



MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Are you an early career professional who wants to connect with other parks and recreation professionals to expand your knowledge and develop a framework for career advancement?

Are you a mid-level professional who wants to make connections to enhance your skill sets for your current position and the position you aspire to achieve?

Are you a seasoned professional or retiree who wants to give back to the profession, develop future leaders, and explore new ways to connect to the next generation of professionals?

Then NJRPA's Mentorship Program is for you!

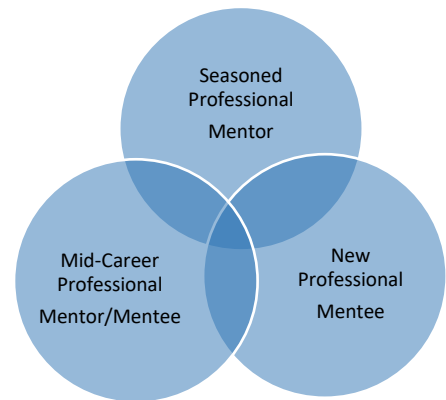
Mentorship Program Mission: To provide NJRPA members with a formal mentorship program which fosters mutual career development through education, service and networking opportunities with committed industry professionals.

Sign up for the 2024 Mentorship Program today!

Enrollment closes 12/22/2023.

The NJRPA Mentorship Program:

The purpose of the mentorship program is for both the mentors and mentees to give and grow through a process of developing partnerships based on a commitment to common goals and expectations, as well as mutual trust and respect. Early career, mid-career, and seasoned professionals will be partnered in triads to strengthen knowledge and skills, provide invaluable networking opportunities and enhance the personal and professional growth of participants at all career levels. Mentors and mentees will begin their partnership at the Annual Mentorship Kickoff and continue their involvement throughout the year, hopefully building a relationship that will continue long after the year concludes.



The Role of the Mentor:

Mentors encourage and advise emerging recreation professionals by sharing their own experiences and knowledge of the recreation profession. Successful mentors will help foster their mentees' knowledge and guide them to local and national resources and contacts. Mid-career participants will mentor the new professional as well as be mentored by the seasoned professional.

The Role of the Mentee:

The benefit of being a mentee is building relationships with colleagues who can give insight to the recreation profession. As a mentee you will have someone to go to with questions and concerns who will provide support and guidance. Your mentor is a great networking contact and someone who can help guide you as you develop your career as a recreation professional.

The Process:

Interested participants will submit the application to NJRPA and, if selected, will be asked to pay \$75 to cover a portion of the costs which include teambuilding events and lunches. Applications will be used to create mentorship teams taking into consideration compatible characteristics, individual objectives, and geographic location. A series of five meet-up events will be scheduled to provide each mentor team time to set goals, build relationships, and share experiences. Please see the schedule of events below. Attendance at all five events is strongly encourage in order to participate in the program. If you cannot attend multiple events, we may recommend you apply to the mentorship program the following year. The mentor program will conclude with a team challenge to test our participants' growth and teamwork. After graduation, all mentees will be asked to volunteer on a NJRPA committee for 1 year.

If you would like to participate please complete the application attached and return it by December 22, 2023 to info@njrpa.org or mail to NJRPA, 1 Wheeler Way, Princeton, NJ 08540. Participants will be notified of their acceptance by January 5, 2024. At that time a fee of \$75.00 or purchase order will be due by the first event (January 19th). This will cover the cost of the program for the participant.

Mentorship Program Schedule:

Event 1: Friday, January 19, 2024: Graduation for 2023 Class & Mentorship Kickoff for 2024 Class
Montgomery Township Community Center – 10am – 2pm
356 Skillman Rd, Skillman, NJ 08558

Triad Meeting 1: Monday, February 26, 2024: Reserved Table at the Conference Keynote Luncheon
*Schedule a Triad call pre-conference

Event 2: Friday, April 26, 2024: Teambuilding Exercise
Event at Woodbridge Community Center – 11am to 2pm.
600 Main St, Woodbridge, NJ 07095

Triad Meeting 2: Summer 2024: Schedule a triad meeting, have lunch, tour one of your agencies facilities.

Event 3: Friday, September 27, 2024: Volunteer Experience
Location and time TBD

Triad Meeting 3: October 2024: Attend the Fall Workshop together, schedule a conference call.

Event 4: Friday, November 1, 2024: Teambuilding Exercise
Triad Olympics - Summit Community Center 10am – 3pm
100 Morris Ave, Summit, NJ 07901

Triad Meeting 4: December 2024: Attend your District Holiday party together.

Event 5: Friday, January 31, 2025: Graduation for 2024 Class & Mentorship Kickoff for 2025 Class
Montgomery Township Community Center – 10am – 2pm
356 Skillman Rd, Skillman, NJ 08558



NJRPA Mentorship Program Application

All mentors and mentees must be NJRPA professional members and have full time status at current employer.

Part 1: PROFILE

Name: _____

Agency: _____

Agency Street Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Office Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Years in Recreation Profession: _____

Supervisor's Name: _____

Supervisor's Phone: _____

Supervisor's Email: _____

I prefer to be contacted by:

Office Phone

Cell Phone

Email

Part 2: EDUCATION

College/University Attended: _____

Major(s): _____

Additional Credentials: _____

Part 3: MENTOR/MENTEE PREFERENCES

What are you hoping to get out of this program? Please rank 1-6 (1 being the most important).

- Promotion/Job Advancement
- Networking
- To improve my performance in my current position
- To receive support and advice from professionals outside of my current agency
- To mentor others
- To become a leader within the profession and/or NJRPA

I prefer to be paired with someone in my district. *We cannot guarantee placement.

YES NO NO PREFERENCE

Part 4: BACKGROUND

Please type responses to questions below and submit answers with your application.

1. Why do you want to be a mentor/mentee?
2. What are your career goals for the next five years?
3. Please list your job titles and locations for the past five years.
4. Please list which committee you would be interested in joining.

Part 5: APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS (Please initial and provide signatures)

I will attend all five Mentorship Program events.

Do you have a known conflict with any of the scheduled events? If so, which one? _____

I am a current NJRPA member and plan to maintain my membership next year.

My agency supports my participation in the Mentorship Program.

Supervisor Signature: _____

Fee: \$75.00 payable upon acceptance. Participants are responsible for their own travel costs.

I understand the requirements and commitment needed to be a participant in the NJRPA Mentorship Program.

Applicant Signature: _____

Please return completed form to:
NJRPA
1 Wheeler Way, Princeton, NJ 08540 OR by email: info@njrpa.org