

WeTech® Goldman Sachs Global Scholarship & Mentorship Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is the WeTech Goldman Sachs Global Scholarship & Mentorship Program?

The [Women Enhancing Technology \(WeTech®\) Goldman Sachs Global Scholarship & Mentorship Program](#) is a partnership between the [Institute of International Education \(IIE\)](#), a leader in a number of the world's most prestigious scholarship and fellowship programs, and [Goldman Sachs \(NYSE: GS\)](#), a leading global investment bank and active investor in India, which is focused on developing young women and future local leaders in information, communication and technology (ICT).

The WeTech® Goldman Sachs opportunity will be available for students from participating universities in India for the 2020-2021 school year.

The program consists of two components:

1. Approximately six-month guided virtual mentorship program where students will be matched in one-on-one mentorship pairs with volunteer mentors from Goldman Sachs. A total of fifty (50) students will receive this mentorship opportunity from late March through September 2021.
2. Ten (10) USD 1,500 scholarships will be available, for those demonstrate strong financial need with special circumstances that will go towards costs associated with a student's academic course of study and is not strictly limited to tuition. WeTech® holds the right to stipulate fees disbursement and utilization structure.

What are the eligibility requirements and key dates?

The scholarship eligibility requirements are as follows:

- Applicant must be female.
- Applicant must be a citizen of India.
- Applicant must be able to communicate in English.
- Applicant must be a current undergraduate student at a participating university in her second or third year of studies. Participating universities include:
 - Banasthali Vidyapith, Rajasthan
 - Cummins College of Engineering for Women, Pune
 - Indira Gandhi Delhi Technical University for Women (IGDTUW), Delhi
 - PES university, Bengaluru (Ring road campus and Electronic city campus)
 - Rashtreeya Vidyalaya College of Engineering (RVCE), Bengaluru
 - Shri Govindram Seksaria Institute of Technology and Science (SGSITS), Indore
 - Shiv Nadar University, Delhi NCR

- Applicant must be seeking a degree in engineering, computer science, or other ICT related studies.
- Applicant must be able to demonstrate leadership potential in her chosen engineering or ICT field (recommendation letters are required).
- Applicant must be willing and available to participate in a virtual mentorship for a period of approximately six months beginning from late March to September 2021.

Preference will be given to applicants who:

- Have an excellent record of academic achievement (GPA).
- Demonstrate leadership ability through work experience, volunteer experience, community and academic activities. Of particular interest are applicants who have:
 - Contributed to coding clubs/associations on campus,
 - Participated in campus-run coding competitions, or
 - Participated in inter/intra college technology fests.
- Accomplished relevant projects and research, clearly outlined in a CV.
- Express an openness to a mentoring opportunity from an expert in a tech-related field.

Timeline:

- **November 6, 2020:** Online application opens
- **January 18, 2021:** Scholarship application and Letters of Recommendation deadline
- **Late March 2021:** Scholarship and mentorship winners announced

*****The WeTech Goldman Sachs Global Scholarship and Mentorship Program application can be found at www.iie.org/GoldmanSachs*****

How many students will be selected for this opportunity?

A total of **50 female students** across India will be selected to receive the six-month guided virtual mentorship opportunity, where the students will be matched 1:1 with a volunteer mentor from Goldman Sachs.

Additionally, **10 scholarships** of USD 1,500 each will be awarded. These scholarships will be available for those who demonstrate strong financial need with special circumstances.

How do I apply?

You need to apply using the online application that is available at www.iie.org/GoldmanSachs. Please note that you are required to upload all required documents to the online application, as specified. No documents will be accepted via email or in hardcopy.

Do I have to complete a separate application to be considered for scholarship award?

No, you only need to complete one application for both the mentorship and scholarship. The application is available at www.iie.org/GoldmanSachs.

What are the characteristics of a competitive applicant?

The program is looking for **passionate, committed, and innovative young women** who already have a track record, both academic and extracurricular in ICT. Preference will be given to candidates who have community engagement or entrepreneurial experience and who demonstrate a desire to make a meaningful difference for women in ICT in their home country. And, of course, all candidates should have an **advanced level of English** in order to effectively take part in the mentorship program.

Do you have any tips about how to best fill in the application? What exactly are you looking for in each section?

In general, please be as **specific and relevant** as possible when answering each question. The more that you are able to demonstrate a concrete idea of who you are and why you are a good fit for this opportunity, the more likely it is that you will be considered a strong candidate! But keep in mind each essay question has a maximum word requirement.

For more advice on what kinds of things the program is looking for in each section, please see the tips below.

Activities & Awards

- Range of extracurricular activities, particularly those that demonstrate long-term dedication that is preferably ICT-related.
 - Involvement and participation in coding clubs/associations on campus, campus-run coding competitions, and inter/intra college technology fests will be considered favorably, so please highlight any experiences you have in these areas.
- Leadership experience is highly favored.
- Work, internship, or volunteer history that is related to the student's studies.
- Academic achievements and academic recognition should be highlighted.
- Please ensure that any financial assistance or scholarships received, including the type and name of the scholarship and the monetary amount being given, is also documented in this section.

Personal Statement

- Showcase your passion and demonstrate why you are the best candidate for this opportunity.
- Share your background and how this led you to where you are now.
- Strong candidates will be able to show how the scholarship and mentorship program will clearly help them achieve their academic and professional goals.

Financial Need (optional)

- If applicable, please let us know why you need this scholarship – the more specific you can be, the better!
 - How will the scholarship will help you?
 - What will the scholarship be used for?
 - How will the scholarship make a meaningful difference in your life?

Short Answer Questions – Future Plans

- Applicants should be actively pursuing study and career paths that are compatible with this particular program.
- Show how this opportunity will help you achieve your academic and professional ambitions.
- What is it that you hope to get out of the 6-month mentorship – share your goals for the mentorship and how this will help you in future studies and career in as much detail as possible.

Transcripts

- Scholarship applicants do not need to have flawless transcripts, but students who have demonstrated potential to succeed in ICT-related career paths will be more competitive.

Curriculum Vitae (CV)

- Please ensure that your CV clearly highlights your academic and professional accomplishments, including any university projects or research that you are or have been involved in.
- Previous mentoring experiences should be mentioned.

Recommendation letters

- Provide at least **TWO** recommendation letters (at least one of them must be academic in nature);
 - Applicants should choose recommenders wisely – those people who can speak to your personal and professional abilities and potential specifically relating to ICT.
 - Generic recommendation letters will not be considered favorably, especially if both recommendation letters from the two recommenders are nearly identical.

How do I submit the recommendation letters?

In your application, you should register contact details of your recommendation providers and we will send them a unique link to recommendation form that they will need to complete online.

Once you register a recommender, s/he will receive a system generated email with a personalized link to an online recommendation form. They will need to complete the recommendation online and submit it by the application deadline. You should let them know to look in their inbox and spam folders for an email with the unique link to the recommendation. It is the candidate's sole responsibility to follow up with their recommenders to ensure that they have submitted by the application deadline.

It is important that you enter recommenders' correct email addresses accurately, and that they provide you with an email account that they check frequently.

How will I know that you have received my recommendation letters? Can I submit my application before you receive the recommendation letters?

You can submit your application prior to your recommendations being submitted. However, both recommendations need to be submitted by your recommenders by the application deadline - **January 18, 2021**.

Once you submit your application, you will be able to track the status of recommendations, send reminders, and change recommender information, if necessary.

When will the mentorship start? Will I meet my mentor face-to-face?

You are expected to participate in the virtual mentorship for a period of approximately six months beginning from late-March to September 2021. As this is a virtual mentorship opportunity, you will be able to connect with your mentor *online*. In-person meetings are not expected to be held.

When will Scholars receive the scholarship funds?

Scholarship funds will be distributed in two installments: 1) once the mentorship begins in April 2021, and 2) after the conclusion of the mentorship period in October 2021. The payment schedule will be highlighted in the award letters that are distributed to the final candidates chosen for this opportunity.

Can the funding be used to cover more than just tuition?

The award may be used to cover fees associated with your academic course of study and is not strictly limited to tuition. This may include books, room and board, and other costs related to supporting yourself during the academic school year. Further details will be provided in the award letter after an offer has been made to the student. Explanation/proof of how these funds are spent may be requested by IIE during the program.

Can you share more about the mentorship portion of the program?

During the mentorship of WeTech Goldman Sachs Global Scholarship and Mentorship Program, students will virtually connect with their mentors who are professional women and men working for Goldman Sachs.

The **mentorship period will take place from late-March – September 2021**. Please **expect a 2-4 hour per mentorship milestone commitment** during this time.

After award recipients have been announced, each student will be matched with a mentor who will work with her to create concrete goals for the six-month mentorship. WeTech will provide support and resources for each mentoring session, sharing structured content on the platform that will enable students to build their professional skills and help prepare them for a globally competitive world. The mentorship curriculum covers topics such as *Assessing Strengths, Career Planning, CV building, Interview Skills, and Networking*.

What if a Scholarship awardee cannot complete the entire mentorship portion of the program but is still interested in the scholarship?

All Scholarship awardees **MUST** complete the entire mentorship milestones in order to be eligible for the \$1,500 in scholarship funds. If for any reason a student is unable to complete the mentorship portion of the program, IIE reserves the right to revoke all scholarship funds.

What is the contact information for the scholarship administrators?

For any queries, please contact the IIE WeTech team at WeTech@iie.org