



**DO-IT**

## Shape the future... be a *DO-IT* Mentor.

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The DO-IT (Disabilities, Opportunities, Internetworking, and Technology) electronic mentoring community connects *Mentors* with high school and college students with disabilities as they transition to college and careers. *DO-IT Mentors* are college students, postsecondary faculty, and professionals in a variety of challenging academic and career fields. Many of the *Mentors* have disabilities themselves. As a *Mentor*, you can inspire and facilitate personal, academic, and professional achievements.

### **Do you have what it takes to be a *DO-IT* Mentor?**

The relationships you develop with your protégés become channels for the passage of information, advice, challenges, opportunities, and support. *DO-IT Mentors* offer protégés:

- **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 protégés discover talents and interests and define and attain their goals.
- **Advice**  
*Mentors* guide protégés in reaching academic, career, and personal goals.
- **Role Models**  
By sharing stories of achievement with protégés, *Mentors* can become role models.

### **Communicating with protégés**

*Mentors* and protégés communicate primarily over email, thereby eliminating challenges imposed by time, distance, and disability that are characteristic of in-person mentoring. Frequent email communication combined with personal contact at DO-IT sponsored events helps protégés achieve goals and build confidence.

*DO-IT Mentors* are subscribed to several electronic discussion lists. These lists include:

- *doitsem*—A public forum to discuss STEM issues pertaining to individuals with disabilities.
- *doitchat*—A forum where DO-IT protégés and *Mentors* interact.
- *mentors*—A discussion list for *Mentors*.
- disability-specific lists—Where *Mentors* and protégés each participate in one of five 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.uw.edu/doit/Brochures/Technology/doors.html](http://www.uw.edu/doit/Brochures/Technology/doors.html).

### **AccessSTEM Mentoring Teams**

As part of a special project, DO-IT is inviting *Mentors* with academic or professional backgrounds in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields to participate in *AccessSTEM* mentoring teams. This effort is part of DO-IT's *Alliance for Students with Disabilities in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics*, which is funded by the National Science Foundation (award #HRD-0227995 and #HRD-0833504). Each mentoring team links students together with *Mentors* who are studying, teaching, and working in a STEM area similar to those the protégé is interested in pursuing. These *Mentors* participate on the *AccessSTEM*, *mentors*, and *doitsem* discussion lists; they have the option of joining *doitchat* and disability-specific lists.

### **Applying to become a Mentor**

You may complete and submit the *DO-IT Mentor Application* online at [www.uw.edu/accesscomputing/get-involved/educators-employers/shape-futurebe-mentor](http://www.uw.edu/accesscomputing/get-involved/educators-employers/shape-futurebe-mentor), or by submitting the following form by postal mail, fax, or email.

Because safety is of particular concern for young people using the Internet, this position requires completion of a criminal history background check. All *Mentor* candidates are asked to complete and return the University of Washington Conviction Criminal History Information form. This form will be mailed to you once we receive your completed application.

### **About DO-IT**

DO-IT (Disabilities, Opportunities, Internetworking, and Technology) serves to increase the successful participation of individuals with disabilities in challenging academic programs and careers. Primary funding for DO-IT is provided by the National Science Foundation, the State of Washington, and the U.S. Department of Education. This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under Grant #HRD-0227995 and #HRD-0833504. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

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

DO-IT

University of Washington

Box 354842

Seattle, WA 98195-4842

[doit@uw.edu](mailto:doit@uw.edu)

[www.uw.edu/doit/](http://www.uw.edu/doit/)

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

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

206-221-4171 (FAX)

509-328-9331 (voice / TTY, Spokane)

Founder and Director: Sheryl Burgstahler, Ph.D.

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**University of Washington**

College of Engineering

UW Technology Services

College of Education



# DO-IT Mentor Application Form

Complete the form below. Attach additional pages if necessary.

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 DO-IT participants? If yes, please describe.
6. Please indicate any special interest or background in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics. Are you interested in joining an *AccessSTEM* Team?
7. Do you have any hobbies or special skills that you think will benefit DO-IT mentees?
8. Do you speak a language other than English? If yes, please list.
9. 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. \_\_\_\_\_

Please note that, on occasion, *DO-IT Mentors* are featured in DO-IT printed and web-based materials such as *DO-IT News* and in other publications. As a *DO-IT Mentor*, you agree to allow DO-IT and DO-IT project partners to publish information including, but not limited to, your first and last name, email address, city and state of residence, name of school, employer, disability, age, and interests. This information is used for program reporting and data analysis. As a *DO-IT Mentor*, you also waive any right to inspect or approve the finished publication or the eventual use for which it might be applied.

**Use of Photographs and Videotapes:**

Many DO-IT events, such as the yearly mentoring luncheon, are photographed and/or videotaped. If you choose to attend any of these events, you may be photographed and/or videotaped. Please check below if you do not give DO-IT and DO-IT project partners permission to copyright, distribute, sell, broadcast, duplicate, exhibit and/or use film, audiotape, photographs, printed information, and/or drawings of yourself without limitation for general education, information dissemination, and research purposes in videotapes, audiotapes, and printed publications, and on the World Wide Web. In addition, you waive any right to inspect or approve the finished publication or other product in which your image and/or information might be used. Check here  if you do not give permission to be included in pictures or videotapes.

I have read and agree to the expectations listed for *DO-IT Mentors*, publication guidelines, and the Use of Photographs and Videotape guidelines as indicated above. I agree to report to DO-IT any past convictions. I authorize DO-IT to contact my references and process a background check. I agree to report any past convictions to DO-IT at the time of application. Further, I agree to report to DO-IT any future charge or conviction at the time it occurs. I will inform DO-IT of any convictions or charges that relate to minors or vulnerable adults.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Return your completed application DO-IT by mail or fax to:

DO-IT  
University of Washington  
Box 354842  
Seattle, WA 98195-4842  
FAX: 206-221-4171

If you have any questions about DO-IT Mentors or this application, please contact DO-IT at 206-685-DOIT (3648) voice/TTY; 888-972-DOIT (3648) toll free voice, TTY; 206-221-4171 FAX; or [doit@u.washington.edu](mailto:doit@u.washington.edu).