



FAQ'S FOR *PEER SUPPORT: EDUCATOR MENTORSHIP PROGRAM*

What is the *Peer Support* program?

Peer Support is a mentorship and coaching program for educators of Indigenous students. Indspire pairs educators from across Canada based on their professional learning goals and provides support online to this learning community through webinars, discussion forums, and other professional development tools.

What benefits does *Peer Support* offer?

- Opportunity to network with and learn from educators across Canada
- A great way to enhance your commitment to education and professional growth
- Channels for change and opportunity, with the ultimate goal of facilitating student achievement
- Monthly webinars on selected topics in Indigenous education
- Access to a library of Indigenous specific free online resources
- Mentors with a minimum of 5 years of teaching experience in Indigenous education
- Mentees are entered into a draw for a prize to be drawn at the end of the term.
- Upon completion of each of the three required surveys, mentors receive a \$200 professional development honorarium to use at their discretion (i.e. \$600 total)

How do I get involved?

- Submit an application form (visit indspire.ca/peer-support)
- Participate in a 10 minute phone conversation with the Program Coordinator
- Complete a police criminal record check (if one has not already been completed)
- Sign a contract for the term of the program

What is my commitment?

- Commit to a minimum of one monthly interaction for the duration of the program
- Watch the orientation webinar
- Participate in at least two monthly professional development webinars
- Sign a contract for the term of the program (mentors only)
- Complete 3 surveys during the term of the program

Who are mentors?

- Educators with a minimum of 5 years of teaching experience in Indigenous education
- Have a strong understanding of mentorship to improve professional development
- Have a repertoire of strategies to improve student achievement
- Have had success in positive outcomes for Indigenous students
- Be enthusiastic and have a positive attitude towards Indigenous education

Who are mentees?

- Emerging educators
- Educators in a new grade, position, or community
- Educators looking for Indigenous resources to use in the classroom

How long is the program?

The program runs each year from September to May

Do you have to be Indigenous to participate in the program?

Indigenous ancestry is an asset but not a requirement; partners in Indigenous education are welcome to participate.

How are mentors and mentees matched?

Using information from the application form and conversations, the following is considered when pairing educators:

1. Professional learning goals;
2. Region;
3. Subject areas;
4. Grade level; and
5. Preference to be matched with male or female, Indigenous or non-Indigenous.