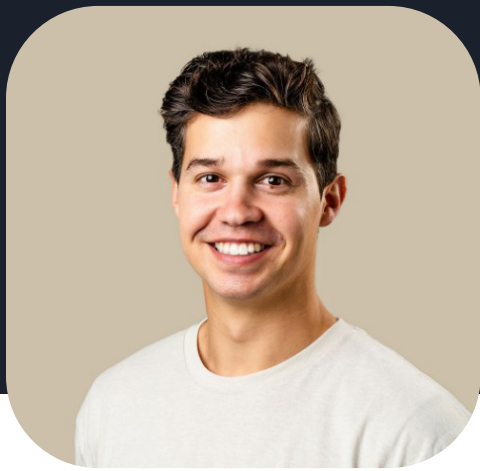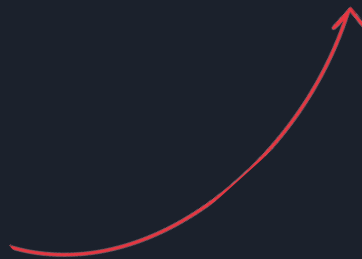# Lambda School Graduate
Leads the Launch of Bill Pay at Divvy

Antonio Melendez
Software Engineer, Divvy

Divvy, the Utah-based business expense management platform, has become a leader in the fintech industry in just three years. In that time, the company, which just closed a $200 million Series C, has grown its engineering team from a handful of senior developers to over 100 engineers, many of whom joined the company as junior-level employees.

The team was initially torn about whether they had the bandwidth and team composition to hire junior engineers, who tend to be a bigger company investment of training, development, and mentorship. But Divvy also knew that there are huge benefits to hiring junior developers beyond just salary cost savings. Junior staff can grow into leads, and as senior-level employees become mentors, they grow, too.

Lambda

"Lambda affords their students more opportunity to learn hands-on and in teams, intentionally diversifies their experience, and instills a foundation of learning how to learn."

Teamwork, learning how to learn, and "finish line mindset" are all defining principles at Divvy. These qualities are what Senior Vice President of Engineering Greg Larson and Director of Engineering Paul Chatterton, look for when they're hiring new talent. The team is scaling, every engineer at Divvy needs to know how to work collaboratively, be self-motivated, and know how to take a project from ideation to completion. But as the team began hiring for junior-level engineers, it proved challenging to find talent with all of those capabilities.

It became clear that they had to seek nontraditional channels to fill their demand. That's when they found Lambda School.

"The big difference between Lambda School grads and bootcamp grads is that they're more serious and dedicated about their career, due in large part to the length and grit of their program. Lambda affords their students more opportunity to learn hands-on and in teams, intentionally diversifies their experience, and instills a foundation of learning how to learn. In all, Lambda does a better job preparing engineers for the real world."

– Paul Chatterton, Director of Engineering

One such graduate is Antonio Melendez, who spent five years trying to finish a computer science degree while working part time before making the switch to Lambda School. His biggest fear was earning a degree and still not feeling prepared for a real coding job, but Lambda taught him the critical technical skills he needed and provided coaching on how to secure a job after graduation, something he felt was lacking in his university program.

Λ Lambda

Antonio has been an engineer at Divvy for over a year and a half now. From day one, he was technically sharp and able to contribute right away, but it was his growth mindset that set him apart from the pack.

> "At Divvy, culture is huge. If someone joins the team and has the motivation and drive to learn, that's all we need. Lambda has been able to quickly recognize what teams are looking for and built it into their curriculum. Antonio is comfortable facing hard challenges, learning new languages quickly, and seeking opportunities to show leadership. Like many other Lambda grads, Antonio had the opportunity to mentor younger developers and he brought that invaluable skill set to our team here."
>
> **– Greg Larson,** Senior Vice President of Engineering

Antonio recently helped Divvy launch Bill Pay, a new solution designed to provide better visibility into budgets along with total company-wide spend. It was a critical feature that required a lot of work to deploy, and at the time, the team only had four developers available to work on the project. With the technical skills he gained at Lambda School and the supportive culture at Divvy, Antonio led the team to a successful launch of the new feature.

> "I really enjoy work every day. I have great coworkers. I feel really excited about where the company is going. I feel accomplished each day. It feels like every merge request makes a big impact on the product."
>
> **– Antonio Melendez,** Software Engineer

Note: Lambda School is a Divvy customer. We love and use Divvy to track expenses across our business, and we're proud to count them as one of our Hiring Partners.

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