



Enlace Mentor Guide



INTRODUCTION

The Enlace Program, which began in 1983 at Evergreen Valley College, represents an alternative approach to meeting the educational needs of Chicanx/Latinx students. The name enlace is derived from the Spanish word enlazar, which means "to bind or connect" or "to create a community." The Enlace community consists of a team of college faculty, staff, and community mentors with the program mission of helping Chicanx/Latinx students succeed. Enlace services include academic classes and tutoring support, counseling, and community mentoring.

PROGRAM GOALS

- To enable Chicanx/Latinx students to successfully complete the Enlace English, math, and science courses.
- To mainstream students into the general education and transfer curricula.
- To successfully retain and matriculate Chicanx/Latinx students.
- To increase the number of Chicanx/Latinx students who graduate with an Associates degree.
- To increase the number of Chicanx/Latinx students who transfer to four-year colleges and universities.

The Mentor Project

The Enlace English IA mentor project was designed for our Chicanx/Latinx students to have an opportunity to explore and learn about their career of interest from Chicanx/Latinx professionals. Through the guidance of a mentor, Enlace students are able to learn what skills and /or preparation is needed to succeed in their desired career. Some of the areas of interest include: Business, Criminal Justice, Engineering, Nursing, and Social Work.



Outline

1. Students submit profile form to identify interests.
2. Program coordinator matches students with their mentor and provides the student with a mentor profile form.
3. Simultaneously, the mentors receive a student profile of their assigned mentee(s).
4. Students interview their mentor.
5. Once students complete the interview, they compose their mentor essay.

Goals

- Provide advice and support related to students desired career path
- Promote the importance of academic excellence
- Emphasize the importance of students taking responsibility for their goals
- enhance self-esteem of students

THE PROCESS

Initial Contact

When students receive their mentor profile, they use the information to write a letter of introduction. This letter is followed with a telephone call from the student to arrange an interview date.



The Interview

- Schedule a 60-90 minute interview
- If possible, have an interview at the workplace for student to observe mentor during work hours
- Conduct a tour of work facility
- Consider a follow-up interview
- It is recommended to create an environment, which lends an opportunity for a dialogue to happen versus an interview

Commitment

- Attend a Mentor Meet & Greet
- One-year commitment (different student each semester)
- Interview (60-90 minutes minimum)
- Email, text, call, or zoom corresponding throughout the semester
- Able to offer suggestions related to the mentee's educational and career goal.
- Willingness to listen
- Students and mentors may maintain communication beyond the semester.



BENEFITS OF BEING AN ENLACE MENTOR

- Instill educational values
- Provide guidance
- Make a difference in a student's life
- A great opportunity to give back to your community

HOW TO BECOME AN ENLACE MENTOR

Contact the Enlace Program Coordinator Mayra Garcia:

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