Frequently Asked Questions

Professional Academy Mentor Program for IMSE Students

Why should I apply for a mentor?

IMSE mentors provide students with the opportunity to learn from highly successful alumni by forging long-lasting, professional relationships. Our experienced mentors can help critique your resume, discuss industry trends, build your professional network, identify internship and job opportunities, provide interview tips and offer advice on professional communication, dress and demeanor. All are skills that will put you at an advantage over your peers when preparing to enter the workforce.

When should I apply for a mentor?

You should apply for a mentor when: 1) you want to develop yourself professionally, 2) you are ready to devote time and energy to building a professional relationship, and 3) you are willing to listen, learn and accept constructive criticism.

How do I apply for a mentor?

Complete the student application on our website: https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0B5xcDNSNPPcopn

How long does it take to be matched with a mentor?

Applicants should expect to be notified of their mentor within one week of submission.

How often should I communicate with my mentor?

You should be in communication with your mentor at least once per month during the nine-month academic calendar year (September – May). Summer months are optional. Your mentor will contact you, but it is your responsibility to engage in regular communication.

How long am I matched with my mentor?

You are matched with your mentor until you graduate unless you request to end the mentorship.

What can I expect from my mentor?

You can expect your mentor to:

- Listen to you and answer your questions
- Share his/her experience
• Provide you with honest, thoughtful advice and feedback
• Assist you in your search for an internship or job, including resume/cover letter help, interviewing suggestions, identifying positions or companies to which you may want to apply, connecting you with colleagues who may be of help to you, etc. (as applicable).

What can’t I expect from my mentor?

You cannot expect your mentor to put all the work into this relationship, nor can you expect your mentor to hand you a job or internship. Your mentor is a guide and coach and wants to see you be successful, but your mentor cannot achieve success for you.

What happens once I graduate?

Although your formal relationship with your mentor will end, we hope that you will stay in contact with your mentor for years to come. We also hope that you will continue to seek out mentors throughout your life and become a mentor yourself one day!