

# A Blockchain of Opportunity



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You have probably heard of cryptocurrency and its rapidly growing popularity, but how much do you know about the technology that underlies it? A fascinating technology that makes cryptocurrency possible, Blockchain is also a useful, widely applicable concept. This makes it an area of the tech sector that holds enormous potential for job seekers and companies alike.

## What is blockchain?

According to [IBM](#), blockchain is literally data gathered into “blocks” and then “chained” together. Specifically, this data represents the recorded value of each transaction. Called ledger technology because it keeps a record of transactions like a regular ledger, blockchain has the main benefit of providing excellent security. It makes possible transactions that remain restricted to the eyes of those within the network, none of whom can alter it.

Put simply, blockchain is what MIT’s Technology Review defines as a [distributed, decentralized ledger technology](#). Let’s break down what that means. It is called decentralized because there is

no one entity facilitating, storing, and validating transactions, and it is distributed because many individuals called “nodes” or miners connect it together. Each new addition requires solving a mathematical puzzle which references past ones for verification. This gives it a unique position in the chain that cannot be replicated, altered, or faked.

## **Why would one want to do that?**

Ledgers are normally used in finance, so it's no surprise when the MIT article says blockchain was originally created to facilitate secure financial transactions involving cryptocurrency, hence why you may be most familiar with its application in that context. However, this is far from the only use today. Its use expanded to other fields and quickly proved quite versatile, having a wide range of potential applications in peer-to-peer business transactions across many different sectors.

## **Where did it come from?**

[First conceptualized in 2009](#) by Satoshi Nakamoto as a way for individuals to conduct transactions directly without going through a single third party mediator, it soon expanded beyond its initial application to act as a sort of universal and [versatile value holder](#). Any value, such as whether or not a contract had been satisfied, could potentially make up part of a block in the chain. This is why its applications are not limited to the world of finance.

## **Where is it going?**

According to one Forbes article by [Bernard Marr](#), startups and established companies alike have begun exploring blockchain tech applications in fields such as “healthcare, insurance, and manufacturing”. They will need blockchain developers (also known as blockchain engineers), project managers, designers, quality engineers, and legal consultants. These skills are already in demand and will become increasingly so as companies move forward with their plans.

Computerworld reporter [Lucas Mearian](#) elaborated further, saying that “About 23% of larger enterprises are now actively working on Blockchain apps and they will typically hire a project manager, one or two application designers, and two to four developers – all with prior blockchain experience.” He says that great opportunity awaits those who get into this field now while it is in its infancy, as the competition hasn't heated up yet. This means the salaries are particularly high and you are likely to be promoted.

To continue that point, if you get enter the blockchain industry early, you will have much more experience than any newcomers deciding to join the business only once the lucrative nature of blockchain has become well known and established. We presently live in a time somewhat like the early days of personal computers in that the technology is young and the potential applications have not been fully realized or explored yet. So, if you get into it now and learn all you can early in the game, you will be setting yourself up to become an expert later on when it

matters most. You will have connections and experience that others won't. Everyone else will have to catch up. They may even look to you for guidance as a seasoned blockchain professional. It's truly a world of opportunity right now.

## **Why should one get into it?**

There are many reasons why now is a great time to get into blockchain. As Insights writer [Yael Grauer](#) points out, this job occupies the forefront of many rapidly growing fields, and it relies heavily on skills that will likely increase in demand and relevance in a diverse range of industries for some time to come. She reports that it hones widely valued skills like "cryptography, security, and distributed systems". In other words, you'll gain very resilient, versatile, widely applicable experience and skills by getting a job in blockchain. You needn't fear getting pegged into one type of job due to cultivating only a very niche skill set applicable only to one narrow field. On the contrary, this will serve as a boost to your career that others will simply not have. Grauer suggests that you take time to understand the inner workings of blockchain, get some experience in open-source projects to get ahead of the competition, network with others, and keep up on blockchain news.

## **How can one get into it?**

Guest *Entrepreneur* writer [Nikolai Kuznetsov](#) agrees with Grauer that understanding blockchain is essential to getting a job in the industry, and he goes one further by saying that demonstrable skills often carry more weight with employers than holding up a degree. He posits that in this rapidly growing and changing field, you should be prepared to expand and hone those skills constantly and generally think out of the box when it comes to getting into blockchain because, as with many emerging jobs today, the old rules may not apply.

He suggests that you begin by familiarizing yourself with the [terminology](#). Learn everything you can about blockchain and understand its unique place in the tech world. Become an expert in the programming languages often used for blockchain, learn about cryptography (which is a critical component of blockchain tech, after all), read about the principles of computing, and pick up leadership skills. The opportunity exists, just waiting for whomever will pursue it, and its reward is whatever you choose to make of it. So get out there and start making a name for yourself!

## **How can Jobariam help?**

Jobariam provides a unique and convenient platform for those seeking a job in blockchain so they can network with companies that are actively seeking employees to help them utilize it. Both parties streamline their search process this way. Companies know they are connecting with candidates with a specific, serious interest in blockchain, and job seekers can quickly see which companies are looking hire in the blockchain tech sector. No fuss or unrelated background noise, just focused results so you can focus on finding the best match.

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