## Catalyse Mentorship Program Program Information

The Catalyse Mentorship Program focuses on building sustainable female leadership for women working in health and STEMM (science, technology, engineering, maths and medicine) in the Northern Territory (NT). At present, women are under-represented in senior roles in STEMM. There is a recognised need for a transformative, systemic and sustained change in these sectors.

The Catalyse Program aims to champion the advancement of women in health, medicine and STEMM. Mentees will connect with mentors who will be able to provide support, leadership and guidance to help progress their careers. Mentees will also have the opportunity to participate in targeted professional and personal development workshops.

## **Barriers for women in STEMM**

Studies have shown that there are a range of barriers that affect women in health and STEMM careers. These include:

 Gender stereotypes and biased hiring practices

- Limited workplace flexibility
- Gendered expectations of child care and other caring responsibilities
- Gender pay gap across all levels of employment



Women represent only 29% of the university-qualified STEMM workforce



The representation of women at **senior management levels** in STEMM-qualified industries is **23%** 



The representation of women at CEO level in STEMM-qualified industries is 8%



In 2021, the gap between women's and men's pay in STEMM industries was 18%

## **Overall Catalyse Program Objectives:**

- Connect women in health and STEMM with a mentor enabling them to achieve greater effectiveness in their current role, increased confidence and improved leadership skills
- Introduce mentees to new ways of thinking by challenging their preconceived ideas, developing new approaches to problem solving and fostering innovation
- Explore areas of personal development and growth in a safe and supportive environment
- Build relationship skills
- Cultivate strategic approaches to career planning
- Contribute to the development of female leadership in the health and STEMM sectors

Applications Open: 30 June 2025

Applications Close: 8 September 2025

Contact: Catalyse Program Manager Email: catalyse@menzies.edu.au

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## **Program structure:**

- Up to twenty (20) mentees selected through a competitive application process – a selection panel will consider application and select candidates based on the following criteria:
  - \* Demonstrated need for professional development and mentorship
  - \* Expected impact on or contribution to applicant's career journey
  - \* Realistic expectation of the program
  - \* Commitment to the program and to own professional development pathway
- Successful applicants are required to agree to attend all workshops and undertake any preparation
- Mentees will attend a series of four
   (4) training sessions and workshops
  - 12 September 2025
  - 31 October 2025
  - 28 November 2025
  - 19 December 2025
- Each mentee will be appointed a suitable mentor (matched by program manager and selection committee)
- Each mentee will be expected to meet with their mentor 4-6 times during the program

