Freshman Mentor Program

The mission of the Freshman Mentor Program is to increase academic engagement, involvement in the campus community, and Comet spirit while assisting freshmen with the transition to college life. In the Freshman Mentor Program, incoming freshmen are provided a personal mentor that will meet with them regularly during their first two semesters at UT Dallas. The mentors in the program are successful undergraduates prepared to engage freshmen in campus activities and refer them to resources that can help them achieve their academic and personal goals. Freshman students who participate in the program benefit heavily from having a personal connection with someone on campus who can provide extra academic and social guidance. Our statistical analysis reveals that this connection positively impacts academic achievement with Freshmen who receive a mentor during their first semester at UT Dallas. The Freshman Mentor Program Coordination Team works with a select group of engaged freshman and mentor leaders on the creation of program events and opportunities for all participants.

"Meeting other scholars as a freshman provided immediate opportunities to network and learn more about UT Dallas and what organizations I might be interested in joining on campus."
—— Past Freshman Participant, Class of 2016

"As both a mentee and mentor, I have learned many important qualities from the mentorship program. My mentor has been a strong factor in my transition from high school to college, and I was the same for my mentee."
—— Past Freshman Participant, Class of 2016

"My college experience was positively impacted by having a mentor I could confide in and ask for help my freshman year, and by being able to guide and offer support to a freshman my sophomore year."
—— Past Participant, Class of 2018
Requesting a Freshman Mentor

Mentee applications for the 2020-2021 academic year are now open! Click here to begin the application to become a mentee in the Freshman Mentor Program

[Request a Mentor Form]

The deadline is subject to change, and mentor requests will be fulfilled according to mentor availability. If you are assigned a mentor, you will be contacted via email.

Becoming a Freshman Mentor

Successful and engaged UT Dallas undergraduates are encouraged to apply for the opportunity to mentor an incoming freshman. Being a mentor provides valuable experience for students who seek to develop their communication and leadership skills.

Apply to Become a Freshman Mentor

Mentor applications for the 2020-2021 academic year are now open! Please review the application requirements and program expectations below.

[Click here to begin the application to become a mentor in the Freshman Mentor Program]

- Mentors must possess a cumulative GPA above a 3.0.
- New mentor applicants must supply two personal references and participate in a phone interview.
- Students selected to serve as mentors for the 2020-21 academic year must complete a series of online training modules by August 30, 2020.
- Mentors must attend an in-person orientation session in August 2020, during the week prior to the start of the fall 2020 semester.
- Program staff will enroll all mentors selected for the program in the UNIV 2074/3074/4073 (University Engagement and Applied Leadership) course for the fall 2020 semester and in a follow-up course for the spring 2021 semester UNIV 2075/3075/4075. These courses are both zero credit hour classes, allowing program participation to be reflected on the academic transcript.
- Program participation requires attendance of monthly small group sessions (six sessions per academic year). Participating mentors may sign up for these sessions based on the availability of their schedule.

Contact Us

For any questions, please contact us via email at freshmanmentor@utdallas.edu.

Rebecca Benfield
rebecca.benfield@utdallas.edu
Program Specialist