can create a sense of vulnerability and financial insecurity.

Self-Discipline and Time Management

The autonomy of gig work demands a high degree of self-discipline and effective time management. Without a boss or set schedule, it's easy to fall into patterns of procrastination or overworking. Gig workers must be proactive in setting personal deadlines, maintaining motivation, and avoiding distractions to ensure productivity and meet client expectations. Developing a structured routine, even a flexible one, is often key to success.

Tax Obligations and Record Keeping

Gig workers are generally classified as independent contractors and are responsible for managing their own taxes. This includes tracking income, deducting eligible business expenses, and making estimated tax payments throughout the year. Neglecting these responsibilities can lead to penalties and a significant tax burden. Maintaining meticulous records of all income and expenses is paramount.

Finding and Securing Gig Economy Jobs in Chicago

Navigating the Chicago gig economy requires a strategic approach to identifying opportunities and presenting oneself effectively. Several avenues and tactics can be employed to secure a steady

stream of work.

Leveraging Gig Economy Platforms

Online platforms are the most common entry point for many gig workers. Websites and apps like Uber, Lyft, DoorDash, Grubhub, Instacart, TaskRabbit, Upwork, Fiverr, and specialized industry job boards are essential tools. Thoroughly researching these platforms, understanding their requirements, and creating compelling profiles or applications is the first step.

Networking and Referrals

Building a professional network is crucial, even in the gig economy. Attending industry events, connecting with other freelancers, and letting friends and former colleagues know about your availability can lead to valuable leads and referrals. Word-of-mouth recommendations are often the most effective way to secure higher-paying and more substantial projects. Active participation in Chicago's professional communities can open unexpected doors.

Developing a Strong Online Presence

For freelancers and those offering professional services, a strong online presence is non-negotiable. This includes a professional website or portfolio, active social media profiles relevant to your industry, and engagement on professional networking sites. Showcasing your skills, past projects, and client testimonials can significantly enhance your credibility and attract potential clients.

Understanding Contracts and Agreements

Before accepting any gig, it is vital to thoroughly understand the terms of the contract or agreement. This includes clarifying scope of work, payment terms, deadlines, deliverables, and any clauses related to intellectual property or cancellation. Seeking legal advice for complex or high-value contracts might be advisable to protect your interests.

Maximizing Your Earnings and Success in the Chicago Gig Economy

Succeeding in the competitive Chicago gig economy requires more than just finding work; it involves strategic optimization of your efforts to increase earnings and build a sustainable career. This includes continuous learning, efficient operations, and excellent client management.

Specialization and Upskilling

While it's good to have a broad range of skills, specializing in a niche can often lead to higher demand and better rates. Continuously investing in learning new skills or deepening existing expertise through online courses, workshops, or certifications can make you a more valuable asset to clients. Staying abreast of industry trends in Chicago's key sectors will inform your upskilling efforts.

Efficient Time Management and Productivity

For service-based gigs like delivery or ride-sharing, optimizing routes, working during peak hours, and minimizing downtime are crucial for maximizing earnings. For freelance professionals, efficient project

management, clear communication, and timely delivery are key to repeat business and positive reviews. Utilizing productivity tools and techniques can significantly boost your output and profitability.

Customer Service and Reputation Management

In the gig economy, your reputation is everything. Providing excellent customer service, being reliable, and delivering high-quality work consistently will lead to positive reviews and word-of-mouth referrals. Actively solicit feedback and use it to improve your services. A strong reputation can be the differentiating factor in securing more and better-paying gigs in Chicago.

Financial Management and Diversification

Effective financial planning is critical for gig workers. This includes setting income goals, tracking expenses diligently for tax purposes, and diversifying income streams. Relying on multiple platforms or offering a variety of services can create a more resilient income profile. Consider investing a portion of your earnings to build long-term financial security.

