IBM **Accelerate**
Talent Identification Program

Software Development Track
Summer 2021 Welcome Packet

IBM Accelerate Program Overview

Congratulations on joining IBM Accelerate! Throughout the 8-weeks, you'll be immersed in interactive trainings to develop both technical and foundational skills needed to succeed in your designated career track. IBM Accelerate will equip you with the knowledge to accelerate your career and the confidence to apply to future internships or full-time job opportunities.

Please find below important pertinent information regarding the program, including software programs to download, the complete schedule, expectations, etc.

Virtual Program Tools

Slack

As part of IBM Accelerate, you'll be given the opportunity to network and communicate with IBMers and peers. The best way to start getting to know one another is through Slack. You should have received an invite to download Slack and join different channels to start communicating with others in the program. If you're not familiar with Slack, it's a platform that allows for group messaging, video and text personal chats, and document sharing. Learn more about Slack here, and access the Accelerate Slack workspace here.

WebEx

Cisco WebEx combines audio conference and web-meeting capabilities enabling you to share your screen and files, use a shared whiteboard, chat, set up Q&A sessions, and record your meetings. You can attend meetings on your computer, from a mobile device, by phone, or even using a video system. Download the browser plugin or tool for your local system here!

Expectations

Attendance

Attendance will be recorded each session. You are able to miss (1) track and (1) foundational skills session and can still complete the program successfully, but we encourage you to attend all classes as they build upon each other.

Participation

You'll be expected to be an active learner, participating in group sessions, answering questions via chat, and having your camera on during each session.

Networking

At IBM, we believe in the power of community and understand the value of creating authentic connections. While you will be provided with a fully immersive learning experience during your time with us, we'd like to also provide you with the opportunity to create an even stronger network by helping you to facilitate networking conversations with fellow peers and IBMers throughout your 8-week journey with us. Upon joining the Accelerate program in June, you'll be provided with an invitation to participate in an optional networking initiative.

Our IBM Early Talent Networking Café (powered by Ten Thousand Coffees) is a 1:1 matching platform for participating students and IBMers to grow their IBM network and have meaningful conversations that align with selected goals, interests and skills. Using a strategic AI matching system, platform users will be matched to a fellow peer (this could be someone outside of your specific track!) or IBMer based upon interests indicated at profile set-up. Please know that this will be an optional offering for you to participate in outside of your classroom sessions, however, we highly encourage you to get involved!

Additional details about this networking program (including matching frequency/time expectation) and how to participate will be shared during your first week of the Accelerate program!

Program Dates

Foundational Skills Mondays, 7pm – 8pm EST	Career Track Wednesdays, 6pm – 8pm EST
June 7 [7pm - 8:30pm EST]*	June 9
June 14	June 16
June 21	June 23
June 28	June 30
July 6 (Tuesday)	July 7
July 12	July 14
July 19	July 21
July 26	July 28

* The first session of IBM Accelerate will run from 7pm – 8:30pm EST, all other sessions will run from 7pm – 8pm EST

Foundational Skills Sessions

Foundational Skills sessions will help you build the skills needed to succeed in college and your career. In today's world, it's not just technical skills that will help you be successful, but the foundational skills as well. These offerings will be different than the learnings you might have from your college/university as they will focus on an employer's perspective.

June 7: Program Introduction & Mentorship & Relationship Building
June 14: Growth Mindset, Learning Agility, & Adaptability
June 21: Corporate Communications
June 28: Ways of Working: Agile & Design Thinking
July 6: Diversity & Inclusion
July 12: Professional Branding, Resume Building, and LinkedIn Profile Refinement
July 19: Personal Advocacy
July 26: Interviewing

Career Track Sessions - Software

As a Software participant, you'll work on teamwork, critical thinking, problem solving & coding logic, and programming skills. You'll do this all while enhancing your programming competencies and understanding of coding assessment platforms.

