



LEADERSHIP COUNCIL ON LEGAL DIVERSITY

Success in Law School Mentoring Program Fact Sheet

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The primary objective of the LCLD Success in Law School Mentoring Program is to ensure that diverse/underrepresented first-year law students receive the mentoring and preparation that they need to maximize their potential in law school and beyond. The program includes two main components: Individual Mentoring and Group Mentoring Events. Attorneys at LCLD Member organizations can register as individual Mentors and participate in Group Mentoring Events.

INDIVIDUAL MENTORING

The mentoring program is a comprehensive initiative for first-year law students from diverse backgrounds based on the principles of legal excellence and personal involvement. Attorney mentors are matched 1:1 with talented law student Mentees to ensure that Mentees receive the mentoring they need to navigate their first year of law school and maximize their long-term potential.

QUICK FACTS

- Each city has a City Lead who (a) helps with program organization in their respective city and (b) acts as a liaison between LCLD and local law schools.
- Mentee applications open mid-August, and official program launch dates differ by city.
- Mentors and mentees will be matched from August to December. You will receive information about your mentee shortly after you are matched.

MENTOR RESOURCES

LCLD offers resources to help you structure your mentoring relationship. These will be shared with all participating Mentors, and include:

- Mentoring Principles
- Planning Template
- Best Practices for Mentors and Mentees
- Monthly Discussion Topics

MENTOR EXPECTATIONS

- Initiate contact with your Mentee. Use the planning template from the mentor resources during your first meeting to set expectations for your work together.
- Meet approximately three times per semester.



- Commit to one year as a Mentor to the assigned student. We hope that the relationship will last all three years of the student's law school career, but you are only committed to one year.
- Complete periodic surveys from LCLD, typically distributed in May.

PARTICIPATION MODELS

The Success in Law School Mentoring Program offers a hybrid structure consisting of an in-person city model and a virtual model. Mentors and Mentees choose their preferred model, which allows for more participation flexibility and increases inclusivity by engaging a broader audience.

- **City model:** Mentors/Mentees are matched within their geographical area and participate in virtual and in-person events.
- **Virtual model:** Mentors/Mentees are matched anywhere nationwide and participate in virtual events.



GROUP MENTORING EVENTS

Group Mentoring Events allow diverse 1L, 2L, or 3L law students to receive advice and support from successful attorneys from LCLD Member organizations. These events are designed to provide guidance from attorneys in an informal, interactive, and collegial setting.

- Three events are organized per academic year in each city where the program operates: a kick-off event, a substantive informational program, and a closing event.
- Educational programming focuses on helping students with skills like networking and relationship-building, interviewing, and professionalism, and examines topics like practice area choice and attorney evaluation.
- Many events include attorney Mentors in a networking session and a panel presentation.
- The events are organized by the City Lead, with help from local Mentor attorneys.
- Mentors are encouraged to participate.



ACCESS TO LCLD CITY LEADS

City Leads are attorneys at LCLD Member organizations who serve as local liaisons between LCLD and Mentors, local law students, and law school administration. Mentors are encouraged to contact their local City Lead(s) for advice or guidance as needed.



SELECTION PROCESS FOR MENTORS AND MENTEES

- Attorneys at LCLD Member organizations may enroll as Mentors by completing a brief application form on the LCLD website from June through August.
- Law students may register to be Mentees on the LCLD website from August through December.
- LCLD will match Mentors and Mentees based on geographic proximity, to the best of our ability.



For additional information about the program, please contact [Nancy Richardson](#), LCLD Pipeline Program Manager.