

Mentor Description

MOSTe mentors and empowers girls from underserved neighborhoods of Los Angeles County to become the next generation of college-educated women. One of the ways we do so is by pairing them with professional female mentors who commit to supporting, guiding, and being a friend for a period of at least one year. By becoming part of the social network of adults and community members who care about them, the mentor can help our students develop and reach positive academic, career, and personal goals.

Mentor Role

- Take the lead in supporting a young person through an ongoing relationship
- Serve as a positive role model and friend
- Build the relationship by planning and participating in activities together
- Strive for mutual respect
- Build self-esteem and motivation
- Help set goals and work toward accomplishing them

Time Commitment

- Make a one-year commitment (school year)
- Spend a minimum of four hours per month with mentee(s)
- Communicate with the mentee(s) at least twice per month
- Attend an initial three-hour training session and optional training sessions during each year of participation in the program
- Attend at least 2 MOSTe workshops and 2 additional MOSTe events (i.e. college tours, lanterns luncheon, annual retreat, culmination) (encouraged)
- Attend optional mentor/mentee group events, mentor support groups, and program recognition events

Participation Requirements

- Be at least 21 years of age
- College graduate (preferred)
- Reside in Los Angeles County (recommended)
- Be willing to adhere to all MOSTe policies and procedures
- Agree to a one-year (school year) commitment to the program
- Agree to be in contact with mentee(s) at least twice a month
- Agree to engage in in-person interaction with mentee(s) for a minimum of four hours per month
- Attend at least 2 MOSTe workshops and 2 additional MOSTe events (i.e. college tours, lanterns luncheon, annual retreat, culmination) (encouraged)

- (If planning to transport mentees) be willing to provide transportation for scholars to and from certain events
- (If planning to transport mentees) have a current driver's license, auto insurance, and no serious driving infractions
- Be willing to serve as a bus chaperone once per year
- Complete the screening procedures (as outlined below)
- Agree to attend mentor trainings as required
- Be willing to communicate regularly with the mentor coordinator
- Have never been charged or convicted of abuse or molestation
- Not be a convicted felon within the last 5 years
- Not be a user of illicit drugs
- Not use alcohol or controlled substances in an excessive or inappropriate manner
- Not be currently in treatment for substance abuse. If a substance abuse problem has occurred in the past the applicant must have completed a non-addictive period of at least three years
- Not currently be under treatment for a mental disorder or have been hospitalized for a mental disorder in the past three years
- Not have falsified information during the course of the screening process

Desirable Qualities

- Willing listener
- Encouraging and supportive
- Patient and flexible
- Tolerant and respectful of individual differences

Benefits

- Personal fulfillment through contribution to the community and individuals
- Satisfaction in helping someone mature, progress, and achieve goals
- Training sessions and group activities
- Participation in a mentor support group
- Mileage and expenses are tax deductible
- Personal ongoing support, supervision to help the match succeed
- Mentee/mentor group activities, complimentary tickets to community events, participant recognition events

Application and Screening Process

- Complete written application
- Provide DMV printout of driving record
- Undergo a fingerprint criminal history check
- Participate in a personal interview
- Provide three personal references
- Attend a three-hour mentor training