

APPLYING TO BE A FIELD MENTOR

Field Mentors Expectations and Qualifications:

Since Lincoln Christian University's Internship Program requires as many as 12 credit hours of the student's academic requirements, we require high standards for Field Mentors. Since the Internship Program is not about getting part-time help, we take seriously the Field Mentor Qualifications and willingness to invest in the lives of our students.

The Field Mentor plays a very important role in the internship experience. Field Mentors provide a model for students to imitate in character, knowledge, and commitment. In a church or church-related organization context, the Field Mentor will help the student to reflect theologically upon his/her internship experiences. In public or private settings, we desire to see character driven mentors who will invest in our students.

The following qualifications have been established for Field Mentors:

- 1. Character** - The mentor will display a good character and ethics.
- 2. Education** - The mentor will have earned a minimum of a **bachelor's degree** or its equivalency in a ministry area or in a field related to the student's primary responsibilities in the internship. The University will exercise flexibility in this expectation for qualified mentors.
- 3. Experience** - The mentor is to be at least **28 years old** (five years after a bachelor's degree) and will have served a minimum of **five years** total in ministry or in a field related to the student's primary responsibilities in the internship. We are seeking mentors who have experience, maturity, and wisdom that can be shared with the intern. We are also seeking to place students into internship settings that match their degree program, e.g. youth ministry students will be mentored by a five-year veteran youth minister and not with a preacher who wants a youth minister.
- 5. Continuing Preparation** - The mentor is encouraged to continue to prepare him/herself by participating in continuing education activities such as conferences, seminars, reading programs, etc.
- 6. Time** - The mentor must be willing to meet with the student in a formal setting at least one hour per week for in-depth reflection, evaluation, and advising. This is in addition to time spent by the mentor in ministry activities with the student. **The mentor understands that if he/she does not have the time to adequately mentor a student/intern, then he/she should NOT apply for an intern.**
- 7. Reporting** - The mentor agrees to complete a report concerning the intern's activities and progress at the end of each month as well as the Progress Report (1/2 way through the internship) and the Final Evaluation (at the end). Each of these reports will be emailed to the mentor's email account as an attachment. Once the report is completed, it is suggested that he/she copy and paste the report to a Word document before submitting the report, just in case it is not received by the Internship Office.

Field Mentor Application Process:

Being a Field Mentor takes time: leading, providing feedback, correcting, encouraging, challenging, and holding the intern accountable. All of this is simply termed "mentoring." It is an investment with great dividends for the Kingdom. Lincoln Christian University's Internship Program requires this kind of time-sensitive investment because we see how life changing mentoring is in the life of future leaders. Students hunger for direction, feedback, encouragement, and challenge; they want to become the best they can be for Christ. We view Field Mentors as adjunct professors, of sorts, leading real life education in the classroom of the real world.

If you have the **time** and the **heart**, and are **willing** to invest your life, resources, and energy into a student, we want to partner with you. We take this very seriously; we want you to as well. Fill out the application form at the following link if you have made the commitment to be a Field Mentor:

[Link to the application here](#)

Application Approval Standards:

The Internship Office will grant approval based on the following criteria:

- Does the Mentor meet the seven qualifications (as listed above)?
- Has the Mentor agreed to take the student on as intern?
- Has the Mentor completed the application form?
- Has the Field Mentor been approved by the intern's Faculty Mentor and Internship Office to be the best learning experience for **that particular** student?

The Next Step:

After the application has been processed, the Internship Office will contact the Field Mentor telling him/her whether or not he/she has been approved as a qualified Field Mentor.

After the Internship Office gives approval, the name of the church or organization will be made available to our students as a possible internship location. Students (future interns) can see what sites are available for an internship experience and make contacts with those places that interest them.

If a church or organization makes a personal contact with a student, the internship can only become official when the Field Mentor becomes an approved Field Mentor at the approved Internship Site and the student completes all the Pre-Internship Requirements.

