

The Educational Interpreter Mentorship provides for professional development of recent graduates of Interpreter Training Programs and those working interpreters who need to develop and enhance their skills.

Mentors can reside anywhere within the United States or its territories. This distance may preclude any opportunity to meet face-to-face however, whenever possible, personal meetings are encouraged.

Mentors will endeavor to develop professional resources and educational opportunities for mentees in order to enhance their knowledge and skills, and to provide opportunities for networking with other interpreters. Additionally, mentors will provide incidental information that can help the mentee engage in cultural activities such as theater, storytelling, books and v-logs, and any special events that may contribute to cultural awareness and sensitivity.

Contact may be face-to-face, taped, telephone or via internet connection. The mentor and mentee will agree to work together for a period of a minimum of 3 months. Contact between mentor and mentee should occur on a weekly basis in order to establish a professional rapport and to create a meaningful place for dialog and professional growth.

When beginning to work together, the mentor and mentee should meet in order to discuss specific goals to be obtained from the mentorship. Many times, the mentee will already know weak areas and be able to discuss them with the mentor. The mentor and mentee should meet again weekly so that the mentor has an opportunity to observe the mentee interpret and to assist in developing professional goals. At that time, the mentor may establish specific objectives to focus on during the time frame agreed upon by the team. It is important that the goals and objectives of both the mentee and the mentor be put in writing on the mentee's Professional Development Plan. The team should often refer back to their beginning goals and objectives in order to better evaluate the success and progress of the mentorship.