

LCLD Success in Law School Mentoring Program FAQs

The Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD) is excited to launch its 2021-2022 Success in Law School Mentoring Program. The primary objective of this 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.

New in the 2021-2022 academic year, the Success in Law School Mentoring Program offers a hybrid structure consisting of a local **city model** and an online **virtual model**. Both models allow more flexibility in how Mentors and Mentees choose to participate, and will increase inclusivity by engaging a broader audience.

As a result, you have the option to sign up to be a Mentor or Mentee in either the local city model *or* the online virtual model. If you choose the city model, you'll be matched with a Mentor/ Mentee within your city/region and participate in Group Mentoring Program (GMP) events held virtually. If you choose the virtual model, you'll be matched with a Mentor/Mentee anywhere nationwide, and participate in GMP events held virtually.

Individual Mentor Program (IMP)

- More than 2400 Mentor attorneys in more than 28 cities around the U.S.
- Each region/city has a City Lead whose job it is to (a) help with program organization in that region and (b) act as a liaison between LCLD and the local law school(s).
- Program launch dates differ by region (see the LCLD website for the launch date in your region: www.lclldnet.org/mentor).
- You can expect to receive information about your Mentee 1-2 weeks after the launch date in your region.

Tools

- LCLD has a Mentoring Tool Kit to help you structure your mentoring relationship; it is available on the LCLD website at www.lclldnet.org/mtoolkit and includes:
 - Mentoring Principles
 - Planning Template
 - Best Practices for Mentors and Mentees
 - Monthly Topics for 1Ls and 2Ls
 - “Building a Strong Mentor-Mentee Relationship” E-Module: LCLD created this 15-minute e-module, which was developed to outline the expectations of both Mentors and Mentees and build stronger communication throughout the relationship.

Expectations

- Initiate contact with the Mentee; if your Mentee is unresponsive after two attempts to contact him/her, contact the LCLD Program Manager.
- Use the planning template from the Mentoring Tool Kit during your first meeting to help both you and your Mentee set expectations for your work together.
- Meet approximately three times per semester.

- Commit to one year as a Mentor to the assigned student; it is our 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 distributed by LCLD. These are usually distributed in May.

Group Mentoring Program (GMP)

- Three events are organized per academic year: a kick-off event, a substantive informational program, and a closing event.
- Educational programming should focus on helping students with soft skills such as networking, interviewing, etc.
- The events are organized by the City Lead with help from local Mentor attorneys.
- Mentors are encouraged to participate.

NOTE: Due to ongoing updates from the CDC on social distancing guidelines related to COVID-19, meetings and events may or may not be held in person.