The Future Outlook for Gig Economy Jobs in Chicago

The trajectory of gig economy jobs in Chicago points towards continued growth and evolution. As technology advances and societal preferences shift towards greater flexibility, the demand for independent work is likely to remain robust. We can anticipate an expansion of gig opportunities into more specialized fields, with increased integration of AI and automation shaping how some tasks are performed. Regulatory landscapes may also evolve, potentially offering more protections or defining new classifications for gig workers.

Chicago, with its dynamic economic environment and innovative spirit, is well-positioned to remain a leading hub for gig work. The city's ongoing development in sectors like tech, healthcare, and creative industries will continue to generate diverse freelance and contract opportunities. Individuals who are adaptable, proactive in skill development, and adept at managing their independent careers will find a wealth of possibilities within the burgeoning gig economy of Chicago for years to come.

FAQ

Q: What are the most popular types of gig economy jobs available in Chicago right now?

A: Currently, the most popular gig economy jobs in Chicago include delivery services (food, groceries), ride-sharing, freelance writing and graphic design, virtual assistant roles, and skilled trades such as handyman and cleaning services. Event staffing and pet-sitting also see consistent demand.

Q: How can I find legitimate gig economy jobs in Chicago and avoid scams?

A: To find legitimate gig economy jobs in Chicago, focus on reputable platforms like Uber, DoorDash, Upwork, and TaskRabbit. Be wary of any job that asks for upfront payment, requests sensitive personal information immediately, or offers unrealistically high pay for simple tasks. Thoroughly research companies and read reviews before committing.

Q: What are the typical payment structures for gig economy jobs in Chicago?

A: Payment structures vary widely. Delivery and ride-sharing jobs are typically paid per trip or delivery, often with bonuses for peak hours or high demand. Freelance roles are usually paid per project, per hour, or on retainer. Some platforms offer weekly or bi-weekly payouts, while others allow for

immediate withdrawals.

Q: Do I need any special licenses or insurance to perform gig economy jobs in Chicago?

A: For ride-sharing and delivery jobs, a valid driver's license and insurance are usually required, and companies may have specific vehicle requirements. For skilled trades, relevant professional licenses and insurance are often necessary. For freelance professional services, while formal licenses might not be mandatory, professional liability insurance can be a wise investment.

Q: How can I manage my taxes as a gig economy worker in Chicago?

A: As an independent contractor, you are responsible for your own taxes. This means tracking all income and eligible business expenses meticulously. It is recommended to set aside a percentage of each payment for taxes and to make estimated tax payments quarterly to the IRS and Illinois Department of Revenue to avoid penalties. Consulting with a tax professional specializing in freelance income is highly advisable.

Q: What is the earning potential for common gig economy jobs in Chicago?

A: Earning potential in Chicago's gig economy varies significantly. Entry-level delivery and ride-sharing roles might range from \$15-\$25 per hour before expenses, depending on demand and tips. Skilled freelancers with in-demand expertise in areas like web development or digital marketing can command much higher hourly or project rates, sometimes exceeding \$50-\$100 per hour.

Q: Are there any organizations or resources in Chicago that support

gig economy workers?

A: While formal unions for gig workers are still evolving, there are advocacy groups and online communities that offer support, resources, and information for gig workers in Chicago. These groups often share insights on best practices, legal rights, and opportunities. Networking with other gig workers in the city can also provide valuable peer support.

Q: How does the cost of living in Chicago affect the viability of gig economy jobs?

A: The cost of living in Chicago, particularly for housing and transportation, can significantly impact the net earnings from gig economy jobs. While opportunities are abundant, it's crucial to factor in expenses such as gas, vehicle maintenance, insurance, and taxes when assessing the true profitability of these roles. Many gig workers in Chicago find it beneficial to live in areas with lower overhead or to work in higher-paying sectors to offset urban living costs.

