

Missouri Society for Respiratory Care

Student & Young Professional Mentoring Program

Purpose

For students/new graduates and professionals to engage in a meaningful relationship to enhance their professional development, career advancement and general knowledge of the health care field. The MSRC recognizes that the final year of your Respiratory Care Program and transitioning into professional life can be challenging. The Student & Young Professional Mentoring Program will match Respiratory Care students and new graduates with experienced professionals to assist during the final months of their Respiratory Care program, during the first year after graduation, and into the future.

Benefits

Students/New Graduate:

- Enhanced their education and career development
- Influenced their attitudes and professional outlook
- Provided guidance with professional decisions and obstacles
- Broadened professional networks
- Guidance during transition from Student to Professional

Mentors/Professionals:

- Opportunities to practice and develop coaching, communication and management skills
- Job enrichment and the chance to broaden professional networks
- Opportunities to engage the curiosity and energy of fresh minds
- Prepare the next generation of healthcare leaders
- Enjoy the personal and professional satisfaction inherent in mentoring relationships.

Expectations

Typically, meetings between mentors and mentees will take place via phone or in person 1-2 times per month (this may vary depending upon mentee needs). Active participation by both mentor and mentee are expected.

Mentees/Students are expected to:

- Establish the initial contact with your assigned mentor via email within one week of receiving your assignment.
- Maintain regular contact with your mentor
- Discuss your needs and reasonable expectations with your mentor (what do you want to get out of this experience?)
- Respect your mentor's time
- Be committed to carry out agreed upon goals; follow through
- Be receptive to feedback
- Maintain a professional demeanor
- Respect confidences and be a good listener.
- Participate in a program assessment survey as requested.

Mentors/Professionals are expected to:

- Respond to the initial contact from your assigned mentee in a timely fashion
- Maintain regular contact
- Share stories of past academic and career experiences when relevant
- Be available to meet or talk 1-2 times per month
- Work with mentee to help him/her develop realistic and attainable goals
- Offer suggestions and feedback
- Encourage your mentee to explore new areas
- Follow-up on commitments made to the mentee
- Respect confidences and be a good listener.
- Participate in a program assessment survey as requested.

Eligibility Criteria

All individuals who wish to participate in the MSRC Student & Young Professional Mentor Program (as either a student or a mentor must:

- Complete the Student & Young Professional Application form (students/new graduates) or Mentor Profile (Mentors)
 - Ideally Students who apply for this program will be in their second year of school and nearing graduation.
- Be a member of the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC) and maintain membership during the mentorship experience

Why Become a Mentor?

Serve as a role model to a Respiratory Care Student and New Graduate

Mentoring can benefit you as much or more than it benefits your mentee. Mentoring is a two-way street where both participants give and take, learn and grow; and enhance their professional skills.

Qualities of a Mentor

- Non-judgmental and accepts personal differences
- Commits time and energy on an ongoing basis
- Assists in the mentee's identity development
- Gives honest feedback in a constructive and caring manner
- Empower and encourage
- Nurture self confidence
- Teach by example

Why Become a Student Mentee?

Our mentees can receive advice on topics ranging from academic advice to career advice. Furthermore, many mentorships turn into friendships that can last a lifetime and have countless benefits.

Here are just a few of the areas students can receive advice and mentorship on:

- Board Exam Preparation
- Interview and Hiring Process
- Resume Building
- Career Advancement
- Licensure
- AARC Membership
- Involvement in MSRC/AARC
- Clinical Topics - Neo/Ped Critical Care
- Clinical Topics - Adult Critical Care
- General career/industry advice
- Transitioning into professional life

For additional information, please contact Dana Evans

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