**REGULATIONS ON THE "YESSENOV LAUNCH PAD" PROGRAM**

**I GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. The **YESSENOV LAUNCH PAD** program provides ten (10) grants   
   for additional training in hard skills and/or soft skills, but no more than two online/offline courses lasting up to 12 months.
2. The program is funded by the initiative of the Shakhmardan Yessenov Foundation (hereinafter referred to as the “Foundation”).
3. The program goal is to develop professional and supra-professional skills that help to solve professional and life tasks at a higher quality level.
4. In the Regulations, the meaning of the term "grant" is financial support for the competition winners in the amount of 500 000 (five hundred thousand) tenge, showing the greatest interest in obtaining additional education and focus.

1.5. The winners are selected during an open competition.

**II PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION:**

* 1. The program is long-term and is implemented in several stages:
     1. The first stage is a competitive selection of the program winners;
     2. The second stage:

- each winner is assigned a mentor from among the foundation's experts;

- The winners independently search for online/offline courses, consult and coordinate the quality of the training program with mentors;

2.1.3. The third stage is the training.

* 1. For the competitive selection of the program, an Expert Council is created, which selects the participants. The decision of the Expert Council is submitted to the Board of Trustees for review;
  2. The decision of the Board of Trustees is approved by order of the Foundation in the form of an officially certified list of program winners. The list of winners is published on the Foundation's website;
  3. Applications are accepted in Kazakh, Russian and English. The working language of the program is Russian;
  4. The Foundation has the right to refuse to provide funds without giving reasons for the refusal;
  5. The Foundation reserves the right to award fewer than 10 grants if the Expert Council decides so.

**III REQUIREMENTS FOR CANDIDATES**

* 1. Participants of the program can be citizens of the Republic of Kazakhstan over 18 years old, students of the last year of a bachelor's degree, undergraduates, doctoral candidates and acting specialists in the field of information technologies.
  2. The following qualities will be considered in determining the winner:
     1. high intellectual potential;
     2. the desire to develop their professional skills;
     3. a wide range of professional skills;
     4. focus on performance;
     5. the desire and ability to take responsibility for the quality of your own life;
  3. The candidate must declare and confirm the desire to improve his/her professional skills in the following requirements (by category):
     1. **Front end developer (or full stack)**
     2. **Back end developer (or full stack)**
     3. **System level programmer**
     4. **Required knowledge**
     5. **Mobile developer**
     6. **Database engineer**
     7. **Quality assurance, quality control engineer**

\*Directions for the development of personal skills:

* + 1. **Project management в IT**
    2. **Professional communication and negotiation**
    3. **Master of presentation and public speaking**
    4. **Stress management**
    5. **Time management**
    6. **Emotional Intelligence**
    7. **Leadership and management of project teams**

*\* An additional option is not possible without professional skills courses. There can be other directions if they are necessary, reasonable and agreed upon with the mentor.*

* 1. **General requirements:**
     1. The candidate must have a command of English at least level B1 and confirm the language level:
  2. by the IELTS certificate - at least 4;
  3. by the TOEFL iBT certificate - minimum 40;
  4. by the training in English.
     1. Work experience in the field of information technology;
     2. Final year Bachelor's degree, Bachelor's degree, Master's degree, PhD, major: 6B06 Information and Communication Technology and/or current information technology professionals.
  5. To participate in the competition, the candidate must:
     1. Fill out an online application on the Foundation's website – yessenovfoundation.org
     2. Attach to the application:

Required documents:

1. Scan of the identity card;
2. A letter of motivation, in which he should disclose why he needs additional skills and how they will affect his professional and personal life;
3. CV.

Additional documents:

1. A portfolio demonstrating the candidate's achievements and/or expressed interests in a particular area of the IT-sphere and provide relevant evidence: - no more than 3 documents;
2. Recommendations - no more than 1 document;
3. Certificates for academic achievements, successes in research and/or engineering activities, participation in conferences, seminars of different levels - not more than 3 documents\*;
4. Own, collective publications - no more than 2;
5. Diploma if available (last place of study) - no more than 1 document;
6. Certificates for social activity and volunteering – no more than 2 certificates\*

*\*The Foundation is considering a limited number of certificates. The candidate must self-select the certificates that best reflect his/her achievements.*

* 1. Applications are accepted on the Foundation's website **from March 10 to April 22, 2022.**
  2. By submitting an application on the Foundation's website, the candidate confirms his/her agreement with the terms of the Competition and also confirms his/her readiness to fulfill them in full.

**IV STAGES OF COMPETITIVE SELECTION**

* 1. The competition consists of two (2) rounds, at the end of each round the best applicants are selected.
  2. The first round is the evaluation of applications.

Applications received on time are evaluated by Foundation staff and independent experts **from April 25 to May 05, 2022**:

Applications are evaluated according to the following criteria:

* + 1. portfolio quality;
    2. the quality of the motivation letter;
    3. knowledge of programming languages;
    4. work experience;
    5. participation in Olympiads, conferences, exhibitions, seminars;
    6. availability of publications;
    7. knowledge of English;
    8. activity in social life;

The results of the first round are communicated to the candidate by e-mail. The list of candidates for the second round is published on the Foundation website on **May 10, 2022.**

**At the end of the first round, no more than 20 participants are selected.**

* 1. The second round is an online interview, individual and/or collective.

The online interview with members of the expert council and a psychologist takes place from **May 11 to 24, 2022.**

The following competencies are assessed by independent experts during the interview process:

* + 1. professional skills;
    2. learnability and the ability to quickly perceive and analyze new information;
    3. purposefulness;
    4. the ability to adapt to a new situation and find non-standard solutions;
    5. communication skills;
    6. clarity and reasonableness in setting tasks;
    7. emotional intelligence;
    8. other.
  1. **According to the results of the second round, 10 winners of the program are selected.**

**V CONDITIONS FOR RECEIVING AND PAYMENT OF SPONSORSHIP**

* 1. The Foundation assists Program winners in finding quality continuing education courses to improve professional and/or personal skills.
  2. Payment of sponsorship is made on the basis of the agreement concluded between the Scientific and Educational Foundation named after Academic Shakhmardan Yessenov and the program winner.
  3. The winner of the Competition, who received a grant for education, is obliged to comply with the terms of the Sponsorship Agreement concluded with the Foundation, including, but not limited to:

1. to attend classes according to the schedule and not to miss classes without a good reason;
2. responsibly perform all tasks and assignments for independent work within the framework of training in courses;
3. pass exams on time;
4. comply with other obligations and rules of the training organization, where the winner of the Competition will be trained in the courses.

5.4. For all questions, please contact Aigerim Sultan: [aigerim.s@yessenovfoundation.org](mailto:aigerim.s@yessenovfoundation.org) (+7 701 627 9607 ) or Irina Grishchenko [irina.g@yessenovfoundation.org](mailto:irina.g@yessenovfoundation.org) (+7 771 775 1815 ).

5.5. The Foundation reserves the right to verify the information provided by any legal means and to exclude any Applicant from the program if the information does not correspond to reality.

5.6. The Foundation reserves the right not to give explanations about the motives and reasons for decisions made on applicants for educational grants.