



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

CREATE CHANGE

Mentor information 2021

Young Achievers Program



Young Achievers Program

The Young Achievers Program (YAP) aims to support the tertiary study and career aspirations of secondary school students from low-income families.

The program provides a wonderful opportunity for community-minded university students to work closely with participants throughout Years 11 and 12, and as they transition from school to university.

UQ students selected as mentors for this program play an invaluable role in building the self-confidence of young achievers, while motivating and inspiring them to set and achieve their personal and educational goals.

YAP provides an extraordinarily fulfilling opportunity for mentors, staff and students alike.

The role of a YAP mentor

You will be a helpful and accessible point of contact for young achievers over a two-year period as well as being a:

- positive role model, who will inspire students to develop their interpersonal, communication and service leadership skills

- source of information, motivation and support (by phone and Facebook) on a regular basis
- supervisor and activity facilitator during residential camps and open days, providing a safe environment and a rewarding experience for students to grow and learn.

Am I suited for this role?

Mentors are selected for the Young Achievers Program from a variety of study areas, geographic regions and backgrounds based on the following:

- undergraduate students at UQ (aged 18–24 years by January 2022)
- ability to obtain a Blue Card
- openness and sensitivity to cultural and ethnic differences
- ability to identify with young people from families who have experienced financial hardship as well as those from regional backgrounds
- demonstration of excellent listening and communication skills and a passion for making a positive difference in the lives of others
- motivated, respectful and committed to an ongoing, long-term and meaningful mentoring relationship
- passionate about leadership and teamwork and able to serve as a positive role model for young achievers and other UQ student mentors.



UQ is committed to raising and supporting the educational aspirations of deserving students who might not otherwise have access to university as a post-school option. The Young Achievers Program is UQ's flagship equity program. Accordingly, mentors for this program are held in high esteem by participants and their families, secondary schools, program staff, donors and the UQ executive.

Why should I apply?

Many benefits apply to becoming involved as a volunteer YAP mentor including the opportunity to:

- inspire and make a difference in the lives of young people
- showcase your commitment to giving back to those from less privileged backgrounds
- participate in on-campus experiences for young achievers (camps, open days etc.)
- develop your interpersonal, leadership, teamwork and communication skills while improving your resume
- make many life-long friends who share your service commitment
- receive recognition from UQ in a variety of ways including ongoing training and professional development, and team events.

Your time as a mentor will contribute towards the UQ Employability Award (employability.uq.edu.au/uq-employability-award), which is a significant university award that will be highly regarded by future employers.



**BART
DICKMAN**
YAP Mentor

“By being a mentor in YAP, you are able to directly contribute to its impact and be inspired by the achievements of those involved. Mentors are exposed to developing their leadership and public speaking skills in a close-knit team context. You also get the chance to build strong, genuine relationships with more than 20 other like-minded university students.”



TEGAN FREI
YAP Mentor

“Mentoring for YAP is one of the most rewarding experiences. Being able to watch your mentees grow and progress through their academics, goals and Making A Difference projects is life changing. YAP has given me a reason to give back to the community.”

Time commitment



A team of 24 YAP mentors will be appointed in 2021 to support the YAP leadership team and deliver the program to young achievers. **If selected, YAP mentors MUST be available for the following:**

2021 Oct	YAP mentor team ‘meet and greet’ evening Wednesday 27 October 2021 (5–7pm)
Nov	YAP mentor training Monday 22 – Tuesday 23 November 2021 including evenings – accommodation (if needed) and meals provided for the duration
2022 Jan	YAP Year 11 residential camp Sunday 16 – Friday 21 January 2022 including evenings – accommodation and meals provided for the duration of residential camp
Feb	YAP mentor phone call training Tuesday 22 February 2022 (5–7pm)
Aug	St Lucia Open Day Sunday 7 August 2022 (8am–2pm) and 2023 (date TBC)
Nov	YAP mentor training Monday 21 – Tuesday 22 November 2022 including evenings
2023 Jan	YAP Year 12 residential camp Sunday 25 – Friday 30 June 2023 including evenings – accommodation and meals provided for the duration of residential camp
	YAP monthly phone calls 1 weeknight a month for two years during Semesters 1 and 2 (on-campus)

Mentors will also need to be available for other team meetings, events and debriefs as required.

FAQS

What happens if I can’t make all of the dates?

We understand that students have other commitments, which is why we provide you with a list of key dates and times in this brochure. All training and camp dates are mandatory to attend if you are selected to be a YAP mentor.

Can international students participate?

International students are more than welcome to participate, as long as they are studying at The University of Queensland for the duration of their time commitment to the program.

Can postgraduate students apply to be a student mentor?

Postgraduate students are ineligible to apply to be a student mentor.

What if I graduate half-way through?

Mentors are required to be studying at The University of Queensland for the duration of their time in the program, i.e. your graduation date would have to be in December two years from your year of application.

Applications

Applications open Monday 16 August and **close on Sunday, 29 August 2021.**

Short-listed applicants must be available for the **YAP student mentor selection evening: Wednesday, 8 September 2021 (4.30–7pm)**. If this date is problematic, please indicate on your application form.

Information and to apply: student-mentors.uq.edu.au

More information

Future Students Australia
UQ Student Mentor Program
Email: studentmentors@uq.edu.au
Phone: (07) 3346 0654 / 0438 894 358