



Mentor Expression of Interest

Six-month mentoring program for the 2020 digIT digital technologies outreach program

This is a rewarding opportunity to give back and promote the ICT industry, related careers and study options to underrepresented high school students.

Get involved, express your interest via our [online form](#).

digIT BACKGROUND

The **ICT Summer Schools initiative** (digIT) is funded by the Commonwealth of Australia through the Department of Education. It is part of the National Innovation and Science Agenda's 'Inspiring all Australians in digital literacy and STEM' measure, which aims to increase the participation of young Australians in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and to improve their digital literacy. The measure has a specific focus on tackling the digital divide to ensure that those students most at risk of falling behind in the digital age are given opportunities to participate and engage at all levels of education.

digIT is aimed at capable students from groups which are under-represented in ICT learning areas and may be at risk of not benefiting from the Australian Curriculum: Digital Technologies. We focus on algorithmic thinking by developing students problem solving and coding skills, moving students from technology consumers to creators.

digIT 2020

We have invited 60 students from NT, QLD and northern NSW. Students are in years 9 and 10 (in 2020) and have an interest in ICT learning areas.

The students will:

- have an interest in furthering their knowledge, skills and understanding of ICT
- be curious and have a love of learning
- have potential but may lack confidence in their own abilities
- be willing to engage
- have the maturity to live away from home for four nights

The program will consist of:

SUMMER CAMP

Mon 20 January – Fri 24 January 2020

MENTORING PROGRAM

January to July 2020

WINTER CAMP

Mon 6 July – Thu 9 July 2020



The camps will enable students to explore different aspects of ICT through guest lectures, practical workshops in robotics, programming (Python), game and web design (HTML) and field trips.

About the Australian Maths Trust

The Australian Maths Trust (AMT) is a national not-for-profit organisation whose vision is to build a nation of creative problem solvers. The AMT holds mathematics and informatics competitions, administers enrichment activities, conducts workshops for students and teachers, and publishes books on mathematical enrichment for Australian and international students. The AMT also selects and supports Australia's international mathematics and informatics Olympiad teams.

MENTORING PROGRAM OVERVIEW

We recognise that the success and influence of a residential outreach program can be greatly increased by providing ongoing follow-up. The mentoring program is designed to provide real support for students who have enrolled in the digIT program.

We are looking for 60 mentors from a variety of ICT fields to join our program from January to July 2020. Mentors will receive full training, mentoring resources and ongoing support.

The mentoring program will see each student matched with a mentor recruited from a variety of ICT backgrounds and together they will construct personal goals for the student. This might include discussing study options and career pathways, undertaking further extension work with support from their mentor, developing ideas based on learnings from the camp or working on a project.

Benefits

- make a difference in the life of a student with a curious mind
- contribute to the future career of a potential ICT professional
- personal professional development
- a rewarding experience!

Goal

To develop a relationship with a mentee that stimulates their curiosity, inspires their enthusiasm and motivates their interest in ICT studies and related careers.

Role

- be a professional role model through friendliness, clear communication and setting appropriate boundaries
- actively listen, providing support and encouragement
- acknowledge the mentee's strengths and talents, and encourage them to find ways to use them
- build mentee skills in critical thinking, logical reasoning and problem solving
- point to and encourage mentee to seek ICT role models and explore a wide variety of ICT related careers
- empower mentee, helping them to build resilience, courage and confidence
- link mentee to ICT resources and information

Responsibilities

- attend training sessions and follow-up session
- maintain regular contact with your mentee(s)
- maintain an appropriate relationship with the mentee
- communicate with program manager if difficulties arise or support is needed
- participate in the evaluation process

Time commitment

- webinar training pre-summer camp (one hour)
- mentor training and meet your mentee, Thursday 23 January 2020: 8am to 3pm (one day only)
- contact with mentee at least fortnightly but not less than monthly, for approximately 30 minutes per contact; contact can be via phone call, Skype, email or other digital platforms
- wrap up session Tuesday 7 July 2020, 9am to 3pm (one day only)

Mentor support

- training from a professional mentoring consultant
- telephone and email support from program manager, as required
- mentoring tips emailed regularly
- online mentor forum for questions and discussion



Selection criteria

1. demonstrated interest in ICT activities
2. desire and capability to work with young people, in particular high school students
3. agreement to mentor responsibilities as listed in mentor role description
4. completed Working with Children check
5. ability to commit to time as described

Payment and expenses

This role is a voluntary position. The program will not provide payment for time spent mentoring, nor reimbursement for time lost from employment. The program will cover the following costs:

- return flights from your nearest airport to Brisbane for both the summer and winter camps, or bus travel where applicable
- meals and parking whilst attending The University of Queensland
- for each camp, accommodation for one night close to The University of Queensland, where a same day return flight cannot be scheduled
- reimbursement for any Working with Children check fee

The program manager will make all travel, meal and accommodation arrangements in consultation.

HOW TO APPLY

Complete the online [Expression of Interest \(EOI\) form](#) by COB 27 September 2019.

Suitable applicants will be contacted to arrange a telephone interview to further discuss the role. A WWC Check will be required for unpaid work with children, described as 'child-related work' under the Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004. Participants will also be required to sign their agreement to the AMT code of conduct, which will be provided.

Working with Children Check

Mentors are required to hold (or be willing to obtain) a Working with Children check (within your state of residence). Please refer to www.bluecard.qld.gov.au for Queensland details.



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