

THE ACADEMY FOR TEACHER EXCELLENCE PEER MENTOR PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

The University of Texas at San Antonio and San Antonio College have received a Title V grant, The Academy For Teacher Excellence. This grant will allow the two institutions to work together in a collaborative effort to increase the success rates of students majoring in education, specifically Hispanic and Minority students. One effort to ensure the goals of this grant is the establishment of a Peer Mentoring Program. We are excited to introduce The Academy For Teacher Excellence Peer Mentor Program.

This manual is designed to help you get an overall understanding of the Academy For Teacher Excellence Peer Mentor Program. The mentors consist of sophomore and junior Education Majors at University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA). The mentees will be San Antonio College (SAC) Education Majors, preferably students who plan on transferring to UTSA. The mentees also may be students who are participating in the Academy For Teacher Excellence Learning Communities.

As a mentee, you will be assigned a mentor who will provide guidance towards reaching your educational and/or personal goals. The relationship should be based on mutual respect and good communication. Sample topics that may be discussed with your mentor may include classroom progress, setting educational and career goals, time management, getting involved in campus activities, and steps to take to transfer to a university.

A mentor is someone who can provide guidance and knowledge related to the goals of the mentee.

A mentee is someone who takes charge of their own walk by actively seeking information and feedback in order to be successful.

DEFINITIONS OF MENTORING

Mentoring consists of focused and selected activities that seek to enhance and enrich students' opportunities to succeed to their educational endeavors. Mentoring activities link students with a mentor who will listen, understand, negotiate, and encourage students to utilize all the resources available to achieve academic and personal success.

GOAL OF THE MENTORING PROGRAM

The goal of the Academy For Teacher Excellence Mentor Program is to provide SAC students with opportunities to interact with UTSA students who can provide guidance and information on the Education program, ways to succeed in college, and familiarize them with UTSA.

BENEFITS OF MENTORING

FOR THE MENTEE:

- To learn more about their academic goals and themselves.
- To build self-esteem.
- To enhance interpersonal skills.
- To help enhance self-motivation and goal setting.
- To learn more about the field of education.
- To learn more about transferring to a University.
- Familiarize self with the expectations of a University.
- To receive guidance in academic decision making.
- To enhance overall learning and career aspirations.

FOR THE MENTOR:

- To share one's knowledge and expertise.
- To enhance self-esteem.
- To help shape educational, leadership, career, and learning goals.
- To experience a feeling of pride in seeing the mentee learn and focus on goals.
- To enjoy the feeling of being useful and supportive.
- To share knowledge on the field of education and information on the university.
- To appreciate the ability to lead the mentee to higher levels of thinking.
- You will be monetarily compensated for your time.

PROGRAM STEPS

All applications for both the Mentor and Mentee can be obtained from Dehlia Wallis, Project Director for Academy of Teacher Excellence at San Antonio College. Any SAC Education major can complete an application to be a mentee. Sophomore and Junior Education Majors, in good academic standing at UTSA, are able to fill out an application to be a mentor. Once the applications are reviewed, you will be notified if you have been selected to participate in the program. At that time, you will receive information regarding the Orientation.

- You will be provided with a copy of the Mentor Program Contract at the Orientation for you to review and sign. (Orientation will count towards your 10 hours of meeting time for the first month.)
- You will be assigned a mentor/mentee based on information that you give us. We will try to match based on interests, common goals, grade/subject you would like to teach etc...
- You will receive information about your mentee/mentor and it will be your responsibility to set-up first meeting time.
- One of the first exercises to be completed by mentor and mentee will be the Goal Setting worksheet. This can be found in the Mentor Program Handbook.
- You will continue to meet throughout the semester for the required amount of time (10 hours each month). Be sure to turn in your monthly logs to the Program Director by the last day of each month.
- At the end of the semester, both the mentee and mentor will complete the Evaluation Form. This form can also be found in the handbook.
- At any time that you have questions or concerns, please contact the Program Director