

SCDRP Mentorship Program FAQ

What is the SCDRP Mentorship Program?

The [Southeast & Caribbean Disaster Resilience Partnership \(SCDRP\)](#) serves as a trusted regional network to build professional skills, facilitate knowledge-exchange, advance equitable climate adaptation approaches, promote strategies for accelerating natural disaster recovery, and facilitate strong and diverse partnerships across professional sectors. The SCDRP Mentorship Program was developed to strengthen our network by connecting and engaging partners and supporting the next generation of resilience professionals. The program will match experienced climate and resilience professionals with students and early- to mid-career professionals who have a desire to grow professionally. Through monthly mentorship sessions, mentors and mentees will explore topics related to professional development in the field of resilience.

Why participate?

SCDRP consists of an extensive and diverse regional network of professionals who work across multiple disciplines and sectors with the common goal of advancing climate adaptation and resilience to climate-related disasters. *Mentors* will have the opportunity to use their experience and expertise to support resilience professionals who are earlier in their careers. *Mentees* will receive the invaluable opportunity to learn from and connect personally with experienced high level professionals in the field of resilience.

Who can participate?

The SCDRP Mentorship Program is open to current dues-paying SCDRP Members. If you are not a current dues-paying member of SCDRP, but would like to participate in the Mentorship Program, sponsorships may be available. *Mentees* may be students, early-career professionals, mid-career professionals, or anyone who would like to learn from someone with experience and expertise in the field of resiliency, emergency management, or other climate-related fields. *Mentors* are experienced professionals with strong backgrounds in resilience, emergency management, or another climate-related field who work or have worked in the public sector, private sector, nonprofits, or academia. Mentors ideally have at least 5 years of professional experience within a relevant field.

How do I sign up?

Those interested in participating in the mentorship program (as a Mentor or a Mentee) fill out an Interest Survey detailing their field of interest and areas of expertise, desired mentor/mentee



characteristics, and other important information to help us make the best matches possible. SCDRP will share information on upcoming Cohorts and how to fill out the Interest Survey on social media (Facebook and LinkedIn) and the SCDRP Newsletter. You may also reach out to scdrp@secoora.org to express your interest in receiving updates on upcoming cohorts. After the Survey has closed, SCDRP staff will reach out confirming your interest in participating in the Program.

What is the commitment required?

The length of the program ranges from 3-9 months, depending on the cohort. Each cohort of Mentor/Mentee pairs are expected to meet (virtually, or in-person if possible) for at least one hour each month for the duration of the program. Mentors and Mentees may choose to continue to meet beyond the length of the program if desired. Mentors and mentees will be required to sign a contract indicating their commitment.

How will I be matched with a Mentor or Mentee?

A committee comprised of SCDRP staff and Partners will pair Mentors/Mentees using a rubric that takes into account the following: field of interest/expertise, professional background, geographic location, and preferred Mentor/Mentee characteristics. We cannot guarantee that we will be able to match you with a Mentor/Mentee that meets all of your desired characteristics, but we will take all requests into consideration.

What kind of training is provided?

Before beginning mentorship sessions, all Mentors and Mentees will attend a 2- to 3-hour virtual training session to review mentorship expectations, best practices, and culturally aware mentorship.

How will I meet with my Mentor or Mentee, and what will we talk about in mentorship sessions?

Mentors and Mentees may meet in whatever format works best for both parties: Zoom or other virtual meeting, phone call, or in-person.

Mentors/Mentees have the flexibility to discuss any topics related to professional development or career growth in sessions, but SCDRP will provide resources including suggested meeting formats and discussion topics.



SCDRP is an incubator network under the Southeast Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association (SECOORA) located at P.O. Box 13856, Charleston, South Carolina 29422. SECOORA is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and serves as the fiscal and administrative home of SCDRP.

www.scdrp.secoora.org