

## [Berkeley Changemaker](#)<sup>®</sup>

### “Start Something” Mentorship (Pilot) Program, Fall 2023

#### Summary

Our vision is that each incoming Berkeley student —whether first year or third-year Community-College Transfer — will be paired with a "Start Something" Advisor once they enroll in the gateway course, [The Berkeley Changemaker](#), so long as they are Pell Grant eligible. This is one of the drivers of socioeconomic inclusion for the Berkeley Changemaker program. About 30% of Berkeley's undergraduates are eligible to apply for federal Pell Grants, roughly twice the percentage at elite private universities. The pilot program will launch with a maximum of 20 mentors and 20 mentees with the goal of growing the program each fall semester.

#### Program Goal

The goal of the Start Something mentor program is to support eligible participants by pairing them with suitable mentors that will assist them as they develop and/or bring their Berkeley Changemaker planned program projects to fruition while enrolled in the gateway course, *The Berkeley Changemaker*. This initial pilot program will set the foundation for a mentor program that will subsequently develop into an alumni engagement platform, eliciting the participation of founders of various entities and from across all sectors, public, civic and private.

**Commitment phase:** September 15, 2023 to December 15, 2023

**Mentor application phase:** August 1 - August 30, 2023

**Mentee application phase:** August 1 - August 30, 2023

**Matching phase:** September 1 to September 14, 2023

**Pilot Phase Scale:** max 20 mentors/20 mentees (ratio 1:1)

**Time commitment:** suggested mentor/mentee meetings every 3-4 weeks, 1-2 hrs per meeting

- Mentor form: <https://forms.gle/M2ivE5FVuwPKiMgn6>
- Mentee form: <https://forms.gle/sP1CtD6YgvUw8mhF8>

#### Mentor/Advisor Responsibilities

The mentor will make themselves available to provide guidance and mentorship to the student they are paired with, as the student progresses through The Berkeley Changemaker gateway course and subsequently works on their changemaker project. The goal for the mentor is to provide guidance and advice, as well as feedback and support to the mentee as needed. The mentor will also normally serve as a role model, advocate and ally for the student, empowering them to embrace their academic experience, encouraging the mentee's academic and professional growth in the program, and inspiring the student to utilize their skills, knowledge

and network to progress positively with their project. The mentor may also be instrumental in helping the mentee grow their professional network, by introducing them to other key allies and contributors to a positive student experience.

While the mentor is expected to provide honest and candid feedback to the mentee, the mentor must be nonjudgmental and be able to provide coaching and guidance in a diplomatic and courteous manner at all times. The key goal is for the mentor to help the mentee feel confident and positive about their project forward, about their experience in the program, and be able to share many valuable lessons with the mentee, based on the mentor's own previous experience, learning trajectory, and successes. Mentors considered for this project must also possess a general understanding of the three core principles of the Berkeley Changemaker program:

### ***Critical Thinking Skills***

- Possess strong critical thinking skills which reflect the breadth of the Berkeley Changemaker curriculum and disciplines at UC Berkeley
- Possess a “changemakers” mindset to identify a problem and think creatively to find solutions
- Understand the process to transform an idea for change into real, measurable, and sustainable impact

### ***Communication***

- Communicate persuasively to inspire others
- Influence without formal authority

### ***Collaboration***

- Be familiar with utilizing learning academic frameworks, practical tools and insights from a diverse group of outstanding and proven changemakers
- Be able to apply lenses of diversity, equity, and inclusion to lead effectively towards a shared purpose

### **Program Participants**

Mentors will be selected from Berkeley Changemakers, current students, alumni, donors or program supporters who respond to a general call for mentors through various Berkeley Changemaker platforms, including social media. Prospective mentors will be asked to fill out an interest form that outlines the reasons for their desired participation in the program. Mentors will be familiar with the program curriculum and will have demonstrated success implementing positive change through planning and/or implementation of a project.

Mentees will be incoming, eligible Berkeley Changemaker students who will fill out an interest form that outlines their reasons for seeking a mentor. They can outline their interests and goals that will later be shared with prospective mentors. Eligible students are first-year Berkeley Changemaker students (whether first year or first-year transfers), who qualify as recipients of

Pell grants through their financial aid package, and who can benefit from the sense of community created through a mentor-mentee relationship.

### **Time commitment**

It is expected that mentors and mentees meet every three to four weeks for discussions, check-ins and progress reports. Initially, it may be appropriate to meet weekly as ideas, plans and goals are set. Thereafter, it is suggested that a meeting be planned every three to four weeks. Towards the end of the mentorship period, it is also advisable to meet more frequently to finalize the project plan. For convenience and to encourage regular discussions, Zoom meetings are suggested.

### **Matching of Mentors and Mentees**

Once a database with prospective mentors and mentees has been populated, students will be matched with mentors that may have similar interests, to the best extent possible. Academic interests can be considered in making these selections.

### **Program Success and Assessment**

At the end of the mentor-mentee process, a short survey will be sent to all students who participated in the program, whether as a mentor or as a mentee. All feedback collected will be used to analyze the success of the program and to further improve the process and the mentor and mentee experience.

### **Certificate of Participation**

At the end of the commitment phase, mentors and mentees will receive a certificate for participation in the program.

### **Suggested Program Plan**

(13 weeks, September 15 - December 15)

\* This is a suggested program plan. Ultimately, mentors and mentees will agree on the best plan forward to meet either weekly, bi-weekly, or as needed every three or four weeks. It is required that, at a minimum, a meeting be established every three to four weeks to ensure the mentee stays on track with their project and to support the mentee as they progress through the gateway course. For convenience, Zoom meetings are encouraged.

<b>SCHEDULE</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>
Week 1	Introduction	Meet and greet: Mentor and Mentee will meet to learn about each other and discuss the goals of the mentorship

Week 2	What is Your Idea?	Discuss initial idea and discuss a plan to develop
Week 3	Open for discussion	
Week 4	Open for discussion	
Week 5	1st Progress Check-In	Project Progress Discussion
Week 6	Open for discussion	
Week 7	Open for discussion	
Week 8	2nd Progress Check-In	Project Progress Discussion
Week 9	Open for discussion	
Week 10	Review Draft of Project	Discuss draft and finalizing project
Week 11	Thanksgiving Holiday Week	
Week 12	Fine-Tune Project	Prepare for final draft
Week 13	Final Wrap-Up	Finalize Project Plan

For questions, please contact us at [changemaker@berkeley.edu](mailto:changemaker@berkeley.edu)



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