This year again, the International Astronautical Federations introduces the Abstract Mentor Programme (AMP) with the objective to help young or less experienced researchers improve their abstracts before submitting them, in order to increase the chance of their work being presented at the IAC.

**WHAT IS THE ABSTRACT MENTOR PROGRAMME?**
The programme especially targets researchers from resource-limited settings, who lack access to opportunities for rigorous mentoring in research and writing and for whom online distance education is proven to cost-effectively build research capacity. We especially encourage submitters from developing countries to take advantage of this unique opportunity. The Abstract Mentor Programme is completely independent of the IAC 2020 abstract review and selection process.

**WHEN IS THE PROGRAMME AVAILABLE?**
The AMP opens on 9 December 2019 and will close on 14 February 2020.

**WHO CAN USE THE MENTORING SERVICE?**
The AMP is open to everyone with a proficient level of English.

**IS THE MENTORING FREE?**
Yes, but each participant can make a maximum of 1 submission.

**HOW DO I SUBMIT A DRAFT ABSTRACT FOR MENTORING?**
The deadline to submit your draft abstract for the AMP is 14 February 2020, 23:59 CET. Mentees must use the abstract AMP form which is available on the IAF website. Once reviewed by the mentor, mentees must submit their final abstract at [www.iafastro.net](http://www.iafastro.net) by 28 February, 23:59 CET.

**WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I HAVE SUBMITTED AN ABSTRACT FOR REVIEW?**
We match your abstract with a mentor specialized in your field of research and you will receive feedback within 14 working days.
**WHAT DOES A MENTOR DO?**
Mentors review your abstract based on a set of guidelines and provide you with feedback within 14 working days.

**HOW DO I GET FEEDBACK FROM THE MENTOR?**
Mentors submit their feedback to the IAF Secretariat, and who then forward it to the mentee. It is therefore essential that you provide a valid e-mail address when you contact us at amp@iafastro.org.

**IS THE SERVICE AVAILABLE ONLY IN ENGLISH?** Yes, the AMP is only available in English.

*Note: all abstracts submitted to the IAC 2020 must be in English.*

**WHAT KIND OF QUESTIONS CAN I ASK MY MENTOR?**
You can also ask mentors questions on practical issues, such as clarity of writing and formal requirements of the abstract, as well as any methodological or scientific questions that may arise from the abstract content. The answers will guide you to edit and make improvements to the abstract before you officially submit it to the congress.

Here are some examples of previously asked questions:

- Is my introduction extensive enough?
- Are my conclusions clear and well supported by the data?
- Have I described the method well enough?
- What part of the abstract could I edit to shorten the text?
- Would a graph or table be useful?
- What other conclusions/lessons learned should I include?

*Note: Mentors may not write, translate or make changes to the draft abstract on your behalf*

**WHAT KIND OF QUESTIONS AM I NOT ALLOWED TO ASK MENTORS?**
Mentors will not answer questions related to:

- Whether or not s/he thinks your abstract will be accepted to the congress
- Grammar issues
- Other congress programmes such as scholarships

**IS ABSTRACT MENTORING A PART OF THE IAC 2020 ABSTRACT REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS?**
No, mentoring is completely independent of the abstract review and selection process. Once you have finalized your abstract you need to submit it to the congress through your IAF account at www.iafastro.net.