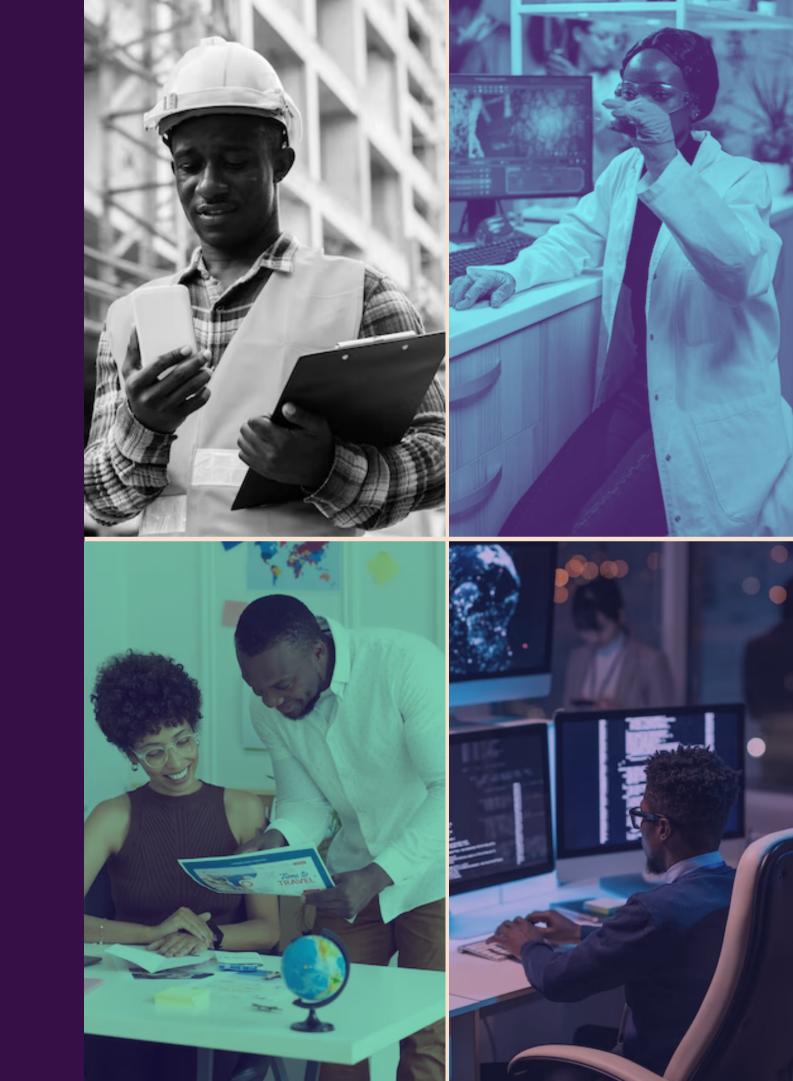


# Afterschool STEM Mentoring Program

Mentees Guide





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# **Afterschool STEM Mentoring Program**Mentors Guide

#### Program purpose

The Afterschool STEM Mentoring Program will support students interested in STEM and provide them a sense of direction to further their education or professional experiences. High school students will be connected with mentors who are university students and industry professionals across West Africa.

Mentors can support students by providing academic and career guidance, coaching on development areas, offering advice, and serving as a sounding board for career decisions. Through the mentoring program, we aim to inspire students to begin and continue their journey in STEM, develop critical thinking skills and confidence, and inform students of the transformative opportunities in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

### **Program structure**

#### Program format and time commitment

The program will include both 1-on-1 mentoring sessions with your mentee, a capstone project and group events. The format of the mentoring sessions are 100% virtual and topics are available to help guide the mentoring sessions. We want you to get the most out of the mentoring program, so please feel free to engage with your mentor on various topics to ensure your development needs are addressed. Ensure you complete your capstone project on time and work effectively in your teams

#### **Program timeframe**

The mentorship program will run for 10 weeks (Please check https://afriteqacademy.com/afterschool-stemmentoring-program/ for program dates). The intake size will depend on mentor availability for each intake.



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## Benefits of the program

There are many benefits to having a mentor. Mentors can inspire, motivate and support you to achieve your goals. Mentoring is an excellent way for you to:

- Be more informed about undergraduate, postgraduate and career options (including alternative career paths)
- Gain more practical insight into how to use the skills you learn at school / college
- Access to advice and perspective from someone who has been in the same position as you
- Develop networks before entering the work environment
- Increase your confidence in networking and professional communication skills

## Participation eligibility and selection

To be eligible for the Afterschool STEM Mentoring Program, mentees must:

- Complete an application questionnaire at https://afriteqacademy.com/afterschool-stemmentoring-program/ to ensure effective mentor matching
- Be a student in a grade between 9-12 in a Nigerian school
- (If under 18) obtain parents' permission to participate in the mentoring program
- Demonstrated passion and interest in STEM



#### **Afterschool STEM Mentoring Program**

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## Participation responsibility and roles

For you to make the most out of the program as a mentor, we recommend you follow the best practices below:

- Be an active listener
- Help your mentee be prepared
- Communicate, communicate, communicate
- Honor your commitment to the program
- Expect support, not miracles
- A thank you goes a long way!



## Your mentoring objectives

#### Overall, your mentoring objectives should include:

- With your Mentor, establish specific goals and objectives for the mentoring relationship.
- Take responsibility for achieving your developmental goals.
- Ask questions of your Mentor, trusting that if they don't know the answer, they will know where to find it!
- Be open-minded and take advantage of the opportunity to be exposed to new things, even if it is not your "thing".
  Share interests with your Mentor.
- Receive all feedback graciously and implement as appropriate.
- Seek clarification on any points not understood.
- Attend required meetings and meet commitments made to your Mentor

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### **Your Capstone Project**

Students will be placed in teams to work together to develop STEM solutions to a global problem. project topics will be given based on their interests and career ambitions.

The capstone project will be presented submitted towards the end of the program. Participants will be awarded a certificate of achievement after completion of the program.

#### **FAQs**

# How do you decide which students are matched with a mentor?

High school students who demonstrate an interest in STEM.

#### Is there financial requirement for the program?

No, the 10-weeks program is FREE.

#### Can I choose my mentor?

You cannot specifically choose your mentor, but we will try our best to find the right match for you based off of your mentor preferences. Our mentor pool consists of some of the best STEM professionals in West Africa.

# I want a mentor from a particular background / industry / gender – is this possible?

You can submit any preferences you would like, and we will work to find the best matching mentor for you.

# What if my mentor does not reply or is not motivated?

Please contact the programme coordinator for a solution.

# What if I can't attend a session with my mentor?

If you are unable to attend a session with your mentor, kindly notify your mentor of the scheduling conflict at least 24 hours in advance, allowing for the opportunity to reschedule the session accordingly.



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#### **Contact us**

If you have any additional questions about the program, please contact the mentoring program team at afriteqacademy@gmail.com.

Please expect **48 hours** response time to your query. We look forward to having you in the program