

WDP Professionals Forum Mentoring Program FAQs

How does the program work?

After a kick-off webinar, mentees will be placed into groups of 5-7 women with 1-2 mentors. These mentoring groups will meet 3 times over the course of 3 months giving people a chance to get to know each other and have time to discuss issues fully. The program will wrap up with a final session for all participants to come back together virtually and discuss their learnings and next steps.

What kind of questions or topics will be addressed?

The intention of the group mentoring is to help women succeed in the workplace. As a result, the range of topics can be very broad – how to get a promotion or a raise, work-life balance, changing jobs, education, etc. The goal is to help mentees find ways to overcome barriers and find new pathways to success, so mentees are encouraged to bring their questions to the sessions. Relevant pre-read materials will also be provided to start the dialog on topics like these.

What are the benefits to participating in such a program?

There are proven benefits to having a mentor(s). For example:

Mentees are 5 times more likely to be promoted than others without mentors and mentors themselves are 6 times more likely to be promoted. In fact, we had a participant in the Spring 2022 program that received a desired promotion after discussing her situation with program peers and mentors.

A 15% boost in management level minority representation after completing mentorship

A whopping 87% of mentoring participants feel empowered and more confident

What are the requirements to be accepted as mentee?

- Have work experience and a desire to learn from your peers;
- Can commit to 5-6 hours of time over 4 months; and
- Agree to fully participate in the program by attending the sessions and contributing topics.

What are the requirements to be a mentor?

- 20+ years of work experience;
- Experience as a mentor whether formal or informal;
- The ability to commit to 5-6 hours of time over 4 months,

including running 3 mentoring group sessions; and
D. Passion for helping women succeed in business.

Does this program cost anything?

The program and membership in the EDM Council's Women Data Professionals Forum are free.

How much time will the program take?

We are telling participants to plan for 5-6 hours over 4 months which includes kick-off and wrap-up sessions, 3 group mentoring sessions, and some preparation time.

Will this program be offered in other time zones or regions?

The current program will be in Eastern Standard Time only. All are welcome to participate regardless of location, but must be able to attend in EST.

Can mentees continue to communicate with their group mentor(s)?

That will be an individual decision. Mentees may reach out to their mentors separately and ask to continue the relationship. Mentors will be open to this outreach. And of course, participants are encouraged to keep in touch with the women they have met in this activity. A benefit of the group mentoring is building community and networks!