Gig Economy Jobs Chicago

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gig economy jobs chicago: Youth, Jobs, and the Future Lynn S. Chancer, Martín Sánchez-Jankowski, Christine Trost, 2019 While overall unemployment has declined, the unemployment rate remains nearly twice as high for young people 16 to 19 years of age and nearly three times as high for those aged 20 to 24. Rates of unemployment and underemployment are nearly two to three times higher for Black and Latino youth. In *Youth, Jobs, and the Future*, Lynn S. Chancer, Martín Sánchez-Jankowski, and Christine Trost have gathered a cast of well-known interdisciplinary scholars to confront the persistent issues of youth unemployment and worsening socio-economic precarity in the United States. The book explores structural and cultural causes of youth unemployment, their ramifications for both native and immigrant youth, and how middle- and working-class youth across diverse races and ethnicities are affected within and outside the legal economy. A needed contribution, this book locates solutions to youth unemployment in economic and political changes as well as changes in cultural attitudes.

gig economy jobs chicago: Work, Pay, and Sustainability Daphne T. Greenwood, 2024-12-09

Daphne Greenwood presents the first comprehensive introduction to pluralist labor economics. She expands the economics toolbox with theories taken from institutionalist, feminist, social, ecological, and stratification economists. Pluralists, she explains, focus on how formal and informal institutions affect the distribution of productivity dividends—and how this has evolved over time. Pluralists are concerned with job quality as well as financial compensation. They acknowledge the modern-day abundance created by technology, but advocate for institutional changes to direct it in equitable and sustainable ways. Building on the work of many heterodox economists, Greenwood introduces wage and employment models that are embedded in the economy, environment, and society. Beginning with evidence on work and pay in the US today, she explains why tools for analyzing commodity exchange are not sufficient for analyzing labor relationships. She brings bargaining power to the fore, analyses dynamic monopsony, and looks at the role of wealth as well as income in framing opportunities. Throughout the book, Greenwood addresses threats to sustainability and equity from unpaid social costs; institutional changes such as financialization and fissured workplaces; as well as race-ethnicity and gender. Among the possibilities explored for improving work and pay are sectoral bargaining, job guarantees, worker-owned cooperatives, and universal basic income. The first undergraduate-friendly book on its topic, *Work, Pay and Sustainability* is an important resource for students and scholars alike.

gig economy jobs chicago: *The Last Human Job* Allison Pugh, 2024-06-04 With the rapid development of artificial intelligence and labor-saving technologies like self-checkouts and automated factories, the future of work has never been more uncertain, and even jobs requiring high levels of human interaction are no longer safe. [This book] explores the human connections that underlie our work, arguing that what people do for each other in these settings is valuable and worth preserving. Drawing on in-depth interviews and observations with people in a broad range of professions--from physicians, teachers, and coaches to chaplains, therapists, caregivers, and hairdressers--Allison Pugh develops the concept of 'connective labor,' a kind of work that relies on empathy, the spontaneity of human contact, and a mutual recognition of each other's humanity

gig economy jobs chicago: *Artificial Intelligence and Work* John Bratton, Laura Steele, 2024-12-04 In an era marked by insecurity from neoliberalism, financial volatility, political instability, regional conflicts, pandemics, and the climate crisis, Artificial Intelligence (AI) is revolutionizing our work, organizations, societies, and the environment. This critical text explores who truly benefits from AI's development and deployment, offering a comprehensive overview of AI's nature, history, and applications. It delves into crucial themes such as the future of work, digitalization, neoliberalism's impact, power dynamics, ethics, inequality, gender, race, intersectional discrimination, and environmental sustainability. Unlike practical machine learning guides, this book examines how AI and AI-based technologies are transforming work, highlighting both benefits and potential harms. Combining critical management and leadership studies with organizational sociology, it addresses societal implications, inequality, ethics, and power often overlooked by other textbooks. John Bratton's lucid and engaging writing style brings a cutting-edge subject to life, blending breadth, critical analysis, and academic rigor. Contemporary examples illustrate AI's real-life implications for organizations and work today, while thought-provoking questions encourage readers to engage with and reflect on the topics throughout. Authored by John Bratton, an Honorary Professor at Queen's University Belfast, and Laura Steele, a Senior Lecturer in Business and Society at Queen's University Belfast, this interdisciplinary text is essential for students studying contemporary and emerging issues in business and management, including AI, business analytics, digitalization, and the future of work. It is also recommended for courses on the sociology of work, ethics, organization studies, management, leadership, and HRM. This book is poised to become an essential textbook for courses on AI, digitalization, and the future of work, making it a valuable resource for students and educators alike.

