



Greenville Chamber
**PULSE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS
PACESETTERS**

2017 MENTEE INFORMATION

The definition of a mentor is the process in which a more experienced person supports and aids a less experienced person in his/her professional or personal development. – L. J. Zachery, “the Mentor’s guide”

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Vision: To develop the Class of 2017’s personal growth through leadership, counsel, and ongoing dialogue.

The Pacesetters program is designed for young professionals who want to connect with fellow YPs and be mentored by Greenville County’s most experienced leaders. It is a Leadership Development program of the Greenville Chamber.

The class is split into small groups assigned to two mentors. It is typical for the program to have five groups, each including 2 Mentors and 10 Mentees. One Mentee in each group will be designated as the Group Leader by Pacesetters leaders. The Group Leader will assist your group with scheduling and communication as needed. Groups will be paired based on schedule availability as well as a mix of former and brand new participants.

Each group is unique and has the flexibility to set their own agenda and outline goals that will ultimately fit everyone’s expectations and foster personal and professional growth.

In addition to your monthly group meetings, there will be 4-6 Pacesetters class events throughout the year – the Opening Session (tentatively set for Wednesday, January 25th, 2-4 workshop sessions (dates TBA), and a Closing Session (tentatively set for Wednesday, November 15th). Mentees are expected to attend all group and class sessions, as those who take part in all aspects of the Pacesetters program receive the greatest benefit.

Mentees are expected to invest \$125 in tuition to be part of the Pacesetters program. Over time, this program has offered a proven value to local YPs. The tuition is used to provide quality programming for the Workshops provided throughout the year, among other program benefits.

Tuition for the 2017 program will be \$125, with an Early Bird Discount for those who apply early.

- Early Bird Tuition of \$100 applies to applications received by October 31st, 2016.
- Regular Tuition of \$125 applies to applications received after October 31st, 2016.
- Once applicants are notified of their acceptance, a link for tuition payment will be made available.

BENEFITS

You will get out of it what you put in. A mentoring experience can be extremely valuable! It helps you:

- Gain career insights from experienced professionals
- Establish and enhance professional networks
- Increase awareness of professional issues
- Gain tools to reach your goals
- Gain professional support & encouragement mentors
- Expand growth in your sense of competence, identity, and effectiveness as a professional
- Improve understanding of work issues and different approaches for dealing with them

- Improve communication skills and experience in working in teams
- Gain exposure to new ideas, theories, practices, and/or people that might not be pursued without a mentor's guidance and/or encouragement
- Receive honest and informal feedback
- Explore opportunities, anxieties, barriers and feelings with reference to specific issues
- Enhanced understanding of the importance of seeking out mentors in life

RESPONSIBILITIES

It is important to remember that everyone's participation contributes to the success of the program. Attendance is considered mandatory at all events for continued membership in the program

Ideal candidates for the Pacesetters program should also:

- Have a sincere interest in developing a personal and professional relationship with your group members and mentors; be committed to fostering those relationships.
- Be proactive to ensure that the group stays on task and meets identified goals.
- Accept feedback and suggestions from other group members and your mentors. Follow through on requests made by mentors.
- Explore opportunities presented to you by your mentor.
- Uphold core relationship values including privacy, confidentiality, honesty, and integrity. Respect differences while discovering common ground.
- Contact group leader if unable to attend scheduled meetings in a timely manner.
- Serve as peer mentors if you have expertise in a specific area that might be beneficial to the group.
- Complete regular PaceSetters surveys.
- Optional: Select another mentee to be an "accountability partner" in regards to goal setting for the year; follow-up with each other periodically to track progress and encourage each other.

BEST PRACTICES

In addition to the responsibilities listed above, do the things below to enhance your experience.

Make the most of your group meetings and Workshops:

- Before the meeting, research the topic/speaker, and prepare questions.
- During the meeting, be engaged and ask questions
- After the meeting, send thank you notes to guest speakers.

Ask your mentors questions like these throughout the year:

- What would you tell yourself at my age?
- What do you hope to accomplish through this mentoring experience?
- Why did you choose to pursue your current career?
- What books have influenced your ideas and thoughts the most?
- What is the one action you have taken that has accounted for most of your success?
- What magazines/newspapers do you read?
- How do you handle failure? Roadblocks/obstacles?
- What are your strengths? Weaknesses?
- Who is your hero? Your mentor?
- What are your goals?
- When was a time you took a risk and wound up looking foolish?
- In what way have your dreams turned into plans?
- What turns have you taken on your journey that you did not expect to take?
- Remember, the only dumb question is the question that is not asked! Take advantage of the experience and insight that your mentor has to offer