

The Challenge Foundation Mentor Application

Mission Statement

The Challenge Foundation assures that high potential, low income, middle school students receive the academic, experiential and emotional support they need to graduate from college and start achieving their life dreams.

Our philosophy is based upon the belief that a child's environment plays a critical role in determining academic success. The foundation targets students who have the desire and ability to succeed and provides them with the support of mentors, tutors, case management and a scholarship to a private, college preparatory school (St. Mary's Academy, Colorado Academy, and Regis Jesuit High School). This holistic, long-term program provides a positive, supportive and constructive environment, both inside the classroom and outside of the school.

The Role of the Mentor

The mentor has an extremely important role in our program. The mentor partners with the student's family and the foundation to encourage success and provide support. The mentor's responsibility is to establish and maintain a relationship with their student with primary emphasis on his or her academic performance and personal development.

The Role of a Challenge Foundation Mentor is to:

- Form a supportive and open relationship with the student, serving as a role model, encouraging positive character development.
- Expand the student's world and stimulate imagination and creativity by providing intellectual experiences and conversations.
- Support the student's academic life by taking an interest in their school experience and communicating with teachers and the foundation about academic issues.
- Treat the student as a friend and an important aspect of the mentor's life.
- Participate in Challenge Foundation activities, such as mentor training and fun group outings.
- Work as a team to establish communicative, trusting relationships with the family and the Challenge Foundation.

Time Commitment:

- Once a week phone or email contact with your student
- Twice a month visits with your student
- Attendance to at least 2 mentor trainings per year

Liability Issues

In order to address the safety of the youth we work with, it is important that we ask you the following questions about potential liability issues. Please be honest when answering these questions. Answering "yes" to a question about illegal activities does not necessarily preclude you from becoming a mentor, but it may warrant further conversation.

Have you ever been arrested or convicted of any crime other than minor traffic violations? Please Check: Yes____ No____

If yes, please explain briefly:

Have you ever been convicted or plead guilty before a court of any federal, state, or municipal criminal offense? If yes, please explain the charges and details.

Have you ever received deferred adjudication or similar disposition for any federal, state, or municipal criminal offense? If yes, please explain the charges and details.

Are you, or have you ever been, the subject of an indicated child abuse and maltreatment report on file with the Colorado Central Registry of Child Abuse and Maltreatment, or elsewhere, or penalized for maltreatment of a child? If yes, please explain:

Have you ever been involved with domestic violence (as a perpetrator, victim, or witness)? If yes, please explain.

Have you ever been a victim of abuse, whether in childhood or adulthood?

Outline any extended hospitalizations (including treatment for drugs, alcohol, or mental illness):

How many alcohol beverages do you drink in one week? _____

Do you use recreational drugs? If yes, how often? _____

Have you ever gotten a DUI? If yes, please explain.

When was the last time you drove after having too much to drink?

Do you have any health conditions that could interfere with your ability to mentor? If yes, please explain.

Reasons for Your Interest in Mentoring

How did you hear about the Challenge Foundation?

Have you ever been a mentor for a student? If so, for how long and through which organization?

Why do you want to mentor a student?

What experiences have you had that prepare you for mentoring?

What are ways you would hope to help a student mentee?

What do you see as the biggest challenge to your commitment as a mentor?

What goal/s are you currently working on?

References

Please provide the names and phone numbers of two people we have your permission to contact for references, including at least one work or school-related reference. **Please do not include relatives.**

1. Name _____

Tele. _____

2. Name _____

Tele. _____

The information contained in this application will not be disclosed to persons or institutions outside the Challenge Foundation program unless required by law.

I declare that the information in my application is true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Name (Print)

Signature

Date

The Challenge Foundation runs background checks on all mentors in order to protect the program and the students. This requires written authorization.

I give permission to the Challenge Foundation to run all necessary background checks.

Name (Print)

Signature

Date

**PERMISSION TO DRIVE THE STUDENTS IS GRANTED ONLY TO THE MENTORS.
PLEASE PROVIDE A COPY OF YOUR DRIVER'S LICENSE AND PROOF OF CURRENT
AUTO INSURANCE. THANK YOU!!**

Please mail, fax, or email the application to:

The Challenge Foundation

4545 S. University Blvd.

Englewood, CO 80110

Fax: 303-783-6201

meredith@thechallengefoundation.org

Thank you for applying to be a mentor for the Challenge Foundation. If you have any questions contact Meredith Metcalf, Program Manager, at 303-870-1406.