gig economy jobs chicago: *Professional Work* Elizabeth Gorman, Steven.P Vallas, 2020-10-15 Current challenges to the legitimacy of expert knowledge has caused professional control over knowledge, autonomy at work, orientation toward public service, and social status to have declined.

In this collection, scholars examine the nature of these changes and how they have altered the experience of professional workers.

gig economy jobs chicago: Jobs and the Labor Force of Tomorrow Michael A. Pagano, 2017-09-11 The new volume in the Urban Agenda series addresses the challenges shaping the development of human capital in metropolitan regions. The articles, products of the 2016 Urban Forum at the University of Illinois at Chicago, engage with the overarching idea that a dynamic metropolitan economy needs a diverse, trained, and available workforce that can adapt to the needs of commerce, industry, government, and the service sector. Authors explore provocative issues like the jobless recovery, migration and immigration, K-12 education preparedness, the urban-oriented gig economy, postsecondary workforce training, and the recruitment and professional development of millennials. Contributors: Xochitl Bada, John Bragelman, Laura Dresser, Rudy Faust, Beth Gutelius, Brad Harrington, Gregory V. Larnell, Twyla T. Blackmond Larnell, and Nik Theodore.

gig economy jobs chicago: Work and Labor in the Digital Age Steven P. Vallas, Anne Kovalainen, 2019-07-04 This volume presents the most recent studies of work and labor in the digital age as it unfolds in both Europe and the United States.

gig economy jobs chicago: Ghost Work Mary L. Gray, Siddharth Suri, 2019 A startling exposé of the invisible human workforce that powers the web--and how to bring it out of the shadows. Hidden beneath the surface of the internet, a new, stark reality is looming--one that cuts to the very heart of our endless debates about the impact of AI. Anthropologist Mary L. Gray and computer scientist Siddharth Suri unveil how the services we use from companies like Amazon, Google, Microsoft, and Uber can only function smoothly thanks to the judgment and experience of a vast human labor force that is kept deliberately concealed. The people who do 'ghost work' make the internet seem smart. They perform high-tech, on-demand piecemeal work: flagging X-rated content, proofreading, transcribing audio, confirming identities, captioning video, and much more. The shameful truth is that no labor laws protect them or even acknowledge their existence. They often earn less than legal minimums for traditional work, they have no health benefits, and they can be fired at any time for any reason, or for no reason at all. An estimated 8 percent of Americans have worked in this 'ghost economy,' and that number is growing every day. In this unprecedented investigation, Gray and Suri make the case that robots will never completely eliminate 'ghost work' and the unchecked quest for artificial intelligence could spark catastrophic work conditions if not stopped in its tracks. Ultimately, they show how this essential type of work can create opportunity--rather than misery--for those who do it.--Dust jacket.

gig economy jobs chicago: At Your Service? Gaurav Nayyar, Mary Hallward-Driemeier, Elwyn Davies, 2021-10-18 Manufacturing-led development has provided the traditional model for creating jobs and prosperity. But in the past three decades the conventional pattern of structural transformation has changed, with the services sector growing faster than the manufacturing sector. This raises critical questions about the ability of developing economies to close productivity gaps with advanced economies and to create good jobs for more people. At Your Service? The Promise of Services-Led Development (www.worldbank.org/services-led-development) assesses the scope of a services-driven development model and policy directions that can maximize the model's potential.

