

Fielding School of Public Health Alumni-Student Mentoring Program FAQs

General FAQs

1. Why should I participate in the Mentorship Program?

Fielding School students are eager to learn from FSPH alumni's professional experiences. We want to ensure that they are prepared in every aspect as they graduate and enter the workforce. With our alumni's wisdom and guidance, we can work together to make sure students get the most out of their education by connecting with alumni.

2. What is the time commitment?

The mentorship program lasts for one academic year (fall - spring). You'll receive a personalized message from the mentorship program manager in December once you are matched. We encourage and recommend meeting a minimum of three times throughout the academic year. We also encourage you to meet more often if your schedule permits. Mentors and mentees will also be invited to attend various Fielding School and UCLA events together throughout the year.

3. What is expected of me?

The great thing about this program is that your mentorship connection can be carried out as the mentor and mentee see fit. We encourage and recommend meeting a minimum of three times throughout the academic year.

4. Will everyone who signs up be matched?

We will make every effort to match every request. However, we can't guarantee that all will be matched as we want to ensure that mentees are matched with mentors who suit their professional interests and aspirations.

5. How will the matches be made?

Once you sign up, your information will be sent to your department's Student Affairs Officers. Matches will be made by each department based on shared professional interests and experiences.

Mentor FAQs

1. Can I be a mentor if I don't live in Los Angeles or will be out of town for an extended period of time?

Yes, we encourage all of our alumni to apply. Mentorship pairs can convene in a variety of ways and do not have to be in person. We do ask that you make yourself available to your mentee and communicate the best way to get in touch with you.

2. How many students can I mentor?

We match one student per mentor. If mentors are willing, we may match them with additional students.

3. What if I want to continue mentoring the student beyond the academic year?

The expectation is that the formal mentor-mentee relationship ends at the conclusion of the program year. However, you may choose to continue to stay in touch past the academic year. Individuals may have multiple formal and informal mentors in their lifetime!

Mentee FAQs

1. What is my role as a mentee?

Mentees are in charge of initiating and scheduling regular discussions with their mentors and committing to meeting a minimum of three times throughout the year. Mentees should come prepared to each meeting with agenda items and/or discussion topics they would like to explore at the meeting.

2. Is there a recommended agenda to follow for the first mentoring session?

Mentees should come prepared with specific areas or issues they wish to cover over the course of the year. We recommend setting joint goals for the relationship at the first meeting.

3. As a mentee, am I expected to initiate and schedule the meetings with my mentor?

Yes. As a mentee you are responsible for scheduling and following up with your mentor in a timely manner. If you don't hear back from your mentor within 48 hours, follow up with them. If you don't hear back from them at all, contact the Program Manager, Janet Hung, jhung@ph.ucla.edu.