PROGRAM EXPENSES

The Mentor Program fee is $1000 and partially subsidizes costs associated with lodging, programming and group meals. The program fee does not include membership or registration at NFBPA's annual conference (FORUM). An option to combine the program fee, membership, and FORUM registration is available on the application.

Travel expenses associated with the fall Mentor Session, winter shadowing experience, and attendance to FORUM are also not included in the program fee.

RECRUITMENT & SELECTION SCHEDULE

Recruitment and Selection: April - June 30
Application Deadline: June 30th
Participant Notification: July 31st
Fall Kick-off Orientation & Mentor Match: September/October

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The Mentor Program is an intensive, six-month initiative that culminates with the Mentor Program Graduation held at the annual conference. The Program’s two-fold focus includes:

1. **Career development** and skills building through specialized workshops and cohort community service project.
2. **Mentoring** through informal interaction between participants (proteges) and mentors, a winter shadowing experience, and a guided career development plan.

**Mentor Match:**

- One-on-one access and interaction with an experienced local government executive.
- Foster strong professional and personal relationships with cohort.
- Development of a personalized strategic career plan.
- Heightened awareness of career paths within the public sector.
- National network of black professionals from across the country.

The ideal protege should possess the following:

- Bachelor’s Degree (required)
- Master’s Degree (preferred)
- Minimum of two years professional work experience
- Demonstrated participation and involvement in community, civic, professional and social activities
- Interest in and commitment to achieving an executive position in public or not-for-profit sectors

Upon selection to participate in the Mentor Program, proteges will be required to complete a number of important tasks. At a minimum, the following is expected:

- Attendance and participation at kick-off workshops, group call-ins, webinars, and other group discussions.
- Commitment to developing and sustaining a mutually-supportive relationship with mentor.
- Development of a detailed strategic career plan.
- Undertake and complete a group community service project around a relevant policy initiative.
- Participation in the Mentor Shadowing Experience with mentor.
- Join and maintain membership in NFBPA for the duration of the program.