gig economy jobs chicago: Issues for Debate in American Public Policy The CQ Researcher, 2017-03-20 This collection of non-partisan reports written by award-winning CQ Researcher journalists focuses on provocative current policy issues. As an annual publication that comes together just months before it goes to press, the volume is all new and as up-to-date as possible. And because it's CQ Researcher, the policy reports are expertly researched and written, showing all sides of an issue. Chapters follow a consistent organization--exploring three issue questions, then offering background, current context, and a look ahead--and feature a pro/con debate box. All issues include a chronology, bibliography, photos, charts, and figures.

gig economy jobs chicago: The Cambridge Handbook of the Changing Nature of Work Brian J. Hoffman, Mindy K. Shoss, Lauren A. Wegman, 2020-04-23 This handbook provides an overview of the research on the changing nature of work and workers by marshalling interdisciplinary research

to summarize the empirical evidence and provide documentation of what has actually changed. Connections are explored between the changing nature of work and macro-level trends in technological change, income inequality, global labor markets, labor unions, organizational forms, and skill polarization, among others. This edited volume also reviews evidence for changes in workers, including generational change (or lack thereof), that has accumulated across domains. Based on documented changes in work and worker behavior, the handbook derives implications for a range of management functions, such as selection, performance management, leadership, workplace ethics, and employee well-being. This evaluation of the extent of changes and their impact gives guidance on what best practices should be put in place to harness these developments to achieve success.

gig economy jobs chicago: The Emergency Thomas Fisher, 2023-03-14 The riveting, pulse-pounding story of a year in the life of an emergency room doctor trying to steer his patients and colleagues through a crushing pandemic and a violent summer, amidst a healthcare system that seems determined to leave them behind “Gripping . . . eloquent . . . This book reminds us how permanently interesting our bodies are, especially when they go wrong.”—The New York Times ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR: Time As an emergency room doctor working on the rapid evaluation unit, Dr. Thomas Fisher has about three minutes to spend with the patients who come into the South Side of Chicago ward where he works before directing them to the next stage of their care. Bleeding: three minutes. Untreated wound that becomes life-threatening: three minutes. Kidney failure: three minutes. He examines his patients inside and out, touches their bodies, comforts and consoles them, and holds their hands on what is often the worst day of their lives. Like them, he grew up on the South Side; this is his community and he grinds day in and day out to heal them. Through twenty years of clinical practice, time as a White House fellow, and work as a healthcare entrepreneur, Dr. Fisher has seen firsthand how our country’s healthcare system can reflect the worst of society: treating the poor as expendable in order to provide top-notch care to a few. In *The Emergency*, Fisher brings us through his shift, as he works with limited time and resources to treat incoming patients. And when he goes home, he remains haunted by what he sees throughout his day. The brutal wait times, the disconnect between hospital executives and policymakers and the people they’re supposed to serve, and the inaccessible solutions that could help his patients. To cope with the relentless onslaught exacerbated by the pandemic, Fisher begins writing letters to patients and colleagues—letters he will never send—explaining it all to them as best he can. As fast-paced as an ER shift, *The Emergency* has all the elements that make doctors’ stories so compelling—the high stakes, the fascinating science and practice of medicine, the deep and fraught interactions between patients and doctors, the persistent contemplation of mortality. And, with the rare dual perspective of somebody who also has his hands deep in policy work, Fisher connects these human stories to the sometimes-cruel machinery of care. Beautifully written, vulnerable and deeply empathetic, *The Emergency* is a call for reform that offers a fresh vision of health care as a foundation of social justice.

