Mentoring Programs

Involvement in a mentoring program is a great way to accomplish several career oriented goals at once: you’ll gain more direct knowledge about the professions that interest you; you’ll be able to work closely with someone who wants to help the next generation of professionals succeed in their field, gaining valuable guidance; and you will be expanding your network, further increasing the possibility of finding internship or job opportunities in your target career field. While you should not pay to have a mentor, some programs are available only to members of professional associations and those associations may have membership fees – usually discounted for students though.

This document contains a list of structured programs, but you can create your own mentoring opportunity by connecting to professionals inside or outside of your network. As a first step, contact the professional and set up an informational interview. An informational interview is a meeting with a professional contact during which you act as the interviewer and ask questions about their profession, their path to that profession, and any other career related questions you may have. During the interview, you can broach the subject of mentorship, asking if they have time to consider being a mentor to you. Detailed information about conducting an informational interview is found at: http://asccareerservices.osu.edu/guides/networking.

You are encouraged to ask your department advisor about the availability of mentors. Some Ohio State departments maintain resources to facilitate connections with graduate students, faculty, and/or alumni who are interested in mentoring undergraduate students.

Tips for Maximizing the Mentoring Experience

• Be professional; respect the mentor’s time, energy, and willingness to guide you.

• Make the most of your time with a mentor: set goals for your time together, ask a lot of questions, don’t be afraid to ask tough questions or sensitive questions; develop good listening skills and take notes on key points from your mentor so you can look back over time to remind yourself of those great nuggets of advice.

• Thank your mentor: be sure to regularly acknowledge their helpfulness, but also consider sending them an occasional thank you card during your time together, and definitely send a card at the end of the mentoring experience.

• Keep in touch: If you met through a structured program, ask your mentor if it is okay to keep in touch with them once the official mentoring period is over. Update them on your progress and remember to ask how they are doing as well.

• Tips about establishing an effective relationship with a mentor are found at: www.mentoringgroup.com/html/articles/mentee_41.htm
Mentor Websites

Many websites are dedicated to helping students find mentors that meet their interests and passions. Below you will find a sampling of some of the more popular websites.

Architecture and Construction

American Institute of Architects (AIA) Mentoring Programs
http://www.aia.org/careerstages/mentors/index.htm
Links to AIA Chapters with mentoring programs throughout the country.

Arts and AV Technology and Communication

Asian American Journalists Association Broadcast & Multimedia Mentoring Program
http://www.artistmentoronline.com/
Students and young professionals are paired up with more experienced journalists with several factors in mind, including geography, gender and journalism medium. Mentors and Mentees are encouraged to develop a professional relationship, keeping consistent contact throughout the year of the program. Mentors are available to provide career and professional advice to help mentees improve their craft and take the appropriate steps toward better professional experiences and improved employment.

Public Relations Society of America
https://www.prsa-ncc.org/professional-development/mentoring
PRSA matched young PR practitioners with seasoned professionals who provide guidance on job searches, professional development, ethics, and other interests.

Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative
www.rolexmentorprotege.com/about
The Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative is a philanthropic program that was set up in 2002 to make a contribution to global culture. The program seeks out gifted young artists from all over the world and brings them together with artistic masters for a year of creative collaboration in a one-to-one mentoring relationship.

Society of Arts and Crafts Mentor Program
www.societyofcrafts.org/artists/mentor.asp
The SAC Mentor Program, launched in 2005, offers assistance and training for emerging artists in marketing, legal and insurance issues, portfolio development, pricing, selling, and booth design.

Young Photographer’s Alliance Mentoring Program
http://youngphotographersalliance.org/programs/mentoring/
The YPA mentoring program challenges each student to explore a specific theme over the course of ten weeks, and produce a series of images and an accompanying short essay. The mentoring program gives students the opportunity to work with successful photographers to fine-tune their craft, create images for their portfolios, develop business and marketing skills and explore markets for their work. At the same time, the program will demonstrate the power of photography to build community, national and international awareness and support for an important environmental or social issue. Working within a tight set of guidelines, each mentor offers support and guidance to two to four mentees.

