

GetGuru

Product Backlog

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Problem Statement:

Tutors, though often available, are hard to find. Students often lack the resources to find and judge the quality of academic help available locally. With a wide range of subjects to study with varying difficulty levels, it becomes hard to choose the right tutor from a large pool of contenders. Already existing apps do not provide a medium to rate the tutors in order to judge their quality. This could be a huge drawback for students trying to make a crucial choice about their academics.

Background Information:

Audience:

Currently, students are often looking for ways to contact able and available tutors. Tutors are also looking to get in touch with students to offer their services. Additionally, parents, teachers, and academic institutions form part of the audience as they often search for academic help for their students.

Similar Applications:

A few services exist, which provide a similar functionality. Websites such as tutormatchingservice.com and cardinalscholars.com as well as apps like tutor360 help students and tutors connect, much like our app.

Limitations:

While there exist a few solutions to meet the needs of these stakeholders, they are not exhaustive and do not provide a communication channel. Those that do, do not provide additional functionalities such as tutor ratings and filtering based on geo-location. Existing services are limiting in their need for an intermediary such as an institution in order to provide their service and credible tutors. Moreover, the existing apps have a revenue model which requires the students to pay in order to make full use of their services.

Our app would provide:

- A chat feature for immediate communication between tutors and students.
- An essential ratings and reviews feature which is critical for choosing the best tutor.
- Location based filtering.
- Free services to both client-ends: the tutors as well as the students or parents searching for able tutors.

Requirements:**Functional:**

- As a user, I'd like to create an account
- As a user, I'd like to register either as a tutor or as a student or both
- As a user, I'd like to receive notifications when contacted via chat
- As a user, I'd like to view my chat history
- As a tutor, I'd like to create a profile (Including a profile picture, relevant contact information, teaching preferences, and schedule)

- As a tutor, I'd like to list my subjects of expertise
- As a tutor, I'd like to edit my style of teaching (group, one-on-one, etc)
- As a tutor, I'd like to view my own ratings & reviews
- As a student, I'd like to search for tutors based on location
- As a student, I'd like to search for tutors based on ratings and reviews
- As a student, I'd like to search for tutors based on subject
- As a student, I'd like to shortlist tutors for future reference
- As a student, I'd like to view tutor profiles
- As a student, I'd like to instantly connect to the tutors through chat
- As a student, I'd like to rate & review the tutors
- As a student, I'd like to schedule a meeting with the tutor using an in-app scheduling assistant (if time allows)
- As a user, I'd like to set my chat status (if time allows)
- As a user, I'd like to view other's chat status' (if time allows)

Non-Functional:

- As a user, I'd like to have fast response times
- As a developer, I'd like the least possible amount of data storage on the client side
- As a developer, I'd like my service to be scalable by using mySQL to manage my database
- As a developer, I'd like my database to be secure by preventing SQL injections using string validations.

- As a developer, I'd like a RESTful API built to handle requests from a variety of clients apart from the android app
- As a developer, I'd like the RESTful API to retrieve information from the database whenever there's a request from the client side
- As a developer, I'd like to validate all user accounts to prevent redundancy
- As a developer, I'd like to be able to test on a local development server easily.
- As a developer, I'd like to have a development API server and a production API server
- As a developer, I'd like to be able to switch the server (development server or productions server) the android app is sending requests to
- As a developer, I'd like the amount of allowable downtime per month to be one hour