Frequently Asked Questions (NRENs)

Who can participate in this programme?
Any young candidate nominated by a GÉANT Project NREN partner studying at a university or college in a GÉANT partner country, or working at a GÉANT NREN.

How many candidates can you nominate for the programme?
We accept max 3 candidates per NREN.

What kind of candidates should you look for?
Ideal candidates are (under) graduate, master and PhD students (possibly interns at the NREN), who want to commit time and energy to learn and develop themselves beyond the basic university programme.

What kind of topic can be submitted for a lightning talk
The subject matter of each presentation could be any idea, project or research or innovation the candidate have been working on that addresses a technical, economic, legal, security or environmental aspect in any IT and networks field. Previously submitted topics.

How competitive is the programme?
All nominated candidates that comply to the programme requirements will be admitted to the Future Talent Programme - which in itself does not have a competitive element. The competing element comes with the acceptance of the proposal for the lightning talk at TNC where the candidate competes with all the other proposals the conference will receive. The TNC programme committee decides on the winning proposals based on original content and clarity. The training we offer aims to bring young, often unexperienced applicants in a better position to be selected.

What do you need to send to Future Talent Programme to nominate a candidate?
A complete application includes the online registration at https://eventr.geant.org/events/3194 including your contact details as a mentor, your candidate’s contact details and university and a short description of the topic the candidate wants to submit as a Lightning Talk. The application must be submitted by 28 February 2020.

What is the duration of the programme?
The programme runs for 3 months from March to June. Depending on the number of participants the training webinars will be organised in groups of max 5 participants and will run in March and April. Finalists whose proposals are accepted by the TNC Programme Committee will get 1:1 coaching from a professional speaker coach prior to the conference. The TNC conference will take place from 8-12 June in Brighton, UK.

What will be your role as a host and mentor?
Your role as a mentor is to engage with your candidate on a regular basis, provide encouragement and advice during the programme and attend related events. If your candidate is selected to speak at TNC, we encourage you to support him or her at the conference. Travel cost and some manpower for mentors can be funded. We ask the hosting NREN to finance the candidate's travel arrangements in advance. All candidates' costs is funded by the programme and can be reclaimed from GN4.3-WP1-T5 following the normal GÉANT project claimant rules and procedures.

What’s the programme timeline?
February: Registration deadline 28 Feb 2020
March: Submission Lightning Talk topic to TNC until 09 Mar 2020
March: Group Training Webinars
May: 1:1 coaching for finalists
June: Participation in TNC20 programme

Have a different question?
Email: glad@geant.org

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