

# Be a Mentor!

## About LAMP

LAMP is a flexible, multi-faceted program designed to attract and support students who might not otherwise consider LIS careers; track them into LIS programs where they can succeed; and then move them into jobs as information professionals. The mentoring, guidance, and encouragement that LAMP offers are particularly important in attracting students from underrepresented populations.

## Mentoring for LAMP

The goal of the program is to provide LAMP Scholars with a mentor who has similar interests. The mentoring program will help develop an expanding network of library and information professionals that enable LAMP Scholars to receive help and guidance from these knowledgeable and experienced members of the information professions

## Benefits and outcomes of mentoring

### For mentors:

- Opportunity to reflect on own skills and work practices
- Exposure to fresh ideas
- Added incentive for staying aware of current issues in the field
- Personal satisfaction in sharing experiences
- Pride in your scholar's accomplishments
- Increased self worth with contributions to the profession and organization

### For scholars:

- Expanded knowledge of skills and practices in the LIS field
- Association with a successful role model
- Opportunity to discuss issues with a respected practitioner/professional
- Ongoing support and encouragement during the graduate school application process and subsequent academic pursuits
- Honest and constructive feedback
- Increased self-confidence and heightened career aspirations

# Mentoring Guidelines

## We Want Your Participation!

We are delighted to have you participate as a LAMP Mentor. LAMP is part of a regional effort to encourage students from historically and statistically underrepresented groups to pursue graduate studies in library and information science (LIS).

- Meet regularly with assigned LAMP Scholar (physically or remotely) to get to know the student well
- Create a relationship of trust and mutual understanding
- Identify the crucial needs of the scholar
- Decide and agree on the process and method to be used
- Fine-tune the mentoring process as the year proceeds
- Participate in activities arranged for LAMP Scholars and mentors

Neither the mentor nor the scholar is obliged to continue with the partnership if the relationship proves to be unsatisfactory for either party.



For further information, visit our website at <http://lisaccess.org/lamp>

Or contact the program coordinator at [lamp\\_admin@lis.uiuc.edu](mailto:lamp_admin@lis.uiuc.edu)  
(217)265-6434

## Why Mentoring is Good for the Profession:

- *Enhanced professional growth and development of individuals*
- *Socialization of potential library and information professionals*
- *Processes for passing on skills and knowledge*
- *Increased talent pool*