Mentor FAQ

Who can mentor?

We would encourage all alumni to consider becoming a mentor, regardless of age or experience. Your support can be valuable to students/alumni at any point in your career.

Do I have to accept someone's mentor request? The Trinity Alumni Online platform affords the mentor the opportunity to accept or decline a mentee, dependent upon the information given by the mentee. If you decline a request there should be a good reason to do so. We encourage you to at least have an initial conversation to explore whether the relationship would be mutually beneficial.

Is it worthwhile meeting with my mentees?

Online mentoring is perfectly possible and can work very well particularly where there are restrictions on geographical location. If there are no restrictions, then meeting your mentee(s) in person can feel more authentic since both of you are present and focused. As a guideline aim for about three meetings of about an hour's duration over a six-month period in addition to replying to any e-mails/questions/concerns. These meetings are necessary for students applying for the Mentoring Certificate of Completion.

Should I include an invitation to my place of work or for workplace experience?

This is entirely up to you and you can decide to offer a work experience invitation to someone whom you were initially mentoring over the phone or where you have had one or two formal meetings. There are no hard and fast rules as to how the relationship should progress. As a volunteer though, you are giving your time freely and there is no agreement to provide job opportunities, review business venture proposals or course projects, interview mentees or recruit them for open positions at your place of employment.

How do I become a mentor?

There are a couple of ways you can become a mentor: through the online platform and at in-person events. To connect with students and alumni through the online platform, please sign up at Trinity Alumni Online (the full terms and conditions for using Trinity Alumni Online are here). Once you have activated your mentoring tab, students and alumni will be able to send you a mentoring request.

We also run several **in-person mentoring events** at Trinity throughout the year. Please see the Trinity Development and Alumni mentoring section of the website for upcoming events.

To learn more about your role as a mentor, read the Trinity Career Mentor Handbook, which includes Mentor FAQs, Guidelines and Top Tips.

What is the Mentoring Certificate of Completion?

Students who complete, sign and submit the Tracking My Mentoring Journey document to the Careers Service by a specified date in March will receive a Mentoring Certificate of Completion. As part of this process mentors need to discuss the document with their student mentee and co-sign it.