



**MPhA**  
MARYLAND PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION

*Ambassadors*

*Leadership through Mentorship*

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Program-general**

1. What is the MPhA Ambassador Program?
  - a. MPhA Ambassadors fosters leadership through mentorship, with the main objective being to connect experienced MPhA members with new members to help orient new members (and interested longer term members) to the association and its resources.
  - b. Ambassadors act as mentors and would also serve to create a path for new members based on their professional interests. They would also help connect mentees with association resources that are related to their career interests and help foster their professional and leadership development.
2. How does this program benefit MPhA and its members?
  - a. Increase MPhA membership and strengthen the membership value-proposition through personal connections
  - b. Through the pairing of new and existing members as well as active/engaged MPhA member mentors, new professional relationships and an engaged network of Maryland Pharmacist leaders can be developed, as well as leadership and professional development fostered, all which closely tie into charges of MPhA's Membership and Professional Development committees and the Association's overall mission.
3. When is the program starting?
  - a. The program will officially be launched at the MPhA 2020 Midyear Meeting on February 16, 2020. Recruitment of Ambassadors will begin at this time.
4. What are the components of the program?
  - a. The pilot program will consist of one-on-one pairings (and potentially a ratio of 1:2 or 1:3 depending on the number of mentors vs mentees) of an "ambassador" (mentor) and a mentee
  - b. Current MPhA members who are active and engaged in the association would serve as ambassadors
  - c. Mentees would be paired with an ambassador for at least the first year (opt-out approach)

- d. Relationship driven by the ambassador and mentee, MPhA/program work group would only be directly involved in establishing the initial pairing and recruitment of ambassadors
5. Where can I find more information about the program?
    - a. At this time, additional program details are not available online but if you have questions or wish to learn more, please reach out to a program representative (see below). The goal is for program details and resources to be available on the MPhA site in the future at a date TBD.
  6. Who can I contact if I have questions?
    - a. Please contact a program representative
      - i. Marci Strauss, [mstrauss08@gmail.com](mailto:mstrauss08@gmail.com)
      - ii. Jim Bresette, [jbresette@umes.edu](mailto:jbresette@umes.edu)
      - iii. Kinbo Lee, [kinbo.j.lee@gmail.com](mailto:kinbo.j.lee@gmail.com)
      - iv. Mary Kremzner, [mary.kremzner@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:mary.kremzner@fda.hhs.gov)
      - v. Careen-Joan Franklin, [cfranklin@umes.edu](mailto:cfranklin@umes.edu)
      - vi. Emily Biskach, [ebiskach310@gmail.com](mailto:ebiskach310@gmail.com)
      - vii. Vicki Zhu, [vzhu@umaryland.edu](mailto:vzhu@umaryland.edu)

### **Ambassadors (mentors)**

1. What are the benefits of serving as an Ambassador?
  - a. Professional and personal development
  - b. Building your network
  - c. Making new friends
  - d. Helping to develop future leaders in Maryland Pharmacy
2. What is the time commitment for serving as an Ambassador?
  - a. The Ambassador-mentee partnership can go as far or be as involved as the Ambassador and mentee wish to take it. However, there are several minimum expectations for those serving as Ambassadors. Ambassadors should contact their assigned mentee at minimum twice a month (can be via phone, email, in person, whichever method is preferred) to discuss related topics, professional interests, introduce the mentee to Association benefits and volunteer opportunities and events. Ambassadors would also be serving for at least 6 months with the opportunity to continue serving for longer if desired
3. What are the requirements to serve as an Ambassador?
  - a. Must be an active\* MPhA Pharmacist member
    - i. \*According to the MPhA Constitution, an active member is any pharmacist in good professional standing who has a valid license to practice pharmacy in any state
  - b. must have been an active MPhA pharmacist member for at least 2 years
  - c. have experience serving in an MPhA committee or work group (does not need to have held a leadership position although this is preferred)

4. How often are Ambassadors expected to meet with mentees?
  - a. At least twice per month. See answer to question 2 for details.
5. I am interested in serving as an Ambassador, how do I sign up?
  - a. Individuals interested in serving as an Ambassador must complete an interest form/application. Completed applications will be reviewed by the program leadership and selected individuals will then be notified via email.
  - b. Ambassador interest form: <https://forms.gle/WF4KDYR8CedSg5418>

## **Mentees**

1. Who is eligible to be a mentee?
  - a. For the pilot program, only new MPhA pharmacist members will be eligible to be mentees. These individuals will automatically be paired with an Ambassador after joining MPhA, however this is an option for individuals to opt-out if they don't wish to participate.
  - b. After the pilot program (after first year), the goal is for the program to expand to long-term pharmacist members, students and technicians.
2. What are the benefits for mentees?
  - a. Gain personalized insights into Association benefits from opportunities to get involved from someone who has first-hand experience
  - b. Learn how Association programs, committees and initiatives match with your own professional interests and where you can best fit in.
  - c. Professional and personal development
  - d. Grow your professional network
3. I am interested in being a mentee, how do I sign up?
  - a. For the pilot program, only new members are eligible to be a mentee and are automatically paired with an Ambassador. Therefore, there is no sign-up process needed.