

SOUTH AFRICAN MATHEMATICS FOUNDATION

Partnership opportunities

The **South African Mathematics Foundation (SAMF)**, a non profit company, was founded in 2004 by the **Association for Mathematics Education of South Africa (AMESA)** and the **South African Mathematical Society (SAMS)**.

SAMF's vision is to play a leading role in expanding the base of mathematics excellence in South Africa by contributing towards professional development of mathematics educators, promoting the advancement of mathematics through creating awareness of and developing skills in mathematics, research, advocacy and identifying and nurturing of mathematically talented youth towards an innovative landscape in South Africa for science, business, finance and engineering.

SAMF is well-known for the South African Mathematics Olympiad (grades 8-12) and the South African Mathematics Challenge (grades 4-7).

You are invited to join us in partnership to make this vision a reality

SAMF is powered by a superb team of professionals who work co-operatively with government, schools and other stakeholders in order to improve mathematics education in South Africa. Our Project Managers are not only well qualified with a background in mathematics education, but have a proven track record with several years of successful programmes.

Most people see corporate social investment as an obligation, but we see it as a unique opportunity to contribute in a concrete way to improving South Africa at a grassroot level. In addition, there are some distinct benefits in partnering with SAMF:

- An opportunity to contribute to the development of mathematical skills, which are vital for the country's economic growth.
- Allows partner to set partnership investment against own taxable income (SAMF can issue a Section 18a tax certificate).
- Marketing benefits through branding.
- An opportunity to offer bursaries to the country's most talented young mathematicians.
- Media exposure throughout the year at several SAMF events, some televised.
- Scoring BEE points on Social Economic and Skills Development.
- Access to names of top achievers.
- Naming rights.
(subject to sponsorship package chosen)

There are several opportunities to get involved at various levels:

1. Professional development for under-qualified mathematics teachers:

There is an acute shortage of mathematically qualified teachers in South Africa and, according to the World Economic Forum 2017/8, South Africa ranks 128th out of 137 countries for the quality of its mathematics and science education.

In co-operation with the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences Schools Enrichment Centre (AIMSSEC), another not-for-profit organisation, we offer professional development courses for under-qualified mathematics teachers. AIMSSEC also provides free resources for activity-based learning to enable the teachers to equip learners with the knowledge, understanding and skills needed in the 21st century. In 2012 AIMSSEC won the UNESCO-Hamdani Prize for Outstanding Practice and Performance in Enhancing the Effectiveness of Teachers in Developing Countries.

AIMSSEC has a unique offering of seven sequenced, SACE endorsed, blended learning courses that offer outstanding professional development for mathematics teachers and subject advisors. All the courses are designed to develop mathematics teaching skills; improve mathematics subject content knowledge and technology skills to empower teachers from disadvantaged rural and township communities to become more effective and confident teachers. The training covers the three phase groups from primary to high school of grades 4-6, 7-9 and 10-12. There is a waiting list of teachers wanting to do these courses and the number of teachers that we can train is only limited by the funding available for bursaries.

Funds are requested for the following courses:

- **MATHEMATICAL THINKING PROBLEM SOLVING & IT IN TEACHING AND LEARNING MATHEMATICS (MT)**

A professional development course for teachers already presented to over 2 200 teachers with a current waiting list of 350 new teachers. Combining resident and online presentations, we work across each phase with in-depth focus on the subject content for primary, lower & upper secondary phases.

- **LANGUAGE & COMMUNICATION OF MATHEMATICAL CONCEPTS IN TEACHING & LEARNING MATHEMATICS**

Professional development with focus on effective teaching to improve the understanding of mathematical concepts, and the competences of communication (oral and written) and team working, in classrooms where home language and language of instruction are different. This is the second sequenced course with 430 alumni of the first level course on the waiting list for this course.

- **SUBJECT ADVISOR EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME**

This special project combines the first 6 of the 7-course sequence into 3 modules, and presented online over a four-month period to mathematics subject advisors. The modules have been submitted for SACE accreditation.

2. Teacher Problem Solving Course:

A short course in mathematical problem solving skills. The aim of the project is to provide a hands-on training of teachers by exposing them to a variety of mathematical problem solving strategies and techniques. It is expected that this training will enhance the problem solving skills of teachers and also improve their skills of solving Olympiad/non-routine type problems. In turn, this will result in an improved appreciation for solving mathematical problems on the part of the learners.

The teachers will be offered a 16 hour workshop (normally presented on 2 Saturdays) in any area of South Africa where a group of 20 or more teachers are sponsored. The course is endorsed by the South African Council of Educators (SACE) and teachers can earn 10 CPD points per level.

3. South African Tertiary Mathematics Olympiad:

The South African Tertiary Mathematics Olympiad (SATMO) is a mathematical competition for students at tertiary level, from first year to Honours. It was started in 2012 as a SAMS initiative, with the intention of providing an interesting and challenging event for students who enjoy mathematical problem solving in general and Olympiad-style problems in particular.

The Tertiary Olympiad is open to all undergraduate students, i.e., students enrolled at a university without having already received a degree, who have not been studying for more than four years. It is written annually on a Saturday and all bright students are encouraged to take part. Participants will each receive a certificate.

Increased participation by South African universities will allow the best performing students from SATMO to be selected for a national team to participate in the International Mathematics Competition.

Mathematics olympiads consist of questions which test mathematical problem solving skills and usually require ingenuity more than knowledge to solve. Over time, this enhances interest in Mathematics, allowing students to develop skills that will enhance their abilities in the workplace post qualification.

4. Careers in Mathematics:

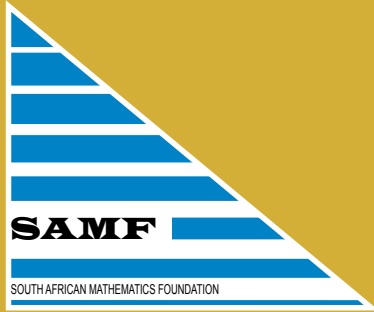
Career guidance booklet aimed at school leavers. Few learners consider careers based on their love for mathematics. Many only consider the mainline career opportunities that are wellknown and historically popular. This printed booklet is aimed at highlighting career opportunities where mathematics plays a primary and foundational role.

5. Patron sponsorship:

We need partners with passion in order to achieve our aims. The reality is that most of what we do costs money. Add your company's support by covering some of our operational expenses in order to improve mathematics education in South Africa by becoming a patron with a minimum contribution of R50,000 per year for three years (or R150,000 upfront).

Sponsorship packages and benefits

Project	Minimum Amount Required	Silver	Gold
AIMSSEC Mathematical Thinking Course	R 900 000 to train 75 teachers	R450 000	R900 000
AIMSSEC Communication and Language Course	R 900 000 to train 75 teachers	R450 000	R900 000
AIMSSEC Subject Advisor Empowerment Course	R 2 000 000 to train subject advisors	R1 000 000	R2 000 000
SA Tertiary Mathematics Olympiad	R 200 000	R100 00	R200 000
Teacher Problem Solving course	R 11 040 to train 20 teachers	R11 040	R22 080
Careers in Mathematics guidance booklet	R 210 000 to print 40 000 booklets	R100 000	R210 000
Patron	R 50 000 for three years	R 150 000	R 300 000



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