Business and Management and Administration

American Corporate Partners
www.acp-usa.org
American Corporate Partners (ACP) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to assisting veterans in their transition from the armed services to the civilian workforce. With the help of business professionals nationwide, ACP offers veterans tools for long-term career development through mentoring, career counseling, and networking opportunities.

Finance

Financial Women’s Association Mentoring Program
http://www.fwa.org
Their mission is to focus on developing future generations of business leaders.

Morgan Stanley Educational Programs
www.morganstanley.com/about/careers/eprograms.html
Morgan Stanley’s goal is to be the employer of choice for the best and brightest, whatever their backgrounds may be. In order to find exceptional people from a diverse spectrum of backgrounds, we offer many opportunities to expose individuals from communities traditionally underrepresented within the financial services industry.

Government and Public Administration

Employer Assistance and Resource Network
http://askearn.org/fed-fwm.cfm?pg=fed_home_mentor
Federal agencies use this site to develop mentoring programs. All federal agencies conduct mentoring programs in their own unique way. The best way to find out about the program for a specific agency is to check their website and/or Google the phrase “federal employee mentoring program” and find the agency in which you are interested.

Health Sciences

Ohio Public Health Association Professional Mentor Program
www.ohiophausa.org/Tabs/GURU/GURU.aspx
Mentor information available for public health students, young professionals, and those interested in the field.
Hospitality and Tourism

Tourism Cares Student Mentoring Program

The Tourism Cares scholarship recipients not only receive a monetary award but as part of our workforce development, they are also invited to attend the Tourism Cares Student Mentoring Program at the annual NTA/UMA Convention. During this conference, students shadow industry mentors (tour operators, tour suppliers, and destination marketing executives) during their business appointments. Additionally, they participate in informational sessions and panel discussions with travel and tourism industry professionals.

Young Travel Professionals
http://www.youngtravelprofessionals.com/mentor-program-overview/

The mission of the Young Travel Professionals mentor program is to inspire and empower the next generation of the travel industry. YTP identifies points of correlation between applicants and pairs mentees with the most suitable mentor.

Human Services

100 Black Men of Central Ohio
www.100bmco.org/100BlackMen.aspx?page=Mentoring

The 100 has elected to partner with the OSU Todd Bell Resource Center on the African American Male in support of their Leadership Institute program and any other projects/programs that they engage in throughout the year. Our primary role will be to provide speakers in their speakers’ series and provide advice to the OSU students that are in the program in the areas of career planning, personal development, leadership development and life skills. As a general rule, the Leadership Institute program will be held on Saturday mornings throughout the OSU school year.

Information Technology

MentorNet’s One-on-One E-Mentoring Program
http://www.mentornet.net/

The MentorNet E-Mentoring Program is designed to provide information, encouragement, and support to community college, undergraduate, and graduate students, post-docs, and untenured faculty. Protégés are matched in one-on-one e-mentoring relationships with mentors who have work experience, and MentorNet provides the training, coaching and support for them to pursue an 8-month mentoring relationship.

IEEE
http://www.ieee.org/membership_services/membership/mentoring/index.html

IEEE MentorCentre provides higher-grade IEEE members with the opportunity of enhancing their career skills through member-to-member guidance. Young professionals can become mentees and form development partnerships to enhance their careers.

Law and Public Safety and Corrections and Security

NBLSA Pre-Law Mentorship Program
www.nblsa.org/index.php?id=851

The National Black Law Students Association (NBLSA), is a national organization formed to articulate and promote the needs and goals of black law students and effectuate change in the legal community. As the largest student run organization in the United States with nearly 6,000 members, NBLSA is also comprised of chapters or affiliates in six different countries including The Bahamas, Nigeria, and South Africa. With its headquarters located in Washington, DC, NBLSA encourages the development of talented, social conscious lawyers of tomorrow. Each year, the organization holds an annual convention to engage in legal activism and prepare new generations of black lawyers to “effectuate change.” Pre-law students may become members and may then take part in the mentor program to be mentored by a NBLSA lawyer member.