gig economy jobs chicago: The Routledge Handbook of Feminist Economics Günseli Berik, Ebru Kongar, 2021-05-23 The Routledge Handbook of Feminist Economics presents a comprehensive overview of the contributions of feminist economics to the discipline of economics and beyond. Each chapter situates the topic within the history of the field, reflects upon current debates, and looks forward to identify cutting-edge research. Consistent with feminist economics’ goal of strong objectivity, this Handbook compiles contributions from different traditions in feminist economics (including but not limited to Marxian political economy, institutionalist economics, ecological economics and neoclassical economics) and from different disciplines (such as economics, philosophy and political science). The Handbook delineates the social provisioning methodology and highlights its insights for the development of feminist economics. The contributors are a diverse mix of established and rising scholars of feminist economics from around the globe who skilfully frame the current state and future direction of feminist economic scholarship. This carefully crafted volume will be an essential resource for researchers and instructors of feminist economics.

gig economy jobs chicago: Trans Bodies, Trans Selves Laura Erickson-Schroth, 2022 Now in a new, thoroughly updated edition, *Trans Bodies, Trans Selves* remains a revolutionary resource—a comprehensive, reader-friendly guide for transgender people, with each chapter written by transgender and gender expansive authors.

gig economy jobs chicago: Guerilla Furniture Design Will Holman, 2015-03-31 Build stylish and functional furniture from salvaged materials. This innovative guide presents dozens of strategies for upcycling scrap cardboard, metal, plastic, or wood into dependable shelving units, sturdy tables, and fun lamps. With directions for 35 easy and inexpensive projects that include a Cardboard Cantilever Chair, a License Plate Bowl, a Conduit Coatrack, and much more, you'll be inspired to start filling your home with unique high-style furniture that makes sense for both your wallet and the environment.

gig economy jobs chicago: The Cambridge Handbook of U.S. Labor Law for the Twenty-First Century Richard Bales, Charlotte Garden, 2019-12-05 Over the last fifty years in the United States, unions have been in deep decline, while income and wealth inequality have grown. In this timely work, editors Richard Bales and Charlotte Garden - with a roster of thirty-five leading labor scholars - analyze these trends and show how they are linked. Designed to appeal to those being introduced to the field as well as experts seeking new insights, this book demonstrates how federal labor law is failing today's workers and disempowering unions; how union jobs pay better than nonunion jobs and help to increase the wages of even nonunion workers; and how, when union jobs vanish, the wage premium also vanishes. At the same time, the book offers a range of solutions, from the radical, such as a complete overhaul of federal labor law, to the incremental, including reforms that could be undertaken by federal agencies on their own.

gig economy jobs chicago: Data and Democracy at Work Brishen Rogers, 2023-03-21 An exploration of how major companies have used advanced information technologies to limit worker power, and how labor law reform could reverse that trend. As our economy has shifted away from industrial production and service industries have become dominant, many of the nation's largest employers are now in fields like retail, food service, logistics, and hospitality. These companies have turned to data-driven surveillance technologies that operate over a vast distance, enabling cheaper oversight of massive numbers of workers. *Data and Democracy at Work* argues that companies often use new data-driven technologies as a power resource—or even a tool of class domination—and that our labor laws allow them to do so. Employers have established broad rights to use technology to gather data on workers and their performance, to exclude others from accessing that data, and to use that data to refine their managerial strategies. Through these means, companies have suppressed workers' ability to organize and unionize, thereby driving down wages and eroding working conditions. Labor law today encourages employer dominance in many ways—but labor law can also be reformed to become a tool for increased equity. The COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent Great Resignation have indicated an increased political mobilization of the so-called essential workers of the pandemic, many of them service industry workers. This book describes the necessary legal reforms to increase workers' associational power and democratize workplace data, establishing more balanced relationships between workers and employers and ensuring a brighter and more equitable future for us all.

gig economy jobs chicago: Education and Technological Unemployment Michael A. Peters, Petar Jandrić, Alexander J. Means, 2019-04-29 This book examines the challenge of accelerating automation, and argues that countering and adapting to this challenge requires new methodological, philosophical, scientific, sociological, economic, ethical, and political perspectives that fundamentally rethink the categories of work and education. What is required is political will and social vision to respond to the question: What is the role of education in a digital age characterized by potential mass technological unemployment? Today's technologies are beginning to cost more jobs than they create - and this trend will continue. There have been many proposed solutions to this problem, and they invariably involve an educational vision. Yet, in a world that simply doesn't offer enough work for everyone, education is clearly not a panacea for technological

unemployment. This collection presents responses to this question from a wide spectrum of disciplines, including but not limited to education studies, philosophy, history, politics, sociology, psychology, and economics.

