



Deloitte US: RightStep™ Innovation Prize

Helping more students take the right steps to succeed

Project details

Origins: Deloitte US leaders sought to recognize and support an innovative education organization that was leveraging technology to achieve positive outcomes for students, but faced challenges in scaling its programs. To identify the organization, Deloitte US launched the RightStep™ Innovation Prize in November 2014.

Design: The Deloitte RightStep™ Innovation Prize offered a US\$100,000 cash donation, US\$100,000 in pro bono services, and access to Deloitte US's ecosystem of professionals' volunteering support. The competition had three rounds of screening, culminating in five finalists who presented to a group of senior Deloitte US leadership at a Greenhouse event.

Scope: [Reasoning Mind](#) was awarded the RightStep Innovation Prize in May 2015. Working with school districts, the organization is implementing an interactive online math curriculum and providing robust teacher training to reinforce this innovative approach in classrooms. Deloitte and Reasoning Mind will team together on a six-week pro bono growth strategy project to develop a regional model expansion plan. Deloitte is also working with Reasoning Mind to identify volunteering opportunities for Deloitte US professionals.

Professional skills: More than 100 Deloitte US professionals participated in the selection process of Reasoning Mind, and many more will have an opportunity to volunteer to support the program to scale.

Case study

As part of its Corporate Citizenship strategy, Deloitte US supports innovative initiatives to grow leaders and improve access to education. With the launch of the RightStep™ Innovation Prize, Deloitte US is helping scale the next cutting-edge approach in education that is effective in achieving outcomes through technology-based solutions.

In 2014, the call for applicants attracted 116 nonprofit and for-profit organizations with a social mission in education. The finalists included organizations with a track record of success in using online platforms to engage students and help them succeed in their studies. For example, by helping build mentoring relationships, or providing young people with the financial information and resources necessary to find an affordable path to—and through—postsecondary education.



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Alex Khachatryan
Co-founder and president of Reasoning Mind

Texas-based Reasoning Mind was selected in 2015 to receive a donation and pro bono support from Deloitte US. The organization uses dynamic interactive online learning to elevate student achievement on standardized math tests, improve attitudes toward mathematics, and increase classroom concentration rates. The collaboration between Deloitte US and Reasoning Mind will contribute to preparing today's students to be tomorrow's leaders, and will help address the chronic gap between low-income students and their peers in the US.

"We are honored and excited to be selected as the winner," said Alex Khachatryan, co-founder and president of Reasoning Mind. "We've seen not only tremendous impact and student outcomes as a result of our work. With Deloitte's support, we know we can even further scale the reach of our effective programming to more students, transforming the way students learn math in schools."

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