



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND  
AUSTRALIA

CREATE CHANGE

# Mentor information 2022

## 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 the YAP students 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 2023)
- 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/award](http://employability.uq.edu.au/award)), which is a significant university award that will be highly regarded by future employers.



**MARY LOCH**

YAP Mentor

*"Mentoring with YAP has been a life changing experience for me. It has helped me grow in my confidence, adaptability and recognise my strengths. It's given me countless opportunities to develop new skills and connect with people from a range of different backgrounds and experiences. I have made the best of friends with YAP and gained more knowledge than I ever thought possible! YAP will forever be the best thing I ever did at university!"*



## ANGUS ROBERTSON

YAP Mentor

*Mentoring as part of the Young Achievers Program has been one of the most enriching experiences of my life. Supporting students to flourish over the program's two year journey and realise their own enormous potential for themselves has been truly humbling and an honour hard to put into words. The astronomic personal growth I have had is just a side bonus.*

### Time commitment

A team of 24 YAP mentors will be appointed in 2022 to support the YAP leadership team and deliver the program to young achievers. **If selected, YAP mentors need to be available for the following:**



<b>2022</b> Oct	<b>YAP mentor team 'meet and greet' evening</b> Wednesday 26 October 2022 (5–7pm)
<b>Nov</b>	<b>YAP mentor training</b> Monday 21 – Tuesday 22 November 2022 including evenings – accommodation (if needed) and meals provided for the duration
<b>2023</b> Jan	<b>YAP Year 11 residential camp</b> Sunday 15 – Friday 20 January 2023 including evenings – accommodation and meals provided for the duration of residential camp
<b>Feb</b>	<b>YAP mentor phone call training</b> Tuesday 21 February 2023 (5–7pm)
<b>Aug</b>	<b>St Lucia Open Day</b> Sunday 6 August 2023 (8am–2pm) and 2024 (date TBC)
<b>Nov</b>	<b>YAP mentor training</b> Monday 20 – Tuesday 21 November 2023 including evenings
<b>2024</b> June	<b>YAP Year 12 residential camp</b> Sunday 23 – Friday 28 June 2024 including evenings – accommodation and meals provided for the duration of residential camp
	<b>YAP monthly phone calls</b> 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, 15 August and close on Sunday, 28 August 2022.

Short-listed applicants must be available for the YAP student mentor selection evening: Wednesday, 7 September 2022 (4.30–7pm). If this date is problematic, please indicate on your application form.

Information and to apply: [student-mentors.uq.edu.au](https://student-mentors.uq.edu.au)

## More information

Student Enrichment and Employability Development (SEED)  
Student Mentor Program

**Email:** [studentmentors@uq.edu.au](mailto:studentmentors@uq.edu.au)

**Phone:** (07) 3346 0654 / 0438 894 358