

College of Applied Behavioral Sciences

KEY INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS

This study is recruiting participants for a 6-month virtual mentorship program for counseling professionals, educators, and counseling graduate students. The program aims to assess the role mentoring plays in professional identity development. Taking part in this study is voluntary, if you decide to participate, you will indicate so at the end of this page and continue to the next page of the survey. The participants who qualify will be paired with a mentor based off of their preference to share career interests, cultural identity, and/or expectations about the relationship with their counterpart. Participants are then asked to schedule hour-long meetings with their mentor once a month, up until May 2021 to identify and work towards short and long-term professional goals. A potential discomfort of this study is being paired with an incompatible counterpart. Participants can benefit from the proposed e-mentoring program by gaining an enriching professional relationship. Mentors can expect to further develop their professional identity while contributing to a student's development. Mentees can expect to learn more about the profession of counseling and gain access to opportunities and guidance that may not be accessible in the current mentorship structure within their programs.

CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH STUDY

E-Mentoring during COVID-19: Professional Identity Development in Counseling Graduate Students

Study Principal Investigator (PI): Emma Eckart, PhD
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Daniel Ryan Charles and Emma Eckart, PhD, from the College of Applied Behavioral Sciences at the University of Indianapolis (UIndy) are conducting a research study.

You were selected as a possible participant in this study because of one or more of the following reasons: (1) You are a member of the Indiana Counseling Association, (2) you are a graduate student in a counseling education program or (3) you are currently a licensed counselor and/or educator. Your participation in this research study is voluntary.

Why is this study being done?

This study is being done to establish a mentoring program through the Indiana Counseling Association that enhances the education of counseling graduate students. Mixed methods analysis will be done