



VOLUNTEER ROLE DESCRIPTION

2026 GSTEP Technical Coach

Location: Greater Accra/Eastern/Ashanti/Volta Regions (Applicants must be resident in any of the 4 regions)

Engagement Type: Volunteer (with stipend for communications and fieldwork)

Application Deadline: 15th November, 2025

Role Summary

The Ghana Science and Tech Explorer Prize (GSTEP) 2026 is an exciting initiative where junior high school students, aged 11 to 16, are challenged to build STEM projects that address local challenges and have market potential. We are seeking Technical Coaches to guide student teams through the STEM project development process. The coaches will facilitate inquiry-based and project-based learning, helping students apply scientific concepts to real-world problems while ensuring their solutions align with technical feasibility and market needs.

Key Responsibilities

- Support students in brainstorming, designing, and prototyping STEM projects that address identified local challenges.
- Guide student teams in exploring problems, formulating hypotheses, and conducting investigations.
- Encourage critical thinking, creativity, and hands-on experimentation.
- Ensure that students use an inquiry-driven approach to solve technical challenges.
- Provide technical expertise and troubleshooting as students build their projects.
- Ensure that projects are both scientifically sound and practically feasible.
- Create an environment where students feel supported, empowered, and excited to learn.
- Foster teamwork and effective collaboration within the student teams.

- Work closely with business mentors to integrate business insights (market value, sustainability, and feasibility) into the STEM project.
- Ensure that technical and business development efforts are aligned, supporting the overall goal of creating market-ready STEM products.
- Track and evaluate the progress of student projects using pre-established assessment criteria and submit periodic reports to the PEN GSTEP Project Coordinator.
- Provide constructive feedback to help students improve their projects.
- Ensure compliance with all child protection and safeguarding protocols.
- Report any concerns related to child safety to the appropriate channels.

Qualifications and Experience

- Degree or professional training background in a STEM-related field (e.g., Engineering, Robotics, Programming, Computer Science, Biology, Physics, Chemistry etc.).
- Prior experience with STEM projects, research, or product development is an advantage.
- Demonstrated experience in facilitating inquiry-based and project-based learning environments.
- Ability to guide students through the process of problem identification, ideation, prototyping, and testing.
- Prior experience working with young people (preferably in an educational or coaching capacity).
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills to engage with students and business mentors.
- Ability to guide students through technical challenges and help them think critically about solutions.
- Familiarity with design thinking and creative problem-solving methods is desirable.
- Ability to collaborate with business mentors, program staff, and other stakeholders.
- A passion for helping students succeed and thrive in a team-based learning environment.
- Understanding of, and commitment to, safeguarding protocols and ensuring the safety and well-being of all students.

Commitment to Child Protection

Understanding of, and commitment to, safeguarding protocols and ensuring the safety and well-being of all students.

Time Commitment

- Coaches are expected to dedicate 2–4 hours per week for facilitating project prototyping and development mostly in-person ($\geq 80\%$) and occasionally virtual if need be.
- The role spans the length of the GSTEP project cycle, approximately 9 months, with additional time required for training, orientation, and project milestones.
- Attendance at regular check-in meetings and reporting to the PEN GSTEP Project Coordinator as needed.

Location

Coaching may take place on-site or virtually, depending on team needs and availability. The GSTEP programme covers students within Greater Accra, Eastern, Ashanti and Volta Regions. Therefore, business mentors must be resident in any one of the regions mentioned above.

Reports to: PEN GSTEP Project Coordinator

Benefits

- Gain hands-on experience coaching and guiding young learners through STEM projects.
- Collaborate with STEM professionals, business mentors, and educational stakeholders.
- Play a key role in helping students develop market-ready STEM solutions and make an impact in solving local challenges.
- Stipends to cover transportation and field-related costs.
- A certificate of appreciation or recognition at the end of the project.

Apply now: <https://forms.gle/ep7N9bR8vfvbrwJ5A>

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