

Mentorship Program Guidelines for Mentees

Welcome Mentee, *(Yes, it is a funny-sounding word, but it's real ... look it up!)*

You are to be commended for your decision to improve yourself, to increase your capability and to further your career. Your participation should have a positive impact on you for years to come. We hope these few guidelines will make for a fruitful mentorship experience for you.

The full details for an effective mentorship relationship can be found by clicking on "Mentorship Manual" on the AAPRA website, <http://www.aapra.org/mentorship-program>

Here are a few guidelines to get you off to a good start:

- Complete the short and simple, on-line application:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WSGRG3K>
- You will be matched with a Mentor and notified with contact information and background. The Mentor will get the similar information on you.
- **You are expected to initiate the first contact.**
- The program is to be conducted during a six-month window, beginning in July.
- Commit to talking once a month with your Mentor.
- Keep the sessions reasonably short – 30-45 minutes at most.
- To make sure you visit monthly, pick a certain day or date and time each month for your visit (*e.g. "third Monday, every month, 11AM*)
- If and when possible, meet your Mentor in-person at least TWICE during the six-month window. If it is not possible to meet in person, plan to use Skype, Facetime or a similar video system.
- If you can, try to attend the NRPA Conference to meet your Mentor there.
- Your primary role is be prepared to tell your Mentor what's important to you; what you'd like to learn about; to be ready with questions, problems, issues, etc. that the Mentor may be able to address. Don't expect the Mentor to read your mind!

This program is a collaborative effort of the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration (AAPRA) and the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Young Professionals and Administrators Networks.