



### What is the Mentor Program?

*The goal of this program is to help foster students' personal and professional development by establishing meaningful mentoring relationships between Osgoode alumni and current students.* The mentor program offers the opportunity for first-year students to be mentored by upper-year Osgoode students and for upper-year students to be mentored by Osgoode alumni.

### How the program operates?

Students will be able to select their preferred alumnus mentor on the basis of standardized profiles. Each mentor could possibly be paired with up to three upper-year students but preferences for one-on-one mentoring will be accommodated. Mentors that do not receive their full complement of students in the fall term will have the opportunity to mentor first-year students in the winter term.

### What is the role of the Alumnus Mentor?

It is the role of the mentor to willingly and candidly provide advice and to share their Osgoode and career experiences. This may include:

- sharing information on a particular area of specialization;
- job search strategies;
- job shadowing; or
- staging mock interviews.

Students who have participated in the program in the past have found it extremely helpful to discuss:

- the articling process;
- career opportunities;
- the advantages and disadvantages of different types of practice; and
- course selection with someone familiar with the practice of law.

Mentor group meetings are meant to be fun and informal. They may take place at your office, or over lunch, dinner, or coffee. Students are advised at the outset that they will be responsible for their own costs associated with these meetings. Students are expected to respect time and availability limits of mentors and to be aware that both sides have busy and unpredictable schedules. **It is the quality of the relationship, not the quantity that determines its success; as a guideline we recommend at least one in-person meeting per term.** In special circumstances (ie. practicing outside of the GTA), mentoring solely via phone or email may also be appropriate.

### Contact Information

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