

## **SURIEA Mentor F.A.Q.**

### **General Information**

1. What are the eligibility criteria to become a SURIEA mentor?
  - Previous experience with positive outcomes
  - Clear, reasonable, and impactful project proposals
  - Diverse team structure that supports student development
  - Detailed mentoring and social adjustment plans
2. Can industry professionals apply, or is this program limited to academic mentors?
  - "Both industry and academic professionals are welcome to apply!"
3. Are there restrictions on the geographic location of mentors or students?
  - "Yes, mentors must be located in the U.S."
4. How are students matched with mentors?
  - "Students and mentors will connect during a virtual meet-and-greet session in early March, where students will rank their preferred mentors. Program organizers will work to match each student with one of their top three choices. Early Bird mentors are guaranteed a mentee match."

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### **Timeline and Deadlines**

1. What is the difference between the Early Bird Deadline and the Final Deadline?
  - "Early Bird mentors must commit to fully funding their students and will be notified of their selection by December 20. They are guaranteed a mentee match if selected. Only five Early Bird mentors will be chosen. If not selected, Early Bird applicants can still be considered in the general applicant pool without resubmitting."
2. If I miss the Early Bird Deadline, can I still apply for the Final Deadline?
  - "Yes! While you're welcome to offer funding, it's not a requirement for Final Deadline applicants."
3. When will mentors applying for the Final Deadline be notified about their selection?
  - "*Notifications for Final Deadline applicants will be sent out by in February (exact date TBA). Mentors selected at this stage are not guaranteed a mentee match.*"

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### **Commitment and Expectations**

1. What are the time commitments required for mentors during the 12-week program?
  - The program length and time commitments are flexible within our guidelines:
    - Students must complete a minimum of 9 weeks in-person and 10 weeks total (ASA-funded positions run up to 12 weeks; mentor-funded positions can extend to 14 weeks at \$20/hour)
    - Daily contact time (8-10 hours/week) is typically shared across your team, with ~1 hour per day for one-on-one mentoring
    - You'll design the project, so you have control over structuring the work and time commitments in a way that works for your team
2. Are mentors required to attend the in-person short course or just their students?

- "Only students are required to attend the short course, but local mentors may attend daytime events if space allows."
3. How is the 1-2 years of remote mentoring expected to work after the program ends?
- "Mentors have the rewarding opportunity to support students in attending their first ASA meeting. This includes helping them draft and submit an abstract, presenting and potentially writing a paper.
  - Mentors also expected to provide ongoing career guidance and support. Key activities may include:
    - Reviewing resume and cover letter.
    - Discussing potential career paths.
    - Providing insights into the job market and industry trends.
    - Offering connections to your professional network.
    - Offering advice on navigating professional challenges and workplace dynamics.
    - Sharing insights on continuing education and professional development opportunities.
    - Maintaining periodic contact to provide support and encouragement, and celebrate together as your mentee reaches new academic and career milestones."
4. What happens if unforeseen circumstances prevent me from continuing my mentoring relationship after the program?
- "Please communicate any challenges or changes to the program organizers promptly to ensure continuity of support for the student."

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### **Funding and Financial Support**

1. Do mentors have to guarantee funding for their mentees?
  - "Only Early Bird mentors are required to provide \$9600 in funding, which covers the stipend and housing allotment."
2. How does the funding commitment for Early Bird mentors compare to those who apply by the Final Deadline?
  - "Only Early Bird mentors must commit to fully funding students, while ASA is prepared to fully cover the program costs for five additional general mentors."
3. What costs does the \$9600 student support fund cover?
  - "The fund covers the housing allotment and a stipend (based on \$20/hour for 30 hours per week)."
4. Are there funding opportunities for mentors who cannot guarantee financial support?
  - "Yes. ASA provides funding for up to five students. If you are unable to fund a student, your application will be considered after December 20."

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### **Program and Application Process**

1. What criteria are used to select mentors during the Early Bird and Final Deadline review processes?

- "The selection criteria are the same for both Early Bird and Final Deadline applicants."
  - 2. Do mentors have to propose specific research projects for their mentees as part of the application?
    - "Yes, mentors must propose a project appropriate for a 10- to 12-week undergraduate experience."
  - 3. What additional application materials are required besides the online form?
    - "You must also provide information on local housing options and associated costs."
  - 4. How will I know if my application has been successfully submitted?
    - "You will receive a confirmation message upon successful submission."
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### **Student Interaction and Experience**

1. Are mentors expected to host students in person for the full program?
    - "Mentors must host students in person for at least 9 weeks between May 12 and August 15. The short course week (May 30–June 4) is a separate in-person commitment for students."
  2. Can mentors involve their mentees in ongoing research projects, or must new projects be developed?
    - "Absolutely! You can involve mentees in ongoing research projects - just be sure to carve out an exciting portion that the student can 'own' and present as their independent work by the end of the program."
  3. How are students' travel and accommodation logistics handled for the ASA meeting and short course?
    - "ASA reimburses up to \$600 for summer relocation costs, \$600 for short course travel, and \$2000 for attending one ASA meeting."
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### **Diversity and Inclusion Focus**

1. What support is provided to mentors for ally and mentoring workshops?
  - "Mentors will participate in workshops covering topics like systemic oppression, social identity, and liberating conversations. These sessions provide tools for creating inclusive environments and building trust with mentees."
2. How does the program define underrepresented identities in acoustics?
  - "The program focuses on students identifying as Black/African American, Native American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, Alaska Native, and Hispanic/Latino/a."
3. Can mentors from underrepresented groups also participate as mentors?
  - "Absolutely! Mentors from underrepresented groups are strongly encouraged to apply."