

APPLYING TO BE A MENTOR

SSP International's *College Link* (formerly SSP Connect) is entering its sixth year, bringing together recent alumni and TAs with our most recent participants for focused, meaningful conversations on college applications, financial aid, and college acceptance.

Running mid-September to December 2025, the program features weekly video meetings (about 13 hours total) designed to build strong connections and provide valuable, consistent support. First-generation students are prioritized for one-on-one matches, followed by those who have received financial aid. If additional space is available, other students may also be matched one-on-one. All others will join engaging small-group sessions with the same mentors each week.

College Link is an opportunity to share experiences, gain insight, and be part of a vibrant SSPI network that extends far beyond the summer.

If you're interested in serving as a mentor for the 2025 *College Link* program, **you'll receive a \$200 stipend** upon completing the program as a thank-you for your time and commitment.

All mentoring connections will take place on the SSPI Network. You'll receive your match notification there, along with a set of milestones to help guide your journey together. The platform also includes helpful resources and tools designed to support both mentors and mentees throughout the process.

We're excited for you to dive in and make the most of this experience!

Follow these steps to apply to be a mentor:

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Read and sign the College Link Mentor Guidelines here.

STEP 2:

- 1. Sign up or log in to the SSPI Network (follow A-C below)
 - A. In your profile, under "Offer Mentoring," check "mentor a student."
 - B. If you have selected any options under "Seek Mentoring," please uncheck them for now.
 - C. Under "Other Information," answer questions 1–8 and 10.

STEP 3:

Fill out the official College Link matching <u>application</u>. !Do not click this link before fully completing step 2 above!

If you have questions or run into any issues, send us an email at sspalum@ssp.org.

Applications close on August 31. Unfortunately, we cannot accept late registrations due to the complex matching process.

We're so excited to welcome you to the College Link program!

Keep an eye on your inbox in early September for your welcome and matching email. The program kicks off September 15.