



THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PANAMA Scholarship Committee Mentoring Guidelines

The American Society of Panama ('AmSoc') in our quest to improve our scholarship endeavors is implementing a mentoring program for the students selected to receive funding for scholarships. With this implementation, we're moving into another phase of our Scholarship Guidelines to benefit our students.

A successful mentoring relationship is full of reliability, such as the consistency that scheduled meetings provide. Giving the student a regular appointment to look forward to help them feel valued and it creates a regular outlet for them to share their thoughts and maybe feelings. The trust gained through these times is invaluable to the mentoring relationship. The mentoring program is open to members of The American Society of Panama, and the professors and students of the Center for English Language Immersion (CELI).

General

Help to shape the younger generation by sharing what you know.

- Personally mentor a student by communicating with him or her, initially every 2 weeks, then on an as-needed-basis.
- Communication can be by telephone via a regular or scheduled call, to inquire about their schoolwork, grades, academic needs; do they need a tutor because of difficulty in a particular subject(s); goals/dreams they have & how to accomplish them (share some of yours: failed and accomplished); suggesting interests (sports, reading), hobbies (photography, crafts, arts), social activities (current event), community involvement (Red Cross, Walk-a-thons, races), debriefing what's happened in each other's lives since you last spoke, and/or something interesting on the Internet to talk about.
- Commitment on the average of 1-2 hours per month. Advise Chair/Appointee in advance when needs to terminate the program.
- Meetings could be in person with **prior** parental, & Scholarship Committee Chair/Appointee approvals.
- The mentor can double as tutor based on his/her expertise (teaching English, technical skills), and prior approval by the Scholarship Chair/Appointee.
- Mentoring does not need to be structured, except for time/date in order for it to be effective.
- Not all students are great communicators, so if necessary, give them something to do/think about for the next contact.
- Establish that you will maintain confidentiality to your conversations unless you learn of something life-threatening to him, her or another.
- Make mentoring something valuable and appropriate for the age level--something they will carry with them into the future.

Contact

Scholarship Committee
PO Box 0843-0166
Panama, Panama 00000

The undersigned being the President of The American Society of Panama, & Scholarship Chairman, respectively, hereby certify that the foregoing Guidelines were approved by the Board of the Society March 26, 2014 and adopted by a vote of seven (7) members of the Board entitled to vote.

Dated March 26, 2014

Charlotte Pierce, President

Marcia L. Henry, MA, Chairman