

The *AccessComputing* electronic mentoring community provides an opportunity for students interested in increasing the participation of people with disabilities in computing to communicate via email and during program activities with mentors and other students. Your role as an *AccessComputing* Mentor is a mix of friend and teacher. Your goal is to inspire and facilitate personal, academic, and career achievements in the DO-IT participants for whom you mentor. These mentees are college-capable students with disabilities pursuing challenging computing degrees and career fields.

Do you have what it takes to be a *AccessComputing Mentor*?

The relationships you develop with your mentee become channels for the passage of information, advice, challenges, opportunities, and support. *AccessComputing* Mentors offer mentees these opportunities:

- **Information**
Mentors share their knowledge, experiences, and wisdom.
- **Contacts**
Mentors provide valuable opportunities by facilitating academic, career, and personal contacts.
- **Challenges**
Mentors stimulate curiosity and build confidence by presenting new ideas, opportunities, and challenges.
- **Support**
Mentors encourage growth and achievement by providing an open and supportive environment.
- **Goal Setting**
Mentors help mentees discover talents and interests and define and attain their goals.
- **Advice**
Mentors guide mentees in reaching academic, career, and personal goals.
- **Role Models**
By sharing stories of achievement with mentees, mentors can become role models.

How do *AccessComputing Mentors* and mentees communicate?

Mentors and mentees are not matched one-to-one but rather communicate through the use of large group email-based discussion lists. Frequent email communication combined with personal contact at *AccessComputing* sponsored events, facilitates personal, academic, and career achievement.

AccessComputing Mentors are subscribed to several electronic discussion lists. These lists include:

- *doitsem* - A public forum to discuss STEM issues pertaining to individuals with disabilities.
- *mentors* - A discussion list for mentors.
- *AccessSTEM* - A forum where mentors with academic and/or professional backgrounds in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields engage with mentees who are studying, teaching, and working in STEM.
- *disability-specific lists* - Where mentors and mentees each participate in special interest groups to discuss issues related to a specific disability area.

For more information about DO-IT's mentoring community, consult *Opening Doors: Mentoring on*



the Internet at www.washington.edu/doit/opening-doors-mentoring-internet.

Eligibility

College students, postsecondary faculty, and professionals from a variety of challenging academic and career fields are encouraged to apply.

How to Apply

Submit the *AccessComputing Mentor Application* online at www.washington.edu/accesscomputing/mentors-application, print the form and send in by postal mail, fax, or email. Because safety is of particular concern for young people using the Internet, all Mentor candidates are asked to complete and return a Criminal Conviction & Civil Finding History Questionnaire. Once we receive your completed application, we will follow-up via email on the next steps for the background check and signing the AV release digitally.

About *AccessComputing*

The Department of Computer Science and Engineering and DO-IT (Disabilities, Opportunities, Internetworking and Technology) at the University of Washington lead the *AccessComputing* Project for the purpose of increasing the participation of people with disabilities in computing careers nationwide.

For further information, to be placed on the mailing list, request materials in an alternate format, or to make comments or suggestions about DO-IT publications or web pages, contact:

University of Washington

Box 354842

Seattle, WA 98195-4842

accesscomp@uw.edu

www.uw.edu/accesscomputing/

206-685-DOIT (3648) (voice/TTY)

888-972-DOIT (3648) (toll free voice/TTY)

509-328-9331 (voice/TTY) Spokane

206-221-4171 (fax)

Copyright © 2021, University of Washington.
Permission is granted to copy these materials for educational, noncommercial purposes provided the source is acknowledged.



University of Washington
College of Engineering
UW Technology Services
College of Education



AccessComputing Mentor Application

NAME _____ POSITION _____

ORGANIZATION _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

1. Are you currently a college student? If yes, what institution do you attend? What is your year in school and field(s) of study?

2. Are you currently employed? If so, who is your employer?

3. Please list any postsecondary degrees you have completed.

4. Have you ever been a mentor? If so, please describe your experience(s).

5. Have you had personal or professional experiences with disabilities that you could share with *AccessComputing* participants? If yes, please describe.

6. Do you have any hobbies or special skills that you think will benefit *AccessComputing* mentees?



7. Do you speak a language other than English? If yes, please list.

8. Mentoring a young person is a big responsibility and can change the lives of both the mentor and the mentee. What do you hope to gain from the experience? What do you hope the mentee will gain?

References

Please list the names and contact information for three references.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Participation Agreement

I have read and agree to the expectations listed for *AccessComputing Mentors*. I authorize *AccessComputing* to contact my references and process a background check. I agree to report any past convictions to *AccessComputing* at the time of application. Further, I agree to report to *AccessComputing* any future charge or conviction at the time it occurs. I will inform *AccessComputing* of any convictions or charges that relate to minors or vulnerable adults.

Signature: _____ Date: _____