

# Leadership Council on Legal Diversity 2020-2021 Success in Law School Mentoring Program Prospectus

## Mentoring Program Purpose

The primary objective of the LCLD Success in Law School Mentoring Program is to ensure that talented and diverse first-year law students receive the mentoring and preparation they need to maximize their potential in law school and beyond.

## Mentoring Program Components

The LCLD Success in Law School Mentoring Program includes two components: the Individual Mentoring Program (IMP) and the Group Mentoring Program (GMP). Mentors and Mentees are encouraged to participate together in both components to build a strong relationship. Note: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Mentors and Mentees are advised to hold all meetings virtually until it is deemed safe to meet in person.

### **Individual Mentoring Program (IMP)**

The IMP is a comprehensive initiative for first-year law students from diverse backgrounds based on the principles of legal excellence and personal involvement. Attorney Mentors are matched 1:1 with talented law student Mentees to help them navigate their first year of law school and maximize their long-term potential.

### **Group Mentoring Program (GMP)**

GMP events provide diverse 1L students with advice and support from successful attorneys at LCLD Member organizations. At substantive GMP events, 2L and 3L students are also invited to take advantage of this opportunity.

Three GMP events are scheduled during the law school year to provide guidance from experienced attorneys in an informal, interactive, and collegial setting. GMP events typically feature attorney Mentors in a networking session and a panel presentation on subjects including networking and relationship building, interviewing skills, professionalism, practice area choice, and attorney evaluation. These events may also include an informal networking hour or reception.

While GMP events have been held in-person over the years, these events will be held virtually in the 2020-2021 academic year. [City Leads](#) will coordinate these events using the virtual meeting platform of their choice.

## **Resources for Mentors and Mentees**

- ***Mentoring Toolkit:*** LCLD provides a comprehensive Mentoring Toolkit to assist Mentors in developing a successful relationship.
- ***Mentoring E-Module:*** LCLD provides a comprehensive e-module titled, “Build a Strong Mentor-Mentee Relationship,” that sets out the expectations for both Mentor and Mentee.
- ***Access to [City Leads](#) and LCLD:*** City Leads are attorneys at LCLD Member organizations who serve as local liaisons between LCLD and Mentors, local law school students, and law school administration. Mentors are encouraged to contact their local City Lead(s) and LCLD for advice or guidance as needed.

## **Candidate Requirements, Fees, and Selection Process**

### **Candidate Requirements**

- All attorneys at LCLD Member organizations, as well as LCLD Alumni at other organizations, are eligible to participate as LCLD Mentors.
- Mentors and Mentees must watch the “Building a Strong Mentor-Mentee Relationship” E-module that sets out the expectations for both parties.
- Mentors are expected to initiate contact with the Mentee. The planning template from the LCLD Mentoring Toolkit should be used during the first meeting to help both the Mentor and Mentee establish fundamentals for building a strong relationship.
- Mentors and Mentees are expected to meet approximately three times per semester, via email, phone, video conference, etc.
- Mentors commit to one year with the assigned Mentee. If both Mentor and Mentee agree, they are encouraged to continue with their relationship beyond the first year. However, this is not a requirement of the program.
- Mentors and Mentees are expected to complete periodic surveys distributed by LCLD. These are typically distributed in March.

### **2020-2021 Fees and Expenses**

For LCLD Member organizations, there are no additional fees associated with the Mentoring Program.

### **Selection Process and Timing**

- ***Mentors:*** Attorneys at LCLD Member organizations may enroll as Mentors by filling out a brief [application form](#) from **June 1, 2020 through December 15, 2020**. Attorneys at all levels and backgrounds are welcome to serve as LCLD Mentors.
- ***Mentees:*** Diverse first-year law students may register to become Mentees by completing the registration form on the LCLD website in September/October (exact dates are determined by City Leads and law school administrators). Due to the virtual nature of the 2020-2021 program, we are reaching out to additional law schools to advertise the IMP. LCLD aims to increase the reach and inclusivity of the program by making mentorships available to more diverse/underrepresented students who might not otherwise be offered an opportunity to be matched with an LCLD Member attorney as a Mentor.

For additional information about the LCLD Success in Law School Mentoring Program, please [click here](#).

For questions, please contact Nancy Richardson, LCLD Program Manager, at [nrichardson@lclldnet.com](mailto:nrichardson@lclldnet.com).