June 9: Front End Technology Introduction
June 16: Javascript, React & Styling
June 23: Event Handling, Synchronocity & Testing
June 30: APIs, Server vs. Client Side, Back End & HTTP
July 7: Functional Back End Hosts, SDKs & Design Patterns
July 14: Security & X-Force
July 21: CloudNative Development
July 28: Project Presentations

Badge Description and Criteria
In order to earn a virtual badge to add to your LinkedIn and resume, you'll need to meet the attendance criteria and pass the Software Developer assessment.

You'll need to demonstrate a deep understanding and skills in the following programming competencies: data structures & algorithms, front end & back-end development fundamentals, versioning, application security, and project management. You'll also have gained a solid understanding of coding assessment platforms, GitHub, the software development lifecycle (SDLC), and coding logic.

Lastly, you will show understanding of foundational career skills: relationship building, learning agility, corporate communications, Agile Methodology, Design Thinking, personal branding, advocacy, and interviewing while exhibiting internship and/or career readiness.

+ Attendance: Participants may miss no more than 1 Foundation Session and 1 Track Session over the course of the 8-week program.

+ Track Assessment: Details specific to this track will be provided when you begin the program.

Track Online Resources

Please be on the lookout for a coding assessment, which you should receive via email no later than June 1. **You'll receive a HackerRank coding assessment via email** to understand your skill level pre-program. Once received you'll have 3 days to complete. These are the email details:

Sender: IBM Corporation Hiring Team   **Email:** support@hackerrankforwork.com   **Subject:** 2021 IBM Accelerate Pre-Program Exam Invitation

It's also important that you familiarize yourself with the specific tools below and complete the below tasks **at least 72 hours prior** to the first technical session on **Wednesday June 9th, at 6 PM (EDT)** in order to be fully prepared to participate. Please complete and review the following materials:

Required (Approximately 2 hours)

These tools will be helpful in your program participation and set you up for success in the software development track.

- GitHub - Review best practices and how-to's
    - Document: Git tutorial
    - Video: (8 min 11 sec) "GitHub How-To Tutorial"
    - Video: Git & GitHub crash course(~30 minutes
- Node.js
    - Download the runtime environment
- CreateReactApp environment
    - Review and Download the tool
- VisualStudio Code Editor
    - Download the Coding Editor
    - You may optionally choose a different Code Editor of your Choice

Online Resources

- Register for the IBM Academic Initiative
  - Free student access to "industrial strength" tools and resources that can help in your desired field
- Test your knowledge and sharpen your skills with **Data Structures & Algorithms Practice Resources**
  - HackerRank Interview Prep Kit
    - Review and practice the data structure topics covered in the Prep Kit, with special attention to the following: Arrays, String Manipulation, Dictionaries & Hashmaps, and Warm-Up Challenges
  - "Learn DS & Algorithms" course from Programiz

Highly Recommended Pre-Work

These are activities are highly recommended as a starting point for your active participation in your track to be prepared for the first session!

JavaScript
- Video: JavaScript Tutorial for Beginners (~48 minutes)
- Document: JavaScript Basics

CSS
- Video: Learn CSS (~20 minutes)
- Document: MDN Web Docs

React.js (UX)
- Video: React Hooks (1.5 hours)
- Video: Free React Basics (1 hour)
- Document: React Docs

HTML
- Video: HTML Tutorial for beginners (~1 hour)
- Docs: MDN Web Docs

Material (UI)
- Video: Material UI for Beginners(~32 minutes)
- Docs: Material UI docs

Checklist for Prior to Day 1:

- ☐ Download Webex to your computer.
- ☐ Join the IBM Accelerate Program Slack channel and introduce yourself
- ☐ Verify you have the login information and correct time (EDT) – this will be sent to you no later than June 3
- ☐ Check to see that your audio and video are working
- ☐ Be camera ready
- ☐ Review your track resources and recommended pre-work
- ☐ Come ready to Accelerate your Career!

If you have any questions, please reach out to us at accelerate@ca.ibm.com.