

## **King's Connect Mentoring Programme – FAQs**

### **I'm a current student at King's, how do I join King's Connect?**

Simply visit [King's Connect](#) and complete the registration form. All students are eligible to join no matter what discipline they are studying or what level of study they are at. Students can be a mentee, a mentor or both!

### **I'm an alumnus of King's, how do I join King's Connect?**

Simply visit [King's Connect](#) and complete the registration form. All alumni are eligible to join no matter what discipline they studied or when they graduated. Alumni can be a mentee, a mentor or both!

### **I don't live in the UK; can I still join King's Connect?**

Yes. We have members based in over 80 different countries across the world! Many members communicate via email, phone or skype so being located in different cities, countries or continents is not a problem.

### **I've set up an account, but it says my details are being verified. Is this normal?**

Yes, we sometimes need to cross reference the information you provide with the information we have on our database. This is done manually so can take 2-3 working days or longer during busy periods. Please be patient and don't try to create a second account in the meantime as each user should only have one account. You'll receive an automated email once your account has been verified and you'll be able to access the platform from this point.

### **How do I become a mentor and activate my mentoring profile on King's Connect?**

In order to be searchable to mentees as a mentor you will need to log into [King's Connect](#), click on your profile and then the 'Mentor' tab, and then click the green 'Activate Mentoring Now' button. We recommend filling out your profile as thoroughly as possible – you can sync your profile with your LinkedIn profile to save time. Please be as explicit as you can about your experience and what you can offer to a mentee, as this is how mentees decide whether you would be a good mentor for them.

### **Do I get paid to be a mentor?**

No. Being a mentor is an entirely voluntary role.

### **How can I find a mentor?**

First and foremost, join King's Connect. Once you have been accepted onto the platform you are then free to search for mentors based on the location, profession and industry that you are interested in. You can read through profiles of mentors and select who to contact. In your initial message think critically about what you want to achieve in contacting that member; introduce yourself and your request clearly and succinctly; and demonstrate that you are emailing them because you are genuinely interested in the route their career has taken, or in the work they've done. The value of King's Connect is that you can connect with several mentors on a one-off/short-term basis or you can connect with one or two mentors and establish deeper and longer-term partnerships. If you do not find a mentor that matches the exact criteria you are looking for, then please do widen your search. There are many fantastic mentors from around the world on King's Connect who are willing to offer great advice and guidance.

### **What can a mentor help me with?**

Each mentor will be able to offer different services and advice based upon their experience and will have selected what services they can offer. You can view their preferences via their profile. Services range from CV checking and providing interview practice through to offering work experience and networking opportunities.

### **How long should I communicate with my mentor for?**

Research shows that the most effective length of time for a mentoring relationship is 6-9 months. However it is entirely up to you and your mentor to determine how long you wish to communicate for, based on your objectives. Some members communicate for a day or two, others a few months and others for several years. If you have met your objectives or your circumstances change and you no longer want to continue communicating with your mentor, do let them know and share what you have gained from the relationship. To officially close a mentoring relationship on King's Connect please click on the 'Finish Mentoring' button.

### **Will I continue to be a part of King's Connect when I graduate?**

Yes. All students on the platform will automatically stay a part of King's Connect upon graduating, we simply convert your student profile to an alumni profile.

### **Will there be an opportunity to meet members at events?**

Yes. We host mentoring events across the year in London and internationally. Once you have joined King's Connect, you will receive invitations to our upcoming mentoring events.

### **Who can I turn to for further advice/information about mentoring?**

Please email [mentoring@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:mentoring@kcl.ac.uk) if you still have a question unanswered.