



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?

By matching communities with mentors with expertise in key areas of need, the mentoring network fosters knowledge transfer among communities within the binational Great Lakes basin.

3. Will I have the opportunity to interact with other communities/organizations in the network?

Yes. Quarterly webinars will be held to serve as an educational opportunity and share challenges, lessons, and successes among the network. Relevant resources will be circulated to the network and communication between Champions is encouraged.

4. What is a Green Infrastructure “Champion”?

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

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 a **Needs Form** that specifies existing skills, experience and capacity related to GI, and the skills and experience they are seeking in a mentor. Pioneer Champions can fill out a **Skills Form** indicating their area(s) of expertise or may be directly contacted by the Great Lakes Commission. Using information provided, GLC will match each Emerging Champion with one or more suitable mentors.

6. What type of commitment is required? How long will the mentoring relationship last?

We anticipate the commitment to be approximately 2-3 hours a month per mentee. The **Mentoring Agreement** describes mentoring structure and relationship, which runs through August, 2020.

7. I have expertise in some areas, but could use some help in others. Can I be an Emerging Champion *and* a Pioneer Champion?

Absolutely, Champions can submit both a Needs Form and a Skills Form with the intention to receiving mentoring AND serving as a mentor, based on experience and challenges.

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

Funding is available to mentors who are paired with Emerging Champions.