



AFTER SCHOOL CLUB FAQ

FOR SCHOOLS LOOKING TO CONTINUE THE MIND TREKKERS EXPERIENCE

What are Mind Trekkers After School Clubs (ASC)?

Mind Trekkers ASCs are student organizations within high schools where students learn Mind Trekkers demonstrations and in turn put on their own STEM event for local elementary students. The goals of a Mind Trekkers After-School Club are for students to: engage in hands-on activities related to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); gain STEM literacy and a college positive attitude; and give back to their local community by sharing that learned knowledge.



What benefits does these clubs provide for our school?

Mind Trekkers ASC allow your students to continue to engage in hands-on learning outside of the classroom. The club will receive mentoring from the Center for Pre-College Outreach staff and expertise in demonstration development. Also, students in ASC are eligible to apply for a special Summer Youth Programs scholarship reserved for ASC members.

What kind of a relationship will there be with Michigan Technological University?



Michigan Technological University will help to organize the new ASC and get it off the ground. We will help with supplying demonstrations for your club, financial support, and event planning. We ask that any use of the Mind Trekkers logo follow Michigan Tech's approved style guide. There will be periodic phone check-ins after meetings to see the progress of the club and possibly a site-visit but the club will be overall managed by the host school. An annual report will be required at the end of each school year.

Who would lead the club?

A teacher, usually a science teacher due to the STEM nature of the club, from the host school is needed to help organize the club. This lead teacher/advisor from the host school is needed to help organize meetings around busing, class schedules, and be a point of contact for the students interested in the club and the community. There will be a financial benefit for the champion of the club to compensate them for the time put in organizing the club and year end event.



What students would be targeted to join the club?

ASC's target motivated high school students. High school students can act as mentors for elementary and middle school students and can host their own events for younger students, allowing all grades to benefit from one club. Also, students in ASC are eligible to apply for a special Summer Youth Programs scholarship reserved for ASC members.

How often/for how long do clubs typically meet?

The standard model is for the club to meet twice a month for 1-1.5 hours per meeting. If there is interest from the students and the teacher leading it, the club can certainly meet more often! Although it can be difficult to coordinate time during the day, the club does not have to meet after school. We have had a large amount of success with in-class meetings because students can work it into their schedules more easily without missing sports practices or transportation home.

What activities are a part of the club?

A main component of ASC are the hands on demonstrations. Mind Trekkers has created a spreadsheet of great options to begin developing your pool of demonstrations that pair well together for clubs. You will also have access to all of our newly created demonstrations and engineering challenges. Additional demonstration ideas can be found on sites like YouTube, the



links on our website, and by having students create their own demonstrations to show at the next meeting. Local speakers from STEM businesses or colleges are a great addition to clubs and can serve as an invaluable resource for questions and as a role model. Clubs could also potentially tour these businesses or campuses. Once the club is established with committed students, you can also host an event for younger students where the club members will be the Mind Trekkers and perform their demonstrations for the rest of the school.