



WHAT IS PUBLIC INTEREST TECHNOLOGY?

Public interest technology (PIT) is the study and application of technology expertise to advance the public interest. This includes all the goods and services communities rely on, like healthcare, education, housing, food, voting rights, security, clean water, healthy ecosystems and more.

PIT involves many disciplines from computer science to art, and promotes justice, dignity and autonomy for all - especially those most impacted by technology's harms.

PIT IN ACTION

PIT can take many forms across many professional fields and areas of human life, including:

PIT IS INTERDISCIPLINARY

Technology is too often created with the ideas and tools of only one or two professional fields, which prevents us from anticipating possible harms and designing for the public interest. PIT requires collaboration across many disciplines, including:

SCIENCES

- AI
- Biotechnology
- Computer Science
- Cybersecurity
- Data Science or Analytics
- Engineering
- Environmental Science
- Information Technology
- Information Science

SOCIAL SCIENCE & HUMANITIES

- Anthropology
- Art & Design
- Education
- Government / Public Policy
- International Relations
- Journalism & Communication
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Science, Technology & Society (STS)
- UX / Human-Centered Design

ACADEMIA:

- Research and teaching on the effects of technology.
- Community Engagement



GOVERNMENT:

- Digital service delivery
- Government tech
- Law enforcement
- Public policy
- Regulatory oversight



INDUSTRY:

- Product Management
- Trust & Safety
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
- Elections Integrity



NONPROFITS:

- Advocacy
- Civil & Human Rights
- Human Services
- Public



HOW DO I GET INTO PIT?

BUILD THESE SKILLS:

Human-Centered Design	Collaborating across cultures and disciplines
Translating technical systems into simple language	Gathering and applying community feedback

READ THESE BOOKS:



The Tech that Comes Next
by A. Bruce & A. Sample-Ward



Power to the Public
by H. Schank & T. Dawson-McGuinness



Recoding America
by Jennifer Pahlka

EXPLORE THESE FIELDS:

- **Computer Sciences:** AI, Cybersecurity, Data Science, Software Engineering
- **Social Sciences:** Anthropology, Sociology, Psychology, Public Policy
- **Arts & Humanities:** Art, Communication, Education, Human Rights, Philosophy.

SEARCH THESE JOB BOARDS:

- [Responsible Tech](#)
- [Tech Jobs for Good](#)
- [TheBridge](#)
- [Code for America](#)
- [WeAreImpactful](#)
- [USAJOBS](#)
- [Fast Forward](#)
- [All Hands](#)
- [Diversify Tech](#)
- [Higher Ground Labs](#)

