

POTENTIAL MENTORSHIP STRATEGIES

PROVIDE OPTIONS & RESOURCES; ALLOW MENTEE TO MAKE THEIR OWN INFORMED CHOICES

As a mentor, you can draw upon not just your own experience, but of other colleagues, friends, and community members. Feel free to tell a variety of stories! You can also talk over options with your mentee rather than offer just one way to do things. We suggest consistently showing that you're not invested in one choice over another - instead, be sure to focus on students making the right decisions for themselves.

THERE ARE PLENTY OF DIFFERENT WAYS TO HELP MENTEES

Some students may find that just one conversation with you is helpful, while others may find that a handful of conversations are helpful. The period of time in which you meet with an undergraduate could also differ - one may want to meet with you over a short period of time (like right before they submit an application) while someone else may want to meet with you over a longer period of time (like an entire academic semester).

DON'T FORGET TO SET BOUNDARIES

Every mentorship relationship has a power dynamic; mentors with more experience and influence within the field always have more power than their undergraduate mentees. We strongly discourage mentors from "over-promising" help or actions on the student's behalf - instead, we encourage you to help your mentee be proactive in making connections and accessing resources. Even if informal, any style of mentorship is a professional relationship and should be treated as such according to the GUMI Code of Conduct.