Scholar Role and Responsibilities

The role of scholars in the mentoring relationship is important. The critical elements that scholars should bring to their mentor/scholar relationships are (1) a willingness to be mentored, (2) a desire to learn, and (3) a demeanor that suggests receptivity to being directed and advised. In addition, scholars must also:

- Project positive attitudes.
- Show an interest in the work to be done.
- Exhibit a willingness and desire of work hard.
- Be flexible.
- Be mature.
- Be responsive to the request of their mentors.
- Be committed.
- Be positive.
- Keep their minds open.
- Maintain their sense of humor.
- Take initiative.

In order for mentor/scholar relationships to work, both scholars and mentors must be active participants in the process. In addition to being willing to assume responsibility for their professional growth, scholars must:

- Take advantage of the opportunities presented by their mentors.
- Be open and responsive to feedback, criticism, and coaching.
- Honor the time given by their mentors.
- Maintain integrity and confidentiality at all times.
- Act as professionals.
- Actively seek assignments that may be challenging and/or offer greater responsibility.
- Demonstrate willingness to assume responsibility for their own professional growth.
- Negotiate specific goals for mentor/scholars relationship.