



The LeGaL Mentoring Program
Co-sponsored by the NALP LGBT Section
Attorney Fact Sheet

The LeGaL Mentoring Program provides you with the opportunity to make a significant difference in a law student's career with a small time commitment. You will be able to foster the professional development of LGBT law students while providing advice and support on how to handle some of the unique challenges that may confront LGBT law students during law school and the early years of one's legal career. One of the many benefits of the LeGaL Mentoring Program is its flexibility. Once matched, mentors and mentees tailor the mentoring relationship to their individual needs and interests.

Who is Eligible?

Attorneys who are admitted to practice in the NYC-metro area and in good standing are eligible to serve as mentors. LeGaL then will match you with an LGBT law student from one of the 13 New York City area law schools.

What do LeGaL mentors and mentees do?

Because of the busy lives of attorneys and law students, most contact is done via telephone and e-mail. Some mentor/mentee in-person activities could include: attending LeGaL events, other bar association events, attending any of your work activities (e.g. court, negotiations, client meetings), and meeting for lunch. We recommend that the first meeting between the mentor and mentee take place at the attorney's office, whenever possible.

Benefits of mentoring to the mentee:

- Mentored students experience greater academic success, self-confidence, self-esteem and motivation.
- Mentees have a sounding board for issues or dilemmas that may arise, especially issues specific to LGBT law students.
- Mentees receive advice and ideas on career development and advancement.
- Mentees have a positive LGBT professional role model.
- Mentees gain networking opportunities, improve communication skills and enhanced awareness of diversity in the legal community.

Benefits to You:

- Increased involvement in the community, as well as participation in efforts to increase LGBT diversity in the legal field.
- The ability to provide insight and to support the academic and career endeavors of your mentee.
- Helping to expand growth opportunities for a law student.
- The satisfaction of helping a law student achieve professional success.
- Helps raise your firm/organization's profile and aids in recruiting LGBT students and attorneys.