

Call for Mentor Applications

Application Overview

Open to any AVAC Alumni interested in serving as a mentor in the [AVAC Advocacy Navigator Program](#) to emerging HIV prevention advocates currently residing in Southern or Eastern Africa:

- The Advocacy Navigator is a six-month program in HIV prevention advocacy
- Mentors will provide one-on-one mentorship to up to three Navigators with 2-4 hour/week time commitment
- Modest communication and mentorship stipend provided

Application Deadline: March 8, 2024

Shortlisted Candidate Interviews: April 8 - April 19, 2024

Pre-Program Orientation: Week of May 27-31, 2024

Program Dates: June 3 – December 8, 2024

Interested in applying? Learn more [here](#).

About AVAC

AVAC was founded in 1995 as the AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition to speed the development of preventive HIV vaccines. Now, AVAC works to accelerate the ethical development and global delivery of HIV prevention options as part of a comprehensive and integrated response to the epidemic. Through education, policy analysis, advocacy and a network of global collaborations, we mobilize and support efforts to:

- **DELIVER** proven HIV prevention tools for immediate impact.
- **DEMONSTRATE** and roll out new HIV prevention options.
- **DEVELOP** long-term solutions needed to end the epidemic.

Learn more about who we are and what we do at our [website](#).

Advocacy Navigator Program

The *Advocacy Navigator* is an AVAC professional development opportunity combining training and mentorship for young and emerging advocates in the field of HIV prevention advocacy. The program mobilizes a cohort of ambitious individuals and facilitates the transfer of knowledge and skills to support the participants in confidently engage in HIV prevention advocacy. The program provides online coursework, personalized mentorship by seasoned advocates, and opportunities to directly apply learning through a Community Advocacy Project. [AVAC Advocacy Fellows](#) program alumni serve as mentors to connect *Navigators* (program participants) to AVAC’s growing global network, bolstering existing campaigns and fueling advocacy efforts. The program involves three months of coursework and project development, followed by three months of “project implementation” whereby participants implement their Community Advocacy Project with the support of their mentor.

Application materials can be found [here](#).

Program Benefits & Support (Navigators)

Participation in the program is free for all accepted Navigators, who can expect to receive:

- Capacity strengthening and skills building through online coursework
- Mentorship
- Networking
- Communication stipend
- Project Grant to implement a Community Advocacy Project
- Certificate of Completion

Navigator Eligibility

- The program is open to any full-time, part-time, volunteer, or unemployed individuals located in Eastern and Southern Africa who have the ability to complete online coursework
- The program encourages applicants with an interest in HIV prevention advocacy and those who ally or identify with key populations
- AVAC encourages former and/or future applicants to the AVAC Advocacy Fellows Program who were not selected

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- Applicants must have access to internet, access to a personal or work laptop or computer, and their own mobile phone
- Applicants must be able to commit to a minimum of 3-6 hours per week to the program
- Applicants must have the support from their employer or volunteer organization to commit the time to program (this is not required for applicants who are not currently employed)
- Applicants must be English-speaking

Program Benefits & Support (Mentors)

Mentors selected to participate in the program can expect to receive these benefits:

- **Leadership Experience:** serving as experts in the field, mentors can expect to sharpen their leadership and communication skills
- **Skills Refresher:** have an opportunity to refresh and update their knowledge and skills in the field of HIV prevention and advocacy
- **Networking:** connect with emerging advocates in the field to build the movement of allies and empower the next generation of HIV prevention advocacy leaders
- **Communication Stipend:** receive a modest monthly stipend to offset any data and communication expenses required to fully participate in the program
- **Mentorship Stipend:** receive a modest monthly stipend to support up to three Navigators

Mentor Eligibility

- The program is open to any full-time, part-time, volunteer, or unemployed AVAC Alumni located in Eastern and Southern Africa
- Applicants must have access to internet, a personal or work laptop or computer, and a mobile phone
- Priority will be given to prospective mentors with some experience in providing mentorship and specifically interested in growing their experience in mentorship and building their leadership skills
- Applicants must be English-speaking

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Program Expectations

Throughout the course of the 6-month program, mentors will be expected to:

- Attend a pre-program mentorship and communication training
- Commit to mentoring up to three Navigators (program participants)
- Commit to meeting with each Navigator weekly to answer questions, review online coursework assignments, support work on their Community Advocacy Project, and other topics as they arise, with an anticipated time commitment is 2-3 hours per week
- Engage in regular meetings with their assigned Navigators
- Support each Navigator to design and implement a Community Advocacy Project
- Introduce each Navigator to a minimum of four individuals in their professional network to support them in building their own professional network
- Support each participant in developing a one-page concept note of short and long-term goals describing how they plan to continue to engage in HIV prevention advocacy work beyond the program

How to Apply

To apply, click [here](#) to access the application materials.

Questions should be sent to: fellows@avac.org