



Be a Mentor

Do you remember the anxiety you experienced during your first year of dental school? How much more successful would you be now if you had had an upper-class student's help and advice? A part of the rich tradition in our profession is helping others build on our success. You have been successful and perhaps it is due to the help of a mentor. It is time for you to pass on this legacy and become a mentor yourself.

The organizers of Great Expectations will need a select few upper-class students to serve first year students as a mentor. Each group of new students will be assigned a faculty mentor, a practicing professional mentor, and an upper-class mentor.

If selected, you will be part of a team of mentors to help new students work through the challenges of school while focusing on their professional development. In addition you will forge strong relationships with new students, faculty members, and practicing professionals that will be great contacts for you in your career.



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Obligations

Early in the school year there will be an organizational meeting and get-together sponsored by the Great Expectations organizers. At this time you will be introduced to your fellow mentors as well as to your first year students. You will need to exchange contact information -- cell phone, e-mail, social media, etc. Make sure you are available to listen to their concerns. This is one of the most valuable, and rewarding, services you can provide.

Although this first meet-and-greet will be somewhat structured, the following meetings (we encourage 2-3 during the school year) will be determined by you and your fellow mentors. For example, you may want to have an informal get-together to help them with waxing teeth or working with the high speed hand piece. In addition your professional mentor may want to host a more social meeting at his or her office or home. Both the timing and activities for these additional meetings will be chosen by you and your small group. Your insight is imperative in creating a program that is applicable and beneficial for the students' first years.

Conscientious mentoring does require some time and consideration but the rewards for helping your future colleagues are immense and timeless. You will be developing relationships not only with your students but with your fellow mentors as well, and many of these relationships will last a lifetime. You will be a significant influence on your student's professional and ethical development just as your faculty and professional mentor just as you advance toward your career.

Interested in exploring this further?

Contact:



Phone:

e-mail:

USA Section

International College of Dentists

www.usa-icd.org

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