

Become a Mentor, Change a Life!

Less than 30% of adults in Northeast Ohio have graduated from college, while it's estimated that 64% of jobs in Ohio will require college credentials by 2020. College Now seeks to boost college completion rates with its Mentoring Program, which matches freshmen scholarship recipients with professionals in the community. In the first two years, 96% of our mentored students continued from freshman to sophomore year. Now in entering the fourth year of the program, College Now expects to see a similar positive impact on graduation rates.



Benefits of Mentoring

- Assist a future doctor, lawyer, engineer, teacher, etc., on his or her path to success.

The 750 students currently in the program are pursuing a variety of professional degrees in a range of fields, from nursing to information technology to engineering.

- Improve your skills

Mentors report developing stronger personal leadership and communication skills.

- Share your knowledge

Every successful person relied on the wisdom and advice of others along the way, whether in a formal mentoring relationship or not. This is a wonderful chance to be that person to someone else, and share your own perspective!

- Learn from your mentee

"My mentee, Tim, and I communicate regularly through College Now's e-platform, and we also occasionally get together socially. Tim and I talk about his studies, campus issues and post-graduate aspirations. I've thoroughly enjoyed getting to know Tim over the last two years, and likewise, hopefully he has benefited from my perspectives and experience. He and I are truly part of one another's lives now.

Based on my experience, I would wholeheartedly recommend mentoring within the College Now mentoring program."

-Paul Pesses
College Now Board Member and Mentor

Time Commitment and Requirements

The commitment consists of:

- Communicating with your mentee two times per month over our online platform (which offers various ways to connect: messaging and Skype)
- Meeting three times per year at College Now hosted events in downtown Cleveland

Mentors should have:

- A college degree
- The willingness to commit to a mentoring relationship that will last the student's entire college career



Getting Started

The first step in becoming a mentor is to complete the online application. Clicking on "Join Now" at www.collegenowgc.org/mentor. Once your application is complete, you will hear from College Now staff about next steps, including:

- Five minute phone interview
- One hour training session (possible to complete remotely)
- Background check



Timeline

College Now is recruiting 350 individuals to volunteer as mentors for incoming college freshmen in 2015-2016. Mentors will meet their mentees during the summer of 2015, and begin communicating over the online platform in September 2015. Mentors may begin using our online platform and attend College Now Mentoring Program events as soon as they are approved, so don't delay!

For More Information

If you have questions or would like to know more, contact Madeline Rife, Mentoring Program Manager, at mrife@collegenowgc.org or 216-635-0163.



College Now
Greater Cleveland