



# MWL's Student to Attorney Mentor Program 2018-2019

Welcome to the Minnesota Women Lawyers Student to Attorney Mentor Program. The MWL Mentor Program is dedicated to the development of successful relationships between attorney mentors and law student mentees. We are invested in making sure that all participants get the most out of this wonderful opportunity.

## Program Contact

To facilitate successful mentoring experiences, MWL will contact mentors and mentees throughout the year with event information, activity suggestions, reminders, and other important information relevant to the Mentor Program. MWL is here to support you and your mentoring match. Questions or concerns? Contact:

Katie Baker  
Program and Projects Coordinator  
kbaker@mwlattorneys.org  
612.338.3205

## Timeline

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|-------------------------|--|
| <b>October 12, 2018</b> | Registration forms are due.  |
| <b>October 15, 2018</b> | MWL will make matches and send mentors/mentees contact information |
| <b>November 9, 2018</b> | Deadline for students to contact mentor                            |

Mentors and mentees are expected to spend 10-12 hours on their mentoring relationship. Ideally, matches will meet at least 4 times throughout the year.

## Goals and Expectations

**Be accessible and available.** Let your match know your preferred means of contact and when it's best to reach you. Respond to emails and calls promptly. If you don't hear back after attempting contact, don't be discouraged. Feel free to try again. If after trying multiple times you don't receive a response, please contact Sara at MWL.

**Take the initiative and be engaged.** Contact your match, ask questions, and suggest activities that are of interest. Follow up after each meeting. Please note that the student is responsible for making the initial contact. Students, keep in mind that even if your mentor does not have the same interests as you, it is still a wonderful opportunity to establish a contact in the legal community and to add to your network.

**Discuss goals and expectations.** Frequency and location of meetings, availability, and modes of contact should be agreed upon from the start.

**Be professional.** Students, remember that every interaction in the legal community reflects on your legal reputation. Proofread emails, come prepared to meetings, and present yourself at events in the way you want to be viewed as an attorney.

## Suggested Activities

- Attend MWL events together (Many MWL events are free and easily accessible!)
- Attend other legal community events together, such as MSBA section meetings, Bar or Affinity Bar events, networking events, CLEs, luncheons, alumni events, etc.
- Meet over coffee or lunch at an accessible location.
- Invite your mentee to your workplace to meet your colleagues, observe, and learn about your career.
- Observe something related to your mentor's work such as a deposition, client meeting, strategy session, court hearing, trial proceeding, mediation, etc.
- Invite your mentee to an event you're already planning to attend, such as a bar event, networking gathering, or section meeting.
- Do a mock interview and/or informational interview with your mentor and get feedback.
- Review and provide feedback on your mentee's resume, cover letter, and writing samples.
- Introduce your mentee to members of the legal community in person and/or via email introductions

## Suggested Questions: For Mentees to ask Mentors

- What resources and activities were the most helpful for you as a law student?
- What's the best advice you received as a law student?
- Do you have any tips about exams, studying, classes, externships/internships, or volunteering?
- What were the most valuable experiences you had as a law student?
- What do you wish you would have learned in law school?
- What practical legal skills have been most relevant to your job?
- What has your career path looked like since law school?
- How did you get your first job after law school?
- Do you have any tips about applying and interviewing for legal jobs?
- What are the best ways to network in the legal community?
- In what ways have you been involved with professional associations, sections, or committees?
- What experiences and qualities are most highly valued by legal employers?
- What do you most like about your current job? What is most challenging?
- What does the legal market look like right now, from your perspective?

## Suggested Questions: For Mentors to ask Mentees

- Why did you want to go to law school?
- What are your favorite law school classes, experiences, professors, volunteer activities, etc.?
- What parts of law school have you found to be the most challenging?
- What is your dream job after law school?
- What areas of the legal profession are of interest to you?
- Who is in your professional network?
- What questions do you have for me?