

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Be a Mentor Program?

The Be a Mentor Program involves the match of a volunteer adult and student. The mentors are community members from a variety of occupations who serve as friends, coaches, and guides. The mentors are both role models and resources. Both the student and the mentor commit to meeting with each other a minimum of twice per month for one year. The student and mentor work together on personal, academic, and career exploration goals that the student would like to achieve during the one-year relationship.

How do we know these volunteers are qualified to be mentors?

Besides completing an application and individual interview, the mentors must be fingerprinted, TB tested, and submit to a criminal background check. They must also provide three personal references and attend an initial training.

How are the students and mentors matched?

After reviewing the applications detailing personal information and conducting individual interviews to attain additional information, the Mentor Coordinator matches a student with a mentor based on individual profiles, family/cultural backgrounds, and/or personal and career interests.

What if we change our mind after being matched and decide for one reason or another that we don't want to participate?

Mentors and students are given a 60-day "grace" period to get to know one another. After the 60-day period, the student is asked to make a decision regarding the match. Mentors and students both agree to a no-fault conclusion whereby either party has the option of discontinuing the relationship for any reason. They also agree to discuss their decision with the Mentor Coordinator before terminating the relationship.

How can I apply to be matched with a mentor?

Students can receive additional information and complete an application regarding the project from the Mentor Coordinator. Students must also have parents complete and return the Parent Questionnaire and Parent Authorization form before being interviewed by the Mentor Coordinator.