



National Quality Mentoring System

WHAT IS THE NATIONAL QUALITY MENTORING SYSTEM?

The **National Quality Mentoring System (NQMS)** helps programs adopt evidence-based mentoring standards and procedures through a **guided self-assessment and coaching process**. MENTOR: the National Mentoring Partnership and its affiliates developed the NQMS to **raise the quality of youth mentoring programming** in the United States through a structured, systematic approach.



WHAT IS THE GOAL OF NQMS?

The goal of NQMS is to help programs **demonstrate or improve their quality** through a customized assessment of current practices. NQMS **highlights the strengths of mentoring programs** and **builds a plan for continuous improvement**.

HOW DOES IT WORK?



1. The mentoring program completes an online **Quality Assessment**, based on the *Elements of Effective Practice for Mentoring* guidelines.
2. MENTOR Independence Region (MENTOR IR) evaluates the assessment and provides each program with a **customized action plan** with steps for **continuous improvement**.
3. Programs identified as **Quality Mentoring Programs** receive public recognition, priority listing in the national Mentoring Connector database, credibility and validation, and results to use in funding applications.
4. MENTOR IR re-engages with programs in 2-3 years for reassessment.

HOW DOES NQMS IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF MENTORING?

Improves program practices



Improves quality of mentoring relationships for youth



Improves outcomes for kids

NQMS can also show increases in quality in the field of mentoring over time.

For more information about the NQMS, visit www.mentoring.org/NQMS.



National Quality Mentoring System

For Programs

WHAT IS THE VALUE OF NQMS TO YOUR MENTORING PROGRAM?

Tremendous growth in the youth mentoring field has resulted in **more than 300 mentoring programs in our region** and **six mentoring models**. The **NQMS can help your program stand out** to prospective mentors, parents, funders and policymakers. NQMS assesses programs' **strengths and opportunities for improvement** and creates a roadmap for **higher quality services to kids, yielding positive youth outcomes**.

WHAT IS THE PROGRAM'S ROLE?

Participating programs will:

- Take a free **online self-assessment** made up of 92 questions.
- Meet with MENTOR IR to discuss the results of the assessment and **create a customized plan for improvement**.
- **Implement** the plan.
- **Complete reassessment** in 2-3 years.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF MENTOR IR?

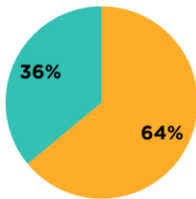
MENTOR IR facilitates the NQMS process in accordance with national standards. MENTOR IR will:

- **Guide programs** through the NQMS process.
- **Evaluate and discuss** the results.
- **Customize an action plan** with steps for continuous improvement.
- Provide **ongoing coaching and assistance**.
- **Engage in reassessment** in 2-3 years to demonstrate quality improvement.

SAMPLE ASSESSMENT CHARTS

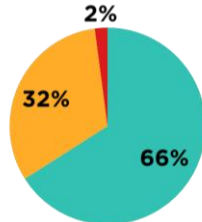
MANAGEMENT

■ % Management - in practice
■ % Management - not in practice



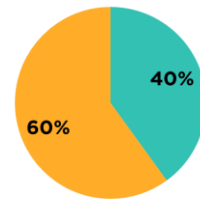
OPERATIONS

■ % Operations - in practice
■ % Operations - not in practice
■ % Operations - not applicable



PROGRAM EVALUATION

■ % Program Evaluation - in practice
■ % Program Evaluation - not in practice



WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

Public Recognition

- Badge for website
- **Priority listing** in the Mentoring Connector, increasing visibility to prospective volunteers & stakeholders
- **Results** to use in funding applications

Customized Support

- Custom report representing strengths and opportunities
- Access to resources and **customized training**
- **Technical Assistance** to support quality improvement

Improved Access

- Discounts to MENTOR IR trainings
- **Priority ticketing** at MENTOR IR events
- Exclusive access to **peer support groups**

QUESTIONS? Contact **Unique Saunders** at usaunders@mentorir.org.

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