gig economy jobs chicago: *You Are What You Risk* Michele Wucker, 2021-04-06 The #1 international bestselling author of *The Gray Rhino* offers a bold new framework for understanding and re-shaping our relationship with risk and uncertainty to live more productive and successful lives. What drives a sixty-four-year-old woman to hurl herself over Niagara Falls in a barrel? Why do we often create bigger risks than the risks we try to avoid? Why are corporate boards newly worried about risky personal behavior by CEOs? Why are some nations quicker than others to recognize and manage risks like pandemics, technological change, and climate crisis? The answers define each person, organization, and society as distinctively as a fingerprint. Understanding the often-surprising origins of these risk fingerprints can open your eyes, inspire new habits, catalyze innovation and creativity, improve teamwork, and provide a beacon in a world that seems suddenly more uncertain than ever. How you see risk and what you do about it depend on your personality and experiences. How you make these cost-benefit calculations depend on your culture, your values, the people in the room, and even unexpected things like what you've eaten recently, the temperature, the music playing, or the fragrance in the air. Being alert to these often-unconscious influences will help you to seize opportunity and avoid danger. *You Are What You Risk* is a clarion call for an entirely new conversation about our relationship with risk and uncertainty. In this ground-breaking, accessible and eminently timely book, Michele Wucker examines why it's so important to understand your risk fingerprint and how to make your risk relationship work better in business, life, and the world. Drawing on compelling risk stories around the world and weaving in economics, anthropology, sociology, and psychology research, Wucker bridges the divide between professional and lay risk conversations. She challenges stereotypes about risk attitudes, re-frames how gender and risk are related, and shines new light on generational differences. She shows how the new science of "risk personality" is re-shaping business and finance, how healthy risk ecosystems support economies and societies, and why embracing risk empathy can resolve conflicts. Wucker shares insights, practical tools, and proven strategies that will help you to understand what makes you who you are –and, in turn, to make better choices, both big and small.

gig economy jobs chicago: *Making the Cut* David Pedulla, 2022-08-09 An in-depth look at how employers today perceive and evaluate job applicants with nonstandard or precarious employment histories Millions of workers today labor in nontraditional situations involving part-time work, temporary agency employment, and skills underutilization or face the precariousness of long-term unemployment. To date, research has largely focused on how these experiences shape workers' well-being, rather than how hiring agents perceive and treat job applicants who have moved through these positions. Shifting the focus from workers to hiring agents, *Making the Cut* explores how key gatekeepers—HR managers, recruiters, and talent acquisition specialists—evaluate workers with nonstandard, mismatched, or precarious employment experience. Factoring in the social groups to which workers belong—such as their race and gender—David Pedulla shows how workers get jobs, how the hiring process unfolds, who makes the cut, and who does not. Drawing on a field experiment examining hiring decisions in four occupational groups and in-depth interviews with hiring agents in the United States, Pedulla documents and unpacks three important discoveries. Hiring professionals extract distinct meanings from different types of employment experiences; the effects of nonstandard, mismatched, and precarious employment histories for workers' job outcomes are not all the same; and the race and gender of workers intersect with their employment histories to shape which workers get called back for jobs. Indeed, hiring professionals use group-based stereotypes to weave divergent narratives or "stratified stories" about workers with similar employment experiences. The result is a complex set of inequalities in the labor market. Looking at bias and discrimination, social exclusion in the workplace, and the changing nature of work, *Making the Cut* probes the hiring process and offers a clearer picture of the underpinnings of getting a job in the new economy.

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