

2017 - 2018



Student Mentor Program

August 18, 2017

Dear Student,

The Lawyers Collaborative for Diversity, Inc. ("LCD") is pleased to announce the 2017-2018 Mentor Program for law students of color. The program is designed to provide law students with an opportunity to develop a one-on-one relationship with a lawyer from one of LCD's member organizations. Eligibility is limited to law students of color from participating schools.

Detailed information regarding program requirements and the Mentor Program Application is attached. It is crucial for you to complete the application and forward it to Colby Fraschilla at Shipman & Goodwin LLP by the **Tuesday, October 3, 2017** deadline. Please send your completed application via e-mail to CFraschilla@goodwin.com.

The Mentor Program Kickoff Dinner, where you will meet your mentor, is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 24, 2017** at the Hartford office of Shipman & Goodwin LLP. Attendance at the Kickoff Dinner is a participation requirement. Good luck with your studies, and I look forward to welcoming you into the 2017-2018 LCD Mentor Program class.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact LCD's Program Coordinator, Davina Ismail, via email at office@lcdiversity.com or Colby via e-mail to CFraschilla@goodwin.com or (860) 251-5337.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Golden Hebsgaard
Executive Director

Lawyers Collaborative for Diversity (LCD),
c/o Murtha Cullina LLP, City Place I, 185 Asylum Street
Hartford, CT 06123-0637 - www.lcdiversity.com

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Objective

The Mentor Program for the Lawyers Collaborative for Diversity Inc. (“LCD”) is designed to provide law students of color an opportunity to develop a one-on-one relationship with a lawyer from one of LCD’s participating organizations. The practicing lawyer provides information on various issues, including, but not limited to, the day-to-day practice of law, large law firm/government agency/corporate culture and assimilation, job research strategies and skills, law school courses, and related academic issues.

Goals

1. To provide the law student of color with an opportunity to learn about the general practice of law;
2. To provide the law student of color with a personal resource who can give advice about issues of concern as related to law school and legal practice;
3. To expose the law student of color to large law firm, corporate, or government agency practice and culture;
4. To prepare more law students of color to compete successfully for positions in large law firms, if they so desire, by informing them early on about the hiring process and hiring criteria;
5. To encourage more law students of color to consider LCD’s member organizations as places to work;
6. To expose members to exceptional law students of color; and
7. To provide mentors with opportunities to share their knowledge and experiences with law students of color.

Eligibility

Eligibility is limited to law students of color.

Terms of Program

The program begins with the *mandatory* Kickoff Dinner on Tuesday, October 24, 2017, and concludes at the end of the school year. Summer activity is encouraged but not required as a part of this program.

Program Requirements for Students and Attorneys

Lawyer mentors must understand that this is an opportunity to build a two way relationship and should make their best efforts to meet at least seven times. We suggest communication should be at least once per month.

The program requires a serious commitment from both students and mentors. Students are encouraged to initiate contact with mentors. They must be responsive to initiatives taken by the mentors and follow through with planned meetings. This two-way relationship requires student input in suggesting ways in which a mentor might be helpful. Students are reminded that the Mentor Program is not a jobs program. They should not make inquiries of their mentors regarding job opportunities in the mentor’s organization.

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STUDENT APPLICATION



Name _____ Tel. Day _____ Tel. Eve. _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____ Alternate Email Address _____

Race/Ethnicity _____ Gender _____

Law School _____ Expected Year of Graduation _____

Undergraduate School _____ Year of Graduation _____

Major _____

If you have participated in the Student Mentor Program in the past, would you like to be paired with the same ___ or ___ different Mentor?

Please indicate any specific areas of interest, concern, or preference that may help us make the best possible match for you with your mentor.

Your personal interests, hobbies, volunteer work in the community, pro bono interests, etc., are all important in making a great match. Please note any items you feel would be helpful.

Please write a statement (minimum of 500 words) about why you would like to participate in the Mentor Program (attach a separate sheet) and why you think mentoring is important.

I have read the attached Mentor Program description, and if selected to participate, I will comply with the program's requirements. I also understand that *acceptance will be on a first come first served basis determined by the number of lawyer mentors available.*

Signature

Date
