



IYCN MENTORING PROGRAM

PROGRAM OUTLINE
2022

APPLICATION PERIOD
FEBRUARY 1ST – MARCH 31ST



INTERNATIONAL YOUNGER CHEMISTS NETWORK

The **INTERNATIONAL YOUNGER CHEMISTS NETWORK (IYCN)** is a non-profit organization created by younger chemists for younger chemists that is [formally associated](#) with the **INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PURE AND APPLIED CHEMISTRY (IUPAC)**.

IYCN is dedicated to creating an environment where all those in the chemical sciences globally are welcome. We believe that celebrating our differences and what makes us unique will help us to create a more sustainable and inclusive scientific community and world. The success of our network strongly relies on giving everyone the opportunity to join, network and participate as IYCN strives to make an impact on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) through its diverse membership and essential partner organizations.

As of today, a truly global network of early career chemists has not been established and many national chemical societies do not have key programs for the sustainable integration of students and early career professionals. However, the growing network of the IYCN already includes early career chemists from many countries across the globe ([see the current map](#)) and we continue to seek out ambassadors from currently underrepresented countries.

It is our goal to develop the IYCN into a global network of early career chemists that bridges international borders and fosters a long-lasting growth and mentorship in chemistry for the benefit of chemistry and society.

🌀 **VISION: CONNECT AND EMPOWER YOUNGER CHEMISTS GLOBALLY**

🌀 **MISSION: SUPPORT AND ADVOCATE FOR YOUNGER SCIENTISTS WORKING ACROSS THE CHEMICAL SCIENCES TOWARDS A GLOBALLY SUSTAINABLE FUTURE**



IYCN MENTORING PROGRAM

WHAT IS IT ABOUT?

The **IYCN MENTORING PROGRAM** is an initiative of the **INTERNATIONAL YOUNGER CHEMISTS NETWORK (IYCN)** that aims to support younger chemists in advancing their career development. Our goal is to connect excellent PhD students across the chemical sciences to experienced mentors globally to help them to gain valuable insights into career opportunities, working conditions and key requirements to be better prepared for the application processes and jobs they strive for.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

The first period is limited to current PhD students across the chemical sciences expecting to earn their PhD not before October 2022.

WHAT WILL THE MENTORING BE LIKE?

Admitted mentors and mentees will be paired appropriately and be encouraged to meet regularly via a video conferencing tool of their choice. During the program you will be asked to fill in feedback forms to track your progress and the fruits of the mentorship. The IYCN views its role mainly in connecting mentors and mentees and monitoring feedback to ensure an enriching and fruitful experience. Further guidance is only offered upon request.

HOW LONG DOES THE MENTORING PERIOD RUN?

The program duration ranges from 6 months to 1 year in which the mentor and the mentee are expected to meet regularly. To ensure a beneficial relationship, a commitment of a minimum of 6 months from both parties is mandatory to be considered for admission to the program. Of course, we encourage long-lasting relationships but will not provide further guidance beyond the agreed mentoring period.

HOW IS THE PROGRAM DIFFERENT FROM OTHERS?

Firstly, as an international and globally active network of volunteers that strives to support younger chemists globally, our program is completely free and not tied to any memberships or countries. Secondly, one of our goals is to support everyone from everywhere and remove barriers in science. One of such barriers is going abroad to pursue a career and gain international experience. We encourage younger chemists that are looking to pursue their careers internationally to get connected with mentors that can assist and support their goals and offer guidance and advice about requirements, working conditions, cultural aspects and application processes in the targeted geographical regions.

WHY SHOULD I BECOME A MENTOR?

As a mentor, you can become connected to excellent younger chemists from all over the world and learn about their inspirational backgrounds. You will be able to truly help and support younger researchers to pursue their career dreams. Sharing your experience and passing on your knowledge to support someone is a fulfilling experience and gives you the opportunity to establish a long-lasting relationship with a potentially future peer that will always be thankful for your guidance. We encourage that our mentors and mentees stay connected as it will also be an enriching experience to see the fruits of the guidance through the mentoring program in the upcoming years.

WHY SHOULD I BECOME A MENTEE?

As a mentee, you can become connected to experienced mentors from all over the world and learn from their career paths and advice. You will receive guidance to pursue your dreams and be inspired by the stories shared by your mentor. Getting to know someone from the field or country you would like to work in can give you a valuable advantage and prepare you to make the best choices to achieve your goals. Moreover, it gives you the opportunity of developing a long-lasting relationship with a potentially future peer and friend that will be there to help you out. We encourage that our mentees stay connected to their mentors for longer as it can be an enriching experience for both sides to recognize the fruits of the mentoring years later.

HOW, WHERE AND WHEN CAN I APPLY?

To apply, please fill in the application forms available on our [homepage](#). Applications can be submitted between **FEBRUARY 1st – MARCH 31st**.

CONTACT US FOR MORE DETAILS

The **IYCN PUBLIC OUTREACH COMMITTEE** is happy to answer any open questions about the **IYCN MENTORING PROGRAM**. If you have any questions about the program or the application process, please contact us at publicoutreach.iycn@gmail.com.



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**INTERNATIONAL YOUNGER CHEMISTS
NETWORK**

<https://iycnglobal.com>