

Mentoring at a Glance

The Mentoring and Orientation Program pairs experienced staff with recently-appointed staff to facilitate the transition into the US Public Health Service as an environmental health professional. Some of the topics in the program include:

- Agencies and opportunities in the PHS
- Awards
- Billets and mobility
- Career progression
- Deployment readiness
- Leave, pay and benefits
- Maintaining your personnel file
- Performance reviews
- Promotions
- Planning for retirement



EHOPAC Mentoring and Orientation Subcommittee

Please feel free to contact the current M&O subcommittee chairperson noted on the EHOPAC website and subcommittee link at: www.ehopac.org

Qualifications to be a Mentor

- Rank 0-4 and above preferred.
- Demonstrated interest in mentoring.
- No adverse actions filed.
- Submit a completed Mentor Application Form and two (2) references.

Qualifications to be a Protégé

- Demonstrated interest in developing officership.
- Supervisor approval.
- Submit completed Protégé Application Form with supervisor signature..

"I find having a mentor was very helpful in shaping my Commissioned Corps career"

LCDR Jill Shugart, Indian Health Service



*Protecting, promoting, and advancing
the health and safety of the Nation.*

Mentoring and Orientation Program

***"Facilitating a successful career
in the U.S. Public Health Service"***



Environmental Health Officer Professional Advisory Committee

Welcome!

The Environmental Health Officer Professional Advisory Committee (EHOPAC) invites you to participate in our Mentoring and Orientation Program.



What is the purpose of this program?

Senior (mentor) and junior (protégé) environmental health professionals are paired to build a foundation for a successful and rewarding career in the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS). The goal of the program is to foster long-term career development and professional growth. Protégés gain knowledge and insight from the mentor's experience and benefit from the resulting career "quick start." Mentors gain the satisfaction of helping junior officer protégés more fully understand the opportunities available to them, offering possible solutions to challenges they may be experiencing, and an opportunity to reflect on their own goals and performance. Documented participation demonstrates officership.

How does the process work?

The Mentoring and Orientation (M&O) Subcommittee pairs mentor and protégé applicants based on operating division and/or geographic location. Once approved by the EHOPAC Chair and the EHO Chief Professional Officer, the mentors and protégés are notified by the M&O Subcommittee. Protégés can also request a mentor by name.

Mentors do not take the place of supervisors. The role of a mentor is to provide the protégé with support and information. This helps the protégé to better understand career options and to develop individualized career goals. The program lasts for one year. Mentors and protégés are encouraged to maintain contact after the official program ends.

What are the benefits to the Protégé?

Protégés obtain experienced guidance on:

- healthcare and other benefits
- uniforms and military courtesies
- professional recognition
- assignments and special details
- planning specialty career tracks
- being competitive for promotions
- being successful in the PHS culture

"By being a mentor, it allows me to help fellow officers in the very same way that other officers first helped me, when I started in PHS" CDR Linda West, FDA

How do I apply?

In order to qualify for the program, you must be in current good standing with the USPHS. Mentor and protégé applications can be downloaded from the EHOPAC website or by contacting the subcommittee chair.



Where can I get more information?

You can review the Mentoring Program Operating Guidelines at www.ehopac.org by selecting the "Mentoring & Orientation subcommittee" link.