

## **Mentor/Mentee Requirements, Expectations and Program Benefits**

### **Program Purpose**

The AAED Mentorship Program pairs new and aspiring economic development professionals with experienced practitioners to serve as a resource as they begin their careers.

### **Mentee Requirements/Expectations**

- Less than 5 years of experience in economic development and/or 35 years of age or under
- Current AAED member, with the requirement to renew if membership expires within the program window
- Commitment of one year (approx. July 1 - June 30)
- Will meet at least once per month with mentor (in-person or virtual)
- Will complete all required documentation and submit to AAED by established deadlines
- Regular attendance at AAED events
- Participation in at least one AAED committee or affinity group
- Contribution to AAED newsletter
- Attendance at AAED Academy courses
- It is expected that activities related to the mentorship program may occur during normal working hours. Mentors should ensure that their participation in this program and its associated activities is supported by their organization

### **Mentor Requirements/Expectations**

- Current AAED member, with the requirement to renew if membership expires within the program window
- Commitment of one year (approx. July 1 - June 30)
- Will meet at least once per month with mentee (in-person or virtual)
- Will complete all required documentation and submit to AAED by established deadlines
- Within reason, availability outside of monthly meetings (boundaries to be discussed with mentee)
- Maintenance of AZED Pro certification
- It is expected that activities related to the mentorship program may occur during normal working hours. Mentors should ensure that their participation in this program and its associated activities is supported by their organization

### **Mentor/Mentee Benefits**

- Personal and professional development between likeminded Economic Development professionals
- For the Mentee: complimentary attendance at up to two (2) AAED AZED Pro Academy Courses, to be completed over the course of the Mentorship Program for credit toward the AZED Pro certification or recertification
- For the Mentor: 3 points toward AAED AZED Pro certification or recertification
- Recognition at the 2025 Spring Conference for program completion