

Sample Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

These FAQs can be used as part of the program materials that follow.

Q. How do I become a mentor or mentee?

A. Complete the respective application form. Mentor and mentee applications are available online at_____.

Q. Are there special qualifications for mentors?

A. No. However, all mentors may not be assigned mentees, because assignments will depend on a variety of factors including the number of mentee applicants. The mentor must be willing to meet with his or her mentee at least four times during the year, and it is expected that mentors will be motivated by a commitment to increasing the diversity of the bench.

Q. Are there special qualifications for mentees?

A. Each mentee must meet all of the following qualifications: if partnering with a local bar, be a member of the *[name of local bar]*; have at least five years of legal experience; plan to become a bench officer within five years of participating in this program; and be committed to public service. Mentees who are members of groups that are underrepresented in the judiciary in their communities are particularly encouraged to apply.

Q. How are mentees paired with mentors?

A. Mentors will be paired with mentees by a matching committee upon evaluation of the mentor and mentee applications submitted. Pairing considerations will include the mentor's areas of previous legal practice and current department assignment. Except in unusual circumstances, each mentor will have no more than one mentee per year.

Q. What is the time commitment for a mentor/mentee relationship?

A. Mentors must commit to meet with their mentees, at a minimum, four times per year. The mentor and mentee may choose to meet more or less often, based on their personal preferences.

Q. Will there be support for mentors?

A. Yes. Members of the Judicial Mentoring Program committee (and/or the local bar associations) will provide assistance and information to mentors.