

SUPER 20



Mentor Program FAQ

How much of a time commitment is SUPER 20 mentoring?

As a SUPER 20 Mentor, you will be committing to a two-year engagement. During this period, you will be expected to:

- ✓ Attend Mentor orientation and training— conducted online.
- ✓ Complete required reading(s)—book assignment(s) to be provided by the SUPER 20 program to be read and discussed along with mentee.
- ✓ Attend weekly one-hour meeting during the SUPER 20 four-week program taking place June 20, 2021- July 18, 2021.
- ✓ Participate in the SUPER 20 program graduation ceremony either in-person or online on July 18, 2021.
- ✓ Spend up to two hours per month meeting with your mentee via phone or video following the completion of the SUPER 20 four-week program.
- ✓ Spend up to one hour per month in a mentor-specific training session.

I've never been a mentor before. Will there be anyone advising me and guiding me through the process?

Yes, as a mentor for the SUPER 20 program, you will be required to attend a comprehensive mentor orientation where you will be prepared for your role and responsibilities. Additionally, you will receive ongoing training and support throughout your mentoring relationship.

Will I be reimbursed for expenses associated with mentoring (travel, materials, etc.)?

Travel is not required as part of the mentoring experience for the SUPER 20 program. Optional travel is encouraged for your mentee's graduation during the final week of the four-week program, but expenses will not be covered by the SUPER 20 program. Resources and materials necessary to support your mentoring relationship will be provided by the SUPER 20 program.

What kinds of things will I be advising my mentee on?

The SUPER 20 program is built upon four core pillars: leadership, service, diversity/equity and inclusion, and education and career development. As a mentor, you will help students develop leadership skills, help them build a mentality of service, empower them to develop their vision for diversity, and provide guidance on their college search process. The program will provide a recommended curriculum and talking points for mentors.

What if I am selected and run into unavoidable conflicts that render me unable to continue? Will the program provide a replacement, or is that my responsibility?

Mentoring is a serious commitment, and we believe that consistency and dependability are the keys to a successful relationship with a student. We ask that all mentor applicants do their best to commit to the full two-year commitment. We do understand that sometimes unforeseen circumstances arise. If a mentor is unable to continue in the SUPER 20 program, the program will assign a new mentor to the student.

What if my mentee and I don't "click"? Is there mediation assistance to work through incompatibilities, or can I be reassigned?

We acknowledge that some students may have a difficult time trusting a new person in their lives and that relationships take time to build. It is important that a mentor does not interpret this caution as rejection. Whether the student is expressive or not, they have a desire to participate in this program and they need your support. Your mentor coordinator is always available along the way to assist in relationship building and problem-solving.

How will I be matched with a student?

The SUPER 20 Mentor Matching Committee will be evaluating and matching all mentors and students based on interests, goals, and other similarities.

Can I mentor even if I don't live in Iowa?

YES! We welcome mentors from all areas, backgrounds, and occupations to participate in the SUPER 20 program. It would be ideal for the mentor to be in person the first or last week of the program to meet the student personally. If you aren't available physically, we will use technology to foster discussions, engagement, and participation.

What are the mentor criteria?

Mentors of all ages, backgrounds, interest areas, and lifestyles are encouraged to apply for the SUPER 20 program. The ideal mentor will share a passion for higher education and supporting and helping youth. They will be committed to their mentee and work with them after the four-week program conclusion focused on their pathway to college. Ideally mentors will have a college degree and have the support of their workplace in this mentoring program.

How do I apply or contact RNL with questions?

Visit RuffaloNL.com/Mentor for more information and to contact us, or email ContactUs@RuffaloNL.com.