THE PROGRAM

“Many of our nation’s most respected executives, in both the public and private sectors, cite the support, influence and encouragement of a mentor as a contributing reason for their success. As an organization dedicated to grooming Black administrators for the challenges of senior management positions in the public sector, the National Forum for Black Public Administrators is firmly committed to fostering mentoring relationships that will increase career opportunities for the “next generation of Black public managers.”

With this commitment in mind, in 1987 NFBPA launched the Mentor Program, a unique program designed to positively impact the professional development of emerging public administrators. The program is an intensive, eight-month initiative with a two-fold focus. First, emphasis is placed on skills building, with specialized workshops offered during two group meetings. The second, and equally important, focus is embodied in informal interaction between mentors and protégés throughout the program period.”

- CAREER DEVELOPMENT and skills building through specialized workshops and cohort community service project.
- MENTORING through informal interaction between participants (Protégés) and mentors, a winter shadowing experience, and a guided career development plan.

Visit https://www.nfbpa.org/programs/mentor-program for more information and to apply for the Mentor Program!

Contact adminservices@nfbpa.org with additional questions.
SHARING wisdom and insights with the next generation of public managers.

**MENTOR MATCH:**
- One-on-one access and interaction with an experienced local government executive.
- Foster strong and 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 professionals from across the country.

**BENEFITS**

- **APPLICANTS**
  - Mentor Match: One-on-one access and interaction with an experienced local government executive.
  - Foster strong and 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 professionals from across the country.

The NFBPA Mentor Program is designed to identify aspiring public managers who show great promise of achieving executive positions in public service. During the course of the program, participants (protégés) will be paired one-on-one with an experienced mentor from NFBPA’s pool of highly successful black public officials eager to share their experience, insight, and wisdom with younger, career-minded professionals.

The ideal protégé should possess the following:
- Bachelor’s Degree (required)
- 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

The Program is open to everyone but if you are not currently a member of NFBPA, we invite you to join.

*All participants must agree to follow all Health and Wellness Guidelines during any in-person sessions. NFBPA will follow applicable federal, state and local laws, adapting program plans accordingly and sharing updates.

**PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

The Mentor Program will feature two in-person sessions, alongside virtual check-ins and discussions. The first in-person session will occur in the Fall in Washington, DC and the second in-person experience will be the final presentations and graduation ceremony at NFBPA’s Annual Conference (FORUM) in the Spring. Protégés may also voluntarily elect to conduct their Job Shadow in-person, if provided approval by the Mentor.

All protégés will take part in a Program Project, which offers participants an opportunity to collaborate with their colleagues across the country to name and frame wicked community problems plaguing communities and work through complementary solutions that intersect racial equity, the coproduction of public goods, and the realignment of local government policies and practices to meet community needs. Protégés bring their lived experience, as well as their expertise in the local government, nonprofit, academic and other complementary sectors to develop and present their approach.

**COST**

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). Travel expenses associated with the fall Mentor Session, Winter Shadowing Experience, and attendance to FORUM are also not included in the program fee.

**PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

**APPLICATIONS**

- **Application Deadline:** August 15
- **Candidates Notified:** August 31
- **In-Person Program Kick-Off Session in Washington, DC:** Fall
- **Mentor Match and Networking:** Late Fall
- **Monthly Virtual Check-Ins / Job Shadow Experience:** January – March
- **Annual Conference (FORUM) Final Presentations and Graduation:** April

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