



VANGUARD STEM ACADEMY

Admissions & Placement Application

Students | College Students | Adult Learners | Working Professionals

Vanguard STEM Academy provides immersive, project-based learning experiences in STEM, Artificial Intelligence, Business Intelligence, Consulting, Leadership, and Innovation. Please complete every applicable section thoroughly and honestly. Incomplete applications may delay review.

STEP 1 — APPLICANT INFORMATION

Program Selection

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Youth STEM Academy | ☐ Business Intelligence Academy |
| ☐ AI Innovation Academy | ☐ Executive Leadership Academy |
| ☐ International Consulting Academy | |

International Consulting Project Preference

Complete only when applying to the International Consulting Academy.

- ☐ Engineering Systems & Infrastructure Consulting Experience
- ☐ Educational Innovation & Policy Consulting Experience
- ☐ No Preference — assign me based on program needs

Applicant Type

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ High School Student | ☐ College Student |
| ☐ Adult Learner | ☐ Working Professional |

Personal Information

First Name

Last Name

Date of Birth

Mobile Phone

Street Address

Middle Initial

Preferred Name (optional)

Email Address

Home Phone (optional)

City



State

Country

ZIP Code

Emergency Contact

Full Name

Phone Number

Relationship

Email Address

Parent/Guardian Information

Required for applicants under age 18.

Parent/Guardian Name

Email Address

Relationship

Phone Number

Education / Employment Information

Current School or Employer

Expected Graduation Date (if applicable)

Current Major or Career Field

Website / Portfolio (optional)

Current Grade Level or Job Title

Current GPA (students only)

LinkedIn Profile (optional)

STEP 2 — PERSONAL STATEMENT

Required for all applicants. Answer thoughtfully and concisely.

1. What attracted you to Vanguard, and why is this the right program for you?

2. How does your chosen academy align with your interests, career goals, or future aspirations?

3. Describe a personal, academic, or professional challenge and what you learned from it.

4. If you could solve one problem in your school, community, workplace, or the world, what would it be and why?



5. Why should Vanguard select you? What strengths, qualities, or experiences will you bring to the cohort?

STEP 3 — TECHNICAL READINESS & SKILLS

This section helps us understand your current experience so we can better support your learning. Prior experience is not required for admission.

1. Have you previously participated in any STEM, technology, engineering, coding, artificial intelligence, robotics, business intelligence, or related courses, programs, or projects?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please briefly describe your experience.

2. Please list any technical skills, programming languages, software, platforms, certifications, or AI tools you have experience using.

Examples: Python, SQL, JavaScript, HTML/CSS, Excel, Tableau, Power BI, ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, GitHub, VS Code, Google Colab, Replit, Jupyter Notebook, etc.

3. Tell us about any technical, leadership, research, consulting, engineering, or professional experience that you believe would help you succeed at Vanguard STEM Academy.

4. Is there a specific technical skill or technology you hope to learn during your time at Vanguard STEM Academy?

STEP 4 — PROGRAM COMMITMENT & AGREEMENTS

Vanguard STEM Academy is designed to mirror real academic, engineering, consulting, and workplace environments. Participants are expected to demonstrate professionalism, accountability, teamwork, and a commitment to excellence throughout the duration of the program.

Program schedules vary by academy and cohort. Applicants will receive their official schedule upon admission.

Weekly Time Commitment

Expect approximately 9–11 hours per week, including live instruction, independent assignments, research, team meetings, consulting work, presentation preparation, mentor meetings, and capstone development.

- I can commit approximately 9–11 hours each week.
- I understand that consistent participation is required throughout the cohort.

Assignment Expectations

- Assignments must be submitted by established deadlines.
- Repeated late or missing work may affect my standing.
- I will actively participate in every class session.
- Quitting a team project or failing to contribute may result in removal.

Professional Conduct & Collaboration

- Treat instructors, mentors, guest speakers, partners, and students with professionalism and respect.
- Contribute fairly to team assignments and consulting projects.
- Communicate professionally in meetings, email, chat platforms, and presentations.
- Uphold Vanguard standards of integrity, accountability, and collaboration.
- Refrain from plagiarism, cheating, falsifying work, harassment, discrimination, or disruptive behavior.
- Understand that policy violations may result in discipline or dismissal.

Technology Commitment

- I have reliable internet access.
- I have consistent access to a laptop or desktop computer.
- I am willing to install required software and learn new technologies.

Transportation Responsibility

Some activities may occur in person, including industry visits, consulting engagements, networking events, guest speakers, Demo Day, graduation, and partner meetings.

- I am responsible for reliable transportation to all required in-person activities.
- I understand lateness or absence from required in-person events may affect my participation and standing.

Real-World Learning Acknowledgment

Participants may work on AI projects, Business Intelligence initiatives, engineering design challenges, international consulting engagements, product development, community innovation, client presentations, and cross-functional team projects.

- I understand I will be expected to perform professionally by meeting deadlines, communicating effectively, collaborating with teammates, and representing Vanguard with integrity.

Applicant Certification

- The information in this application is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge.
- False or misleading information may result in denial of admission or removal from the program.
- Submitting this application does not guarantee admission or scholarship funding.
- I authorize Vanguard to verify academic, educational, employment, or financial information when necessary.
- I agree to comply with Vanguard policies, attendance requirements, academic standards, and Code of Conduct.



- Vanguard may dismiss participants who fail to meet academic, attendance, behavioral, or professional expectations.
- Schedules, instructors, projects, guest speakers, and activities may change for educational or operational needs.
- Photos, videos, or recordings may be used for educational and promotional purposes unless a written media opt-out is submitted by me or my parent/guardian if I am under 18.

Signature

Applicant Name

Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature *(Required when the applicant is under 18).*

Parent/Guardian Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

STEP 5 — SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (UPLOAD OR EMAIL)

To complete your application, please upload the required documents below or email to ADMISSIONS@VSTEMACD.ORG. These documents help our Admissions Committee evaluate your academic background, professional experience, and readiness for your selected Vanguard Academy.

High School Students

Required

- Current Transcript **or** Most Recent Report Card
- Resume *(if available)*

College Students

Required

- College Transcript
- Current Resume

Adult Learners & Working Professionals

Required

- Current Resume