



Horatio Alger Association Committed Mentoring Program

WELCOME!

What is an Alumni Mentor?

She or he is a guide, a friend, a resource who successfully navigated the ins and outs of college and has gone on to graduate school or started their career. An Alumni Mentor is a Horatio Alger Scholar who has risen to the challenges of college life and has not allowed for their adversity to overshadow their dreams of a college education. Your Mentor goal is to listen without judgment, inspire, inform, guide, encourage, and support you with the goal of helping to contribute to your personal and academic development.

What is a Scholar Mentee?

A mentee is a self-motivated individual seeking to continuously promote their personal development. A mentee recognizes personal strengths and weaknesses and actively seeks methods for personal growth. As a mentee, your role is to maintain a professional, working relationship with your mentor by going into each conversation with your mentor, prepared, keeping an open mind in your discussions with your mentor by being receptive to constructive criticism, and seek information and guidance.

Mentees are:

Inquisitive listeners who:

- Keep an open mind in conversations
- Are prepared for each conversation
- Are receptive to suggestions and feedback without feeling defensive
- Are not afraid to ask questions, "The only stupid question is the one **not** asked."

Learners who:

- Exhibit a strong desire to learn new skills and abilities or a desire to develop existing skills and abilities
- Get to know their Mentor on a personal level
- Understand the value of constructive criticism

Team players who:

- Make the first contact with their selected Mentor
- Agree on expectations and goals with their Mentor
- Commit and follow through on the agreement made with their Mentor
- Establish rapport with their Mentor
- Are appropriate in requests made of their Mentor
- Initiate and participate in discussions, as well as seek information and opinions



What is expected of the Mentee?

Like the mentor, the mentee is expected to commit to at least one (1) full academic year to the mentoring relationship. Mentees are expected to act professionally and meet commitments to their mentor in a responsible and timely manner. Mentees should return emails and phone calls from their mentors within a 24-hour period. It is very important for mentees to keep an open mind when working with their mentor. Mentees should be committed to making their mentoring relationship work with their mentor by asking appropriate questions and actively seeking guidance.