

# Interaction Online Mentoring Scheme

## Introduction

The scheme is aimed at first year students who have a strong interest in software development and want to gain practical and real-world experience during the duration of their course. It is well known that employers look for experience when offering jobs and this programme aims to provide students with extra experience and talking points for job interviews. It will involve working on a variety of projects, both commercial and internal project ideas.

## What is the time commitment?

Like most volunteering positions, you will get out what you put in. The more you do, the more experience you will get and the greater variety of projects you will have exposure to. Covering different areas is obviously advantageous to job interviews as you never know what they will ask and having a range of experience to draw on is more beneficial. Due to the nature of training and input given, it is expected that students on the programme will dedicate at least one day per week to the programme. This may be more at the start of the semester, and less when there are exams due. It is also hoped that holidays would be a great time to get more experience and more time would be committed.

## Is it paid?

No, it is voluntary scheme and time is offered freely. Reasonable expenses will be reimbursed, so you won't be out of pocket for any authorised expenses incurred. The benefits of the scheme include:

- Being mentored by the team, both existing students on the programme and the programme lead. The programme lead has run his own software company for 10 years and worked in the development industry for over 18 years.
- Experience working on a variety of projects and technologies.

Imagine you are recruiting and are presented with two applicants, if all things are equal, would you take one just graduated, or one who has just graduated having participated in a mentoring scheme?

## What is the Tech Stack?

The Microsoft tech stack is used. This includes using SQL Server for all database access (but also some SQL Lite for testing) and dotnet core for any server-side code using c#. There is a mix of Razor Pages and Web API projects. The front end uses Vue.js, Vuetify, Nuxt.js and the requisite HTML5 CSS (SASS) and JavaScript technologies.

## Do I work on everything?

There are opportunities to move around the teams, but generally you will pick a team (front end, server side) and focus on that. There will invariably be some cross over, and the longer you're on the programme the more this will be.

## I struggle with programming; can I use this to help improve?

If programming does not come easy to you, then this programme is not for you. Unlike PAL sessions which are provided via the university, this is for students who are comfortable in programming. That is not to say you already know everything, but you must be self-motivated and self-driven to learn.

This programme won't help anyone who does not understand the basics of programming and will likely hinder and put you off programming.

### When do I Start?

Due to the limited places, and nature of the mentoring, it may not be possible to offer everyone a place. Please complete the application form at the end and send it back to [syates@interaction-online.com](mailto:syates@interaction-online.com). There will be a session to ask questions and see if this is a good fit.

### I have more questions.

Good! We would hope so. Get in touch and we'll be able to answer them, ideally at the combined invitation session which will be arranged to allow you to ask questions.

## Application

### Your Details

Name	
Email	
Year of Study	
Programme of Study	

### Skill Assessment

Please let us know how much you have used these technologies, applications, or processes. Please add others to the list if you feel they would be relevant (such as transferable skills). Please note that it is OK to not be familiar with these frameworks, so please answer accurately.

Technology	None	Heard of	Used once	Used < 1 year	Used 1+ year
JavaScript					
TypeScript					
HTML5					
CSS					
SASS / LESS					
Vue.JS					
Nuxt.JS					
Vuetify					
Visual Studio <i>Code</i> IDE					
UX Design / Testing					

Technology	None	Heard of	Used once	Used < 1 year	Used 1+ year
C# Language					
Razor Pages					
Web API					
Unit Testing					
Nuget Packages					
Continuous Integration Scripts					
Visual Studio IDE					
Git Source Control					
Code Reviews					

## Scheduling

When, according to the limited timetable you have now, could you make a 2-hour mentoring session? For example, Monday 9-11am, Tuesday 4-7pm and all-day Thursday are selected below, please use a darker colour for your available times.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9am					
10am					
11am					
12pm					
1pm					
2pm					
3pm					
4pm					
5pm					
6pm					

## Submitting

Please save this document and email to [syates@interaction-online.com](mailto:syates@interaction-online.com) as soon as possible.