



## Mentorship Program

Introductions, Survey, and FAQ



### What is the Mentorship Program?

[Mentorship Program Survey Link](#)

The NCSD Education Committee (EC) is bringing back the Mentorship Program for peers in the Committee. After a decent run of a few years, the former program began wane and was mostly abandoned. Now, the EC has decided to dust off this old program, take lessons learned from back then, revitalize the program and try again!

As before, the standard mentor/mentee model will be available. However, a new model will be introduced for peer-to-peer interactions. See details below. For the standard mentor/mentee program, participants will be organized based on level of experience, interests, and specialties. Those interested in participating as both a mentor and a mentee will be free to do so, see survey for details.

### When will the Mentorship Program begin?

The Membership survey will be released to the Division during the 2026 ANS Annual Meeting (May 31<sup>st</sup> – June 3<sup>rd</sup>) and the first round of pairings/groupings will be set June 30<sup>th</sup>. Don't worry if you don't get a chance to respond before the deadline, the survey will remain open following June 30<sup>th</sup>, though you may have to wait for the next round of pairings/groups (date to be decided later).

### Who is the Mentorship Program for?

The Mentorship Program is targeted for all ages and experience levels. Naturally, the younger, less experienced members of the community will likely be mentees. While the older, more experienced members of the community will likely be mentors. However, this program intends to allow for more flexible role selection.

### What are the roles in the Mentorship Program?

Those interested will be allowed to participate as one or more of the following: **Mentors, Mentees, or Peers.**

### What is the role of the Mentor?

The mentor will be an experienced member of the community willing to help guide those with less experience in the community. In general, mentors will be paired up with a single mentee. Interests and areas of expertise will be matched with mentees of similar interests. See the survey for more information. Mentors may act as guides for their mentees and assist in their development as criticality safety professionals.

### What is the role of the Mentee?

Mentees are those in the community who wish to gain experience and knowledge from a member of the community with Criticality Safety experience (or adjacent) that you would like to learn. All we ask that participating mentees enter into their group with an open mind for learning.

### **What is the peer-to-peer option?**

A new type of mentorship group has been included in this program, the peer-to-peer groups. These groups of three or more people may be joined by anyone but will be organized by experience level. These groups are intended to act as ways to network, study together, discuss problems and solutions from your own places of work, complain in solidarity about your office accommodations... We're envisioning free form discussions here at your own discretion. If needed, the EC can provide topics of discussion for these groups if needed.

### **How can I get involved as either a peer, mentor, or mentee?**

To get involved, click the link or scan the QR code above to be directed to the Mentorship Program Survey. The survey should take no more than 5 minutes to complete. Look for a confirmation email and a response from the committee in early July.

### **How will I meet with my Partner/Group?**

Currently there are no planned NCS D sanctioned meetups for mentors, mentees, and peers. However, if you can make that happen, feel free to do so! The Mentorship Planning committee expects for mentees to make first contact with their mentors. Naturally, many to work together via email, phone calls, video calls, texts, letters... Up to you and your partner/group!

### **How often should we meet?**

This will be completely up to you and your partner/group to decide. We recommend once per month minimum to start, but there is no mandatory requirement here.

### **What if I have issues with the person I am paired with?**

We are aware that not every group may be a perfect fit; that is understood and expected! Reach out to a member of the Mentorship Program planning committee with any questions concerning such matters. We will work with you to help resolve issues and adjust groups as necessary.

### **How Long Will the Mentorship Program Last?**

Don't worry if you and your partner/group are worried that the program will come to a premature end, the Committee plans to continue this program indefinitely. However, at the 2027 ANS Annual Conference, the EC will send out an email to all groups and pairs to check in on the Mentorship Program. We plan to take feedback from the Division and improve the program as it matures. We intend for this Program to continuously improve and continue for as long as possible! Your feedback will be invaluable in that process.

If you and your partner decide that you have had enough, we will not force you to continue. Please just reach out to the Mentorship Program planning committee and inform us of your intent to graduate from the program. Also let us know if you would like to be entered into the pool for future mentor/mentee selections.

### **Is this for people I work with regularly or from outside my Workplace/Jobsite?**

We know that many sites in the DOE/NRC/International Criticality Safety space have onsite mentorship programs already. We're intending for this to allow people to branch out and network with those from other sites/companies. See the survey for more details and where to enter your preferences.

**Who do I contact with other questions?**

Please reach out to a member of the Mentorship Program planning committee with any other questions:

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