

Mentor Roles and Functions

Since the nature and amount of interaction differs with individuals assigned to assist the entry-level teacher, some individuals are called local guides instead of mentors. The guides act more to assist in helping the teacher become acquainted with local school district and school practices and personnel, as well cultural norms and activities of the faculty and staff. Mentors have the general roles of assisting the assigned entry-level teacher in:

- (a) transitioning from college or university life, or previous jobs, to becoming a highly successful teacher;
- (b) socializing into the local or professional teaching culture;
- (c) becoming an effective teacher; and
- (d) experiencing a level of teaching success, effectiveness, enjoyment, and satisfaction that they elect to continue teaching.