Alumni Mentoring Programs: Mentee FAQ

Below please find some frequently asked questions about the UChicago Law Alumni Mentoring Programs and more information about how to sign up to be a mentee.

Save the Date! A “Tips and Tricks for Your Mentor-Mentee Relationships” program is being hosted on Tuesday, November 15th from 12:15-1:20 p.m. in Classroom V. The program will share more details about creating a successful mentorship relationship. We strongly encourage mentoring program participants to attend.

What is an Alumni Mentoring Program?
Alumni Mentoring Programs provide students with the tools to guide their success in the legal profession and to better connect them with the Chicago legal community. Mentoring programs allow students to meet and network with alumni in legal professions within a specific affinity group.

Which affinity groups will host mentoring programs during the 2016-17 year?
Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
Latino/a Law Students Association (LLSA)
OutLaw
Women’s Mentoring Program

Who participates in the program?
Mentoring programs are open to all incoming JD students interested in being mentored by a UChicago alumnus/alumna or attorney working in Chicago. Mentors are recruited by the sponsoring affinity group student organizations and the Office of External Affairs.

What is expected of me as a mentee?
The mentoring programs span the length of the academic year. Therefore, we ask that all mentees commit to being involved in the program from November 2016 through August 2017.

Your level of involvement with your mentor is entirely up to you and your mentor. Please remember that mentors have very busy schedules and that their time is valuable. During your first meeting, we encourage you and your mentor to discuss your expectations for the year with each other, including meeting/discussion frequency, meeting location and medium for communication. The Law School will provide more information to guide your mentorship.

Be respectful of the time commitment required of mentors and make sure to respond promptly to communications, be punctual to events, and honor all commitments. We hope that at a minimum you will:

- Meet in person with your mentor once each quarter;
- Participate in one or more group events; and
Communicate with your mentor via email or phone periodically as agreed upon by you and your mentor.

We hope your mentoring relationship continues past your 1L year.

Can I participate in more than one mentoring program?
Students may participate in a maximum of two Alumni Mentoring Programs to ensure the best experience for both student mentees and alumni mentors. The Law School Big/Little Sibling program is not included in this limitation.

Are there program-sponsored events?
Each mentoring program will host approximately one mentor-mentee networking event each quarter. Events are scheduled by the sponsoring student organization and may vary by program.

How do I sign up?
Please visit the Affinity Mentoring Programs website and complete the sign-up form by October 21st at 5:00 p.m.

APALSA Mentoring Program: http://www.law.uchicago.edu/APALSAmentoring
BLSA Mentoring Program: http://www.law.uchicago.edu/BLSAmentoring
LLSA Mentoring Program: http://www.law.uchicago.edu/LLSAmentoring
OutLaw Mentoring Program: http://www.law.uchicago.edu/OutLawmentoring
Women's Mentoring Program: http://www.law.uchicago.edu/WMP

Important Dates:
Friday, October 21 at 5pm: Deadline to sign up as a mentee
Tuesday, November 15 at 12:15pm: “Tips and Tricks to Mentor-Mentee Relationships” lunchtime program
Friday, November 18: Mentees will receive an email from OEA introducing them to their mentor
Early January: Each organization will host a Mentoring Kickoff Event

Who should I contact with additional questions?
To reach the Office of External Affairs, please contact Maggie Elmarakby, Assistant Director of Young Alumni and Student Engagement, at melmarakby@uchicago.edu.

Additionally, please feel free to reach out to student organization leaders:

APALSA Mentoring Program: Hannah Loo, hloo1@uchicago.edu
BLSA Mentoring Program: Jordan Hill, jordanvhill@uchicago.edu
LLSA Mentoring Program: Daniel Rojas, dnr4@uchicago.edu
OutLaw Mentoring Program: Tate Wines, twines@uchicago.edu
Women’s Mentoring Program: Tahura Lodhi, tlodhi@uchicago.edu