



ASTRiiD – making visible the invisible talent pool

Aiming to connect the millions of people with chronic, often incurable and advanced health conditions with businesses seeking skilled volunteers or staff, ASTRiiD (Available Skills for Training, Refreshing, Improvement, Innovation and Development), is a first-of-its-kind professional matchmaking service.

The ground-breaking charity helps people affected by chronic illness find a sense of normality through flexible employment. It does this by giving talented people living with long-term illness the chance to boost their self-worth and regain control of their lives by securing meaningful employment and volunteering opportunities.

ASTRiiD bridges the skills gap by making visible the 'invisible talent pool' – a community of highly-skilled professionals who are still very capable but have been forced out of their day job due to illness.

Sign up now...

Am I eligible? ASTRiiD is inclusive to people with any health problem or disability, and their care-givers and has already attracted several hundred members.

How do I sign up? Anyone looking for meaningful work can create a profile to become an ASTRiiD member. Setting up an account is quick and easy and allows candidates to advertise their skills and availability to employers. To get started:

1. Visit the website at www.ASTRiiD.org.uk, or click here: [ASTRiiD](#)
2. Register by adding your personal details (we don't ask about your illness)
3. If you have a CV you can upload it, but this isn't compulsory
4. Add your skills, experiences and qualifications to showcase what you're good at
5. Include when and where you can work. Part-time or full-time? Office-based or from home?
6. Start receiving matches if there are employers looking for a candidate just like you.

How can employers get involved? Almost 200 companies from across the UK have signed up to the service, ranging from NHS Trusts to world-leading engineering firms, with businesses of all sizes and sectors invited to get involved. Roles currently being recruited via the site include CAD technician, digital marketing manager, copywriter, researcher, finance manager, HR manager, bookkeeper, paralegal, marketing director, virtual PA – and many more.



How do I post a role? Employers can post a job role they have available and outline the skills required. To get started:

1. Visit the website at www.ASTRiiD.org.uk
2. Complete the registration form
3. Add the roles available with your company – you can add more than one
4. Specify what skills are required and when and where the candidate would need to work
5. Start receiving matches if there are candidates looking for a role with a company just like yours.

How are roles matched to candidates? Each match is given a compatibility score based on the requirements for the role meeting the candidate's skills. Both the jobseeker and employer can then decide if it is a good match and organise a conversation.

Meet ASTRiiD member, Peter

Peter, 46, from Shropshire was diagnosed with advanced bowel cancer in 2013 and was given six months to live. During the following five years, he faced the devastating end of his teaching career of 11 years due to his illness.

Out of work, Peter felt deflated and lacked purpose. He joined ASTRiiD at the end of 2017 and was matched with the UK's leading ports group, Associate British Ports. They instantly recognised his transferable skills and appointed him into a new role. "I'm thrilled to bits about this new opportunity with ABP and even if it's only short-term, my determination has reignited and it's exciting," said Peter.

For more information, to register or donate, visit www.astriid.org.uk and follow us on: [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#)