Recreation, Gaming, and Sports

NIRSA College Recreation Mentor Program
http://nirsa.net/nirsa/students/mentor-program/

Objectives of this program are to provide professional development opportunities with individuals from different institutions, increase participants’ confidence when interacting with people of different ages, and encourage participants to challenge each other to explore and achieve new goals.

Science and Technology and Engineering and Mathematics

NOGLSTP Mentoring Program
www.noglstp.org/?page_id=9

NOGLSTP has partnered with MentorNet®, the E-Mentoring Network for Diversity in Engineering and Science, to provide on-line mentoring opportunities for its gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered (GLBT) students in the sciences, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The NOGLSTP-MentorNet partnership provides NOGLSTP with a national e-mentoring network that unites academic institution, corporate institution, and scientific and technical professional society mentors with GLBT college and graduate students, post-doctoral scholars, and early-career faculty through MentorNet’s award-winning One-on-One
Roy J. Shelmon Mentor Program in Applied Geology
http://www.geosociety.org/mentors/

The Roy J. Shelmon Mentor Programs in Applied Geoscience are designed to acquaint advanced undergraduate and beginning graduate students with careers in applied geoscience. The Mentor’s goal is to provide real-world information and insight, based on his or her own career, to which students may not be exposed through their academic experiences. These programs are held exclusively at GSA Section Meetings and include free lunches for both students and Mentors.

Transportation and Distribution and Logistics

GIS Professionals Mentorship Program
http://ohurisa.org/MATCH

Students and Young Professionals involved in a GIS related field can sign up to be mentored. Once the mentorship is established, it is up to the mentor (Volunteer Professional) and mentee (Student/ Young Professional) to form that relationship. The mentor should be helping the mentee learn about the GIS Industry and inspire the mentee to create goals.

Advancing Women in Transportation
www.wtsinternational.org/professional-development/mentoring

WTS offers a successful mentoring program to all members, developed to benefit both the mentor as well as the mentee. Benefits for the mentor include sharing career success stories with future women leaders, building long-term relationships, and giving back to an industry that needs to hear and remember these stories. Mentees gain the knowledge and wisdom of the women pioneers who blazed the path before them. WTS also offers a variety of networking events with other mentor teams.

Transportation Diversity Council
http://tdc-ntl.org/mentoring-coaching

Our mentoring and coaching programs include: training programs for mentors; matching mentors to students and rising professionals; mentoring fairs that offer opportunities for one-time or short-term guidance.

Multiple Disciplines

Student Mentor
www.studentmentor.org/

College students can conveniently find and collaborate with mentors from diverse industries and professions to achieve their unique goals.

Young Catholic Professionals
http://www.youngcatholicprofessionals.org/programs/outreach/

The College Student Mentorship Program helps students develop professionally and transition into their post-graduation careers.

For Entrepreneurs

SCORE
www.score.org/mentors

SCORE mentors deliver FREE, confidential, valuable advice for your business needs. Whether you are a start-up or an existing business, our mentors will help you reach customers and achieve your goals.

BECOME A MENTOR

You can also develop marketable skills by mentoring others. There are opportunities to mentor children, teenagers, troubled youth, or younger college students. As a mentor, you gain valuable interpersonal skills, develop excellent listening and advising skills, and contribute to the growth of another individual! Consider adding your mentoring experiences to your resume, particularly if your targeted career field involves education or human services.

Project Mentor
www.projectmentorcolumbus.org

Project Mentor is designed to help Columbus City School (CCS) students graduate and empower them for a lifetime of success through strong mentoring relationships. The goal is to empower individual students by focusing on the assets required to improve academic performance and high school graduation, and to positively impact the entire education community.

College Mentors for Kids
www.collegementors.org/

We connect college students with the most to give to kids who need it most. Through weekly after-school activities on a college campus, mentors show kids the importance of trying harder in school and helps them understand higher education opportunities.

Mentoring Center of Central Ohio
http://www.mentoringcenterco.org/

The Mentoring Center works to increase the quality and quantity of mentoring by helping mentors build skills so they’ll be successful in establishing a relationship that lasts. The Mentoring Center is a coalition that has grown to over 40 youth-mentoring organizations, committed to serving the whole child.