



Mentee FAQs

I am interested in learning more about the program. Also, how do I apply?

Great! We look forward to receiving your application. Please visit the [Formation website](#) for more information and the links to the program applications.

When and how will I know if I get accepted into the program?

Applications will be reviewed following the deadline (November 15th). You will be notified of your mentorship team by December 13th, via email.

What is the time commitment? How often am I expected to meet with my mentor?

The program duration is 6 months, from January to June. The expectation is that you meet with your mentor a minimum of 6 times, 1 time per month, though you are welcome to meet more frequently, that is up to you and your mentor. Additionally, there will be a virtual 1-hour orientation that you are required to attend or watch on your own. Other events throughout the year are encouraged but optional.

Is it possible to participate virtually in the program? What if I don't live in Portland, OR?

Our goal is to build a local-to-the-Portland OR-area network of support for future BIPOC designers, so ideally participation is in-person. With that in mind, we will prioritize local mentees when reviewing applications. However, we understand there may be various reasons why that's not possible and don't want to miss out on great mentees for the program! So, please do still apply if you are only able to participate virtually.



Mentee FAQs Continued

I saw that there is a stipend for participating in the program. What does that look like?

Yes! Our generous sponsors make it possible for us to pay our participants. Why do we do this? We want our participants to take the program seriously, as both an investment in themselves and in our design community. We also recognize that participating in activities outside of the school or workday isn't without impact on our lives and we want to thank you for being a part of the program. Additionally, we ask that mentors use a small portion of their stipend to purchase tickets to a design event and take their mentee as a learning opportunity. Stipends will be distributed after all mentorship teams have been formed and after commencement of the program.

Do I get to choose my mentor? Who will be mentoring me?

Mentors will be selected for each mentee by the InFormation Team. Each mentor will be assigned 1 mentee based on the feedback we receive from the mentee applications and areas of expertise of the mentor. Mentors are design professionals with a variety of industry expertise and who identify as black, indigenous, and/or a person of color.

I'm interested in the program but am a Freshman. Can I still apply?

Our program is designed for students who will be graduating from college within 1-2 years. You are welcome to still apply, but we will give priority to students who are about to enter the profession. Try again in a few years!



Mentee FAQs Continued

What kinds of topics will my mentor be supporting me with during the program?

In your application, you will provide us with feedback on your areas of interest and goals. We will use this information during the matching process to align them with the skills and areas of expertise of your mentor. Topics might include portfolio development, general career guidance, project support, and more.

What happens if I or my mentor can't participate anymore partway through the program?

Please let the InFormation team know as soon as possible. You can reach us via email at formationmentorship@gmail.com. Let us know the situation so we can best provide support. We will do everything possible to find a new mentor or mentee as applicable so they can still complete the program.

I still have questions about the program, is there someone I can talk to?

Certainly. Please reach out to the InFormation team via email at formationmentorship@gmail.com and we can set up time to talk with you about the program.