

Mastercard Foundation Associates Program - Call For Application

Introduction & Consent

The Mastercard Foundation Associates Program connects young Africans, particularly recent graduates and Mastercard Foundation program Alumni, with 12-month paid work placements, employability and enrichment training, and mentorship that help them gain practical experience and transition into dignified and fulfilling work.

Eligibility Criteria

- Target Group: Young people between 18 and 34 years old
- Education Requirement: Must hold at least a diploma or a first-degree qualification.
- Employment Status: Must be unemployed.
- Citizenship: Must be a South African citizen
- Race: Defined as Black, in accordance with the B-BBEE definition
- *Open to young people who have not previously participated in a YES programme.*
- Preferred: An Alumni of a Mastercard Foundation-supported program (e.g. Anzisha Prize, CorpsAfrica, Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program, Skoll Emerging Leaders Initiative, YALI, Youth Think Tank, Zambezi Prize, Mastercard Foundation Associates Program, etc).

By completing this form, you help the program understand your background, skills, and aspirations while also providing baseline data that will guide matching with employers, training design, and long-term measurement of impact across Africa.

To proceed, please review the information below and indicate your consent. All information you provide will be treated with strict confidentiality and used only for purposes related to the Associates Program. Your data may be shared securely with verified program partners (including implementing, coordinating, inclusion, and regional partners) and trusted third-party processors for program monitoring and evaluation, in full compliance with applicable data-protection laws. Providing consent is voluntary, and you may withdraw it at any time via associateprogram@yes4youth.co.za.

By continuing, you confirm that:

- You have read and understood the purpose of this form.
- You consent to your data being collected, processed, and shared with the Mastercard Foundation, verified program partners and authorised data processors for activities related to the Associates Program.
- You understand that your data will be securely managed and handled in line with data protection laws.
- You confirm that all information you provide is accurate.

Do you consent to participate in this survey and for your data to be used and shared as described above?

- Yes, I consent [required]
 No, I do not consent [exit application]

Personal Information

Q1. First Name [required]

Q2. Middle Name [optional]

Q3. Surname (Family Name) [required]

Q4. Age Range

Below 18 18-25 26-34 35 & Above [required] (Exit Survey if Answer is below 18 and 35 & above)

Q5. Gender

Female Male Prefer not to say [required]

Q6. Do you identify as a person with a disability (PWD)?

Yes No [required]

Branching: If "Yes" → **Q7.** Do you have any needs or requests for accommodation related to disability? - Yes - other [please describe] - Text

Q8. Do you identify as refugee and displaced Person (R/DP) or a member of a host community?

Yes No [required]

Definition of R/DP: Refugees and Displaced Persons (R/DP), Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), and Host Communities

Refugees and Displaced Persons (R/DP) refers to people who have been forcibly displaced from their homes and livelihoods and experience displacement-

related vulnerabilities, including refugees as defined under the 1951 UN Convention and 1967 Protocol, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), returnees, and other displaced persons or groups of concern who may not hold formal legal status but face similar protection and inclusion challenges. Host Communities (UNHCR), refers to a community that hosts large populations of refugees or internally displaced persons, whether in camps, integrated into households, or independently.

Contact & Demographic Details

Q9. Mobile Number (Include your country code) [required]

Q10. WhatsApp Number (Include your country code) [required]

Q11. Email Address. Please only provide an active, personal email address. Please make sure to use this email address for all communication throughout the program, including responding to surveys and any correspondence outside your host organisation.

Q12. Alternative Email (if any) [optional]

Q13. Country of Origin [required]

Q14. Country of residence at the time of application [required]

Q15. Region/State/Province of residence at time of application [required]

Q16. Are you legally allowed to work in the country where the role is based (for example, do you have a valid work visa, citizenship, or the relevant residency documentation)? [required]

Yes No

Q17. How would you describe your current area of residence? [required]

Rural Urban

Alumni & Program Linkages

Q18. Are you an Alumni of the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program? [required]

Yes No

Q19. Are you a beneficiary/Alumni of any other Mastercard Foundation program? [required]

Yes No

Skip Logic: If the response to both Q18 and Q19 is “No”, skip to Q23

If “Yes” to Q19:

Q20. Programme name (most recent): (short text) [required]

Q21. Year you completed the program (most recent): [required]

Q22. Partner organization (most recent): (short text) [required]

Education Background

Q23. What is the highest level of education you have completed? [single select, required]

Secondary School/High School Diploma Bachelor's Degree Master's Degree Doctorate Vocational/Technical School Other (please specify)

Q24. Course or Field of Study [required]

Q25. List your educational qualifications or certifications and dates acquired including employability or career-readiness training you have received [required]

Work Experience & Employability Skills

Q26. How many years of work experience do you have? [required]

None Less than 1 year 1–2 years 3–5 years More than 5 years

Q27. Describe any previous employment or internship experience (organization, role, and duration). [required]

Example (LEAP Africa - Program Intern - June 2023 – August 2023)

Q28. Preferred work arrangement (there is no guarantee this would inform your placement): [required]

Physical (In-person) Remote Hybrid

If “Remote” → Q28. Can you confirm you have a personal laptop, stable internet and reliable electricity? (No No [required])

Q29. Preferred industries or sectors (select up to 3): [required] Creative Education Health Digital & Technology Finance Media / Communications Agriculture Public Sector / Government Entrepreneurship / Startups Other (specify)

Q30. Current Employment Status (Select all that apply) [required] Unemployed Self-employed Employed (Part-time) Employed (Full-time) Freelancing/Gig work

Q31. Do you currently earn an income? [required] Yes No
If “Yes” → Q31. Average Monthly Income (in ZAR). [required]

Agency, Confidence & Aspirations (This would not affect your chances of getting into the program but enable us to serve associates better)

Q32. How confident are you in making independent career decisions? [required] Very confident Somewhat confident Unsure Not confident

Q33. Briefly describe your career aspirations and what you hope to gain from the Associates Program. (paragraph) [required]

Q34. List the top three job roles you would like to work in, in order of preference (1 = most preferred, 3 = least preferred). [required] *You would select from a number of roles available and published by the placement partner.*

Placement Preferences

Q35. Preferred employer type: [required] Private Sector NGO / Nonprofit Government / Public Sector Startup/small or Medium Enterprise Other (specify)

Q36. When would you be available to start your placement if selected? (Earliest option should be March 2026) (Required) February 2026 March 2026 April 2026 May 2026 June 2026 July 2026 August 2026

Livelihood & Wellbeing

Q37. Who currently supports your main source of income? [required]

- Self Family Friends Grants The Mastercard Foundation Employer
 None Others (Please specify)

Q38. How would you describe your household's living conditions? [required]

- Doing well Managing Very Bad Not so good

Q39. Do you save regularly? [required] Yes No

Q40. On a scale of 1–5, how confident are you about managing challenges or setbacks? [required]

- (1 = Not confident, 5 = Very confident) 1 2 3 4 5

Safeguarding Awareness

Q41. Have you ever received any training on workplace safeguarding, gender, or inclusion? [required]

- Yes No

Q42. Do you know how to report a safeguarding issue? (*Safeguarding refers to the measures taken to protect individuals, especially vulnerable groups, from harm, abuse, exploitation, or neglect*) [required] Yes No

Q43. Would you feel comfortable reporting a safeguarding issue through an anonymous online form? Yes No

Final Consent & Submission

Q44. Kindly upload your Curriculum Vitae or resume in either Doc or PDF format with two references (name, organisation, email, and phone number). Please note that the name of your file MUST INCLUDE your first name and family (Full Official Name) so we can identify it as yours.

Declaration:

By submitting this form, I confirm that the information provided is true and accurate. I consent to be contacted for selection, onboarding, and monitoring, and I understand that submission does not guarantee placement. I understand that providing false information may result in disqualification from the program.

More information about timelines and subsequent stages will be communicated to you via email in the coming weeks. We appreciate your interest and wish you the very best in the selection process.