



Frequently Asked Questions

<http://www.glc.org/work/champions/network>

1. What is the purpose of the Champions Network?

To create a peer-to-peer network that will catalyze the adoption of Green Infrastructure (GI) in mid-sized municipalities across the Great Lakes region. Interested in joining the network? Email gichampions@glc.org.

2. Why a peer-to-peer mentoring network?

The mentoring network will foster the transfer of knowledge from experienced GI practitioners to a broader network of communities across the binational Great Lakes basin.

3. What is a Green Infrastructure “Champion”?

Pioneer Champions have successfully implemented GI in their community and will serve as mentors in the Champions Network. *Emerging Champions* are eager to remove barriers and build capacity expanding GI implementation in their community/sphere of influence and will be mentees in the Champions Network.

4. How will it work?

Emerging Champions will be matched with Pioneer Champions—peers who are in similar positions and have faced similar challenges.

5. How will mentors and mentees be paired? How do I know I can be paired with a mentor that will meet my needs or that understands the challenges of my community?

Emerging Champions will fill out an [Emerging Champion Needs Form](#) that specifies their existing skills, experience and capacity related to GI, and the skills and experience they are seeking in a mentor. The GI Champions Network, managed by the [Great Lakes Commission](#), will use this information to draw from its evolving network of Pioneer Champions to match you with one or more suitable mentors.

6. Does that mean I could get more than one mentor?

Yes. If your needs cannot be met by a single mentor, you could receive more than one mentor.

7. I am an Emerging Champion. How do I get paired with a Pioneer Champion? What type of commitment is required? How long will I get help from my mentor?

Fill out an [Emerging Champion Needs Form](#) to be paired with a Pioneer Champion. The [Mentoring Agreement](#) describes the type of mentoring services you would receive through August, 2018. Competitive mini-grants will be available to mentees.

8. I’m not interested in the mentoring network. Can I still apply for a mini-grant?

No. (But you can be in the network without having a mini-grant).

9. I have GI experience and am willing to be a Pioneer Champion/mentor. How do I join and what kind of commitment is required?

Contact Victoria Pebbles at the Great Lakes Commission at gichampions@glc.org with the subject line Pioneer Champion and briefly describe your GI experience. We anticipate the commitment to be approximately 2-3 hours a month per mentee. The [Mentoring Agreement](#) describes the level of commitment for mentoring services through August, 2018.

10. Are there funds to help Pioneer Champions who provide mentoring services?

Funding is available to mentors who are paired with Emerging Champions in 2017 and/or 2018.

11. How will mentors and mentees engage?

This will be decided and agreed upon through the mentoring agreement.

12. What happens after 2018?

Formal mentor/mentee pairings will continue on a case-by-case basis based on mutual agreement between mentor and mentee.