

TLEEM

Chapters Program

Hey there,

Welcome to the TLEEM Chapters Program Information Packet! On behalf of TLEEM's volunteer team, we are pleased that you are demonstrating interest in the Chapters Program. This document provides information about TLEEM Chapters, the types of chapters, and other information.

About Chapters

Chapters are school & community clubs that TLEEM aims to deploy worldwide. These clubs mainly help young people build a network so that they are able to change the world or pursue a professional career. We do so for the economic empowerment of the world.

We've seen from our experience that it's hard to build a network, especially as a student in K12. In our city of Austin, despite being named "Silicon Hills" across the nation, the city has limited networking events and conferences that are K12 due to the lack of resources available to this age group. Conferences and networking events are either:

- 1) Rare; occurring at most at every 2-3 months
- 2) Pricey (\$200-300)
- 3) Inconvenient; most conferences and networking events are held on weekdays, making it hard for K12 students to attend
- 4) Age restricted (18+ or 21+)

We even noticed that issues even prevent most age groups from networking no matter how old they are. We've noticed that in rural/suburban areas, networking is not a popular concept.

We know that networking is important - it helps you build valuable connections. Networking can even help you find your next co-founder, investor, or even employee. There's so many talented people who have potential to create a spark on this planet - they just don't have a network and aren't recognized.

As a result, we looked for a cost-effective solution that can also be implemented in schools and communities, without having venue fees and multiple other fees. We found a solution: Clubs. Clubs are groups of people who share a common interest. They can be organized virtually, hybrid, or even in-person.

As a result, TLEEM was made as a club in September 2023 at Running Brushy Middle School in Cedar Park, TX with a couple of friends (Arjun Sharda (arjun.sharda@tleem.org) & Sulayman Baig (sulayman.baig@tleem.org)). The club's idea quickly caught attention and gained members from all 3 grades, to the point where the present founder (Arjun Sharda) was able to speak to ~400 people about TLEEM's concept at Running Brushy Middle School.

Unfortunately, Arjun had to move out in October 2023 to Round Rock, a city ~10 miles away from Running Brushy Middle School. As a result, Arjun coordinated with his friends and started running the chapter through virtual means and had a vision to make TLEEM a organization. Arjun filed with the Texas Secretary of State on October 29, 2023 and with the IRS on November 14, 2023.

What if we can help people make clubs, and even transfer existing clubs into a TLEEM chapter format without sacrificing their vision?

That's what we did. We reimagined a new way to network and laid a foundation for people to make clubs. And, if people already had clubs aligning with our coverage field, they could easily transfer to a TLEEM chapter while still doing what they do, but incorporating a networking aspect. We started marketing TLEEM, a new way to network and grow. TLEEM first went international on November 27, 2024, within 2 weeks of filing with the IRS.

Chapter Types

Chapter Type	Description	Eligibility Requirements
School	A variation of a TLEEM chapter with the main target audience being your school. Usually registered and restricted to your school (posters will be supplied for advertising means).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter must be in a school (K12 or an accredited college/university) • Chapter must be registered with the respective school • Chapter must be related to the TLEEM Coverage field (Technology, Leadership, Entrepreneurship, Engineering, and Mathematics) • Chapter eligible formats: virtual, hybrid, in-person • Age requirement: N/A
Community	A TLEEM chapter option which can serve a broad amount of people (as the name says, typically your community, however it can be expanded to districts and cities).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter must be related to the TLEEM Coverage field (Technology, Leadership, Entrepreneurship, Engineering, and Mathematics) • Chapter eligible

		formats: virtual, hybrid, in-person • Age requirement: N/A
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Which Type is Right for You?

SIGNS A COMMUNITY CHAPTER IS RIGHT FOR YOU

- You want to impact a broader community, not just your school.
- Your school makes it hard for you to register a club.

SIGNS A SCHOOL CHAPTER IS RIGHT FOR YOU

- You want to help your school.
- You want to make a smaller time commitment while still making a big difference.

How do you start a chapter?

[Form CH-1, Petition to Start a New Chapter](#)

- Use this form if you are making a **new** chapter.

[Form CH-2, Petition to transform a already existing club/organization into a chapter](#)

- Only use this form if you are **an already established club or organization** seeking transfer to a TLEEM chapter.

How do you run a chapter?

Starting a chapter is the first step. Unfortunately, running one will be significantly harder than starting one. It takes courage and determination.

- Make sure you have a vision and plan! Chapters require visionaries to operate and generate new ideas to make your chapter stay unique. We recommend that you develop a plan for the next twelve (12) months so that your officers are familiar with what to do.
- Make sure that your officers always stay on the same page. Communication is key when it comes to running as a group of people.
- Make sure that your officers are able to commit to realistic expectations for what they're supposed to do. Make sure to consult with officers about scheduling, times, and more so that there aren't blunders when you're conducting activities. Make sure your officers are truly devoted to your vision. Familiarize them with your vision and prepare guidelines and information for them accordingly.
- Remember, your chapter doesn't need to be the most unique! Chapters can be computer science clubs, political clubs, mock government clubs, and more. What we require is the ability to adapt and a networking aspect that you can tie in with your chapter. For example, meetups, projects, and competitions are core activities where you can tie in networking with your club's mission.

Why should you make a chapter?

Compared to traditional organizations, TLEEM has a goal of helping you balance your student-personal life even before you join. Clubs shouldn't be hard or boring to run. They should spark ideas, help people build networking skills and most importantly, be engaging and fun for all. At TLEEM, we believe that age is not a factor in changing the world or pursuing a professional career.

Thanks to our resources and sponsors, we are able to provide the following resources on request:

- Funding opportunities
- 501(c)(3) status, allowing tax-deductible donations (eligible for US chapters only, governed by the laws in your jurisdiction)
- Custom logos able to be designed on request and the ability to use the TLEEM logo for chapter-related purposes
- Digital flyers
- Staff training
- Staff guides
- Plan development (we can help your chapter develop a plan!)
- Chapter Network (be part of a network of dozens of chapters)
- Virtual TLEEM Chapters Conference sharing our newest updates and tips on how to make your chapter succeed.
- Potential to be recognized on TLEEM social media and/or press releases

Questions?

Executive Director, Arjun Sharda, arjun.sharda@tleem.org

Head of Chapters, Sulayman Baig: sulayman.baig@tleem.org

Chapter Committee, Meilly Chen: meilly.chen@tleem.org