



INTERNATIONAL  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
COUNCIL

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**Young Professionals Mentorship Program: Frequently Asked Questions & Tips**

- **What is the time commitment?**
  - You get out what you put in! We encourage connecting monthly to check-in, but the program's requirement is a quarterly meeting, at least once a year in-person (at an IEDC conference is a great place!)
- **Do we have to meet in person?**
  - No. Mentors and mentees can choose their method of communication.
  - Phone, Zoom, Facetime, whatever works. This way we can match pairs based on goals and interest - not area code.
- **Is this the same as the IEDC mentorship program for CECD?**
  - No. This program is designed to be a longer-term relationship to support economic developers in every stage of their career.
  - You do not need to be certified or pursuing a certification to be a mentor or a mentee, and the process can continue for as long as you like.
- **Is this program open to anyone?**
  - You must have an IEDC membership for participation.
- **How do I sign up?**
  - Fill out the simple online application.  
Request a mentor [HERE](#).  
Request to be a mentor [HERE](#).
  - You will be contacted and matched with a mentor within 5-8 business days.
  - The mentor will be tasked with reaching out to the mentee within **two weeks** of being matched
  - From there, it is up to the pair to determine a meeting schedule and map out goals
    - First Meeting Tips
      - Get to know one another!
      - Discuss what your goals for this mentor/mentee partnership
      - Create a schedule for when you'll meet and plan ahead
    - Ice Breakers
      - What is your favorite part about economic development?
      - What brought you to economic development?
      - What is your favorite book/movie/tv show?
      - What do you do in your organization?
  - IEDC will conduct a brief review annually to see how the program is working for you and what adjustments can be made to enhance the experience
- **Questions?**
  - Reach out to Becca Thomas at [rthomas@iedconline.org](mailto:rthomas@iedconline.org).