

Office of Student Leadership Development

Tips for Being a Good Mentee

This list offers a few tips on enhancing the success of your mentoring relationships.

☐ **Be prepared for your mentoring sessions.**

Preparation means coming to the conversation with a sense of what you'd like to talk about. Be organized and punctual. It's important to make the most out of your time and your mentor's time!

☐ **Let your mentor know who you are.**

Share things that you are comfortable sharing. Share your thoughts about being a student at W&M and being a student leader.

☐ **Focus on the relationship, rather than outcomes.**

Your mentor's role is not to do your work for you or be a "fixer". Focus on being in the relationship instead of a particular kind of help.

☐ **Listen with an open mind.**

Your mentor's experiences can offer a great opportunity for you to learn and take away some "nuggets of wisdom." Challenge yourself to find the connection. Be ready to learn something new as a result of your conversations.

☐ **Ask curious questions.**

Some of the best conversations are ones with a natural back-and-forth dialogue. Ask questions like, "How did you feel at the time?" or "What was that like for you?" For example, if your mentor participated in SLF or a similar leadership session, this may be an ideal connection to take your initial conversations.

☐ **Respect your mentor's boundaries.**

Remember that your mentor has various commitments and time constraints. Be careful to not inundate your mentor with emails, phone calls and respect the time boundaries of the session.

☐ **Follow up on agreements.**

If you have committed to taking a step as a result of your mentoring relationship—be sure to follow up.

☐ **Say "Thank you"!**

It never hurts to thank your mentor for all they do!

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Adapted from: www.infocomm.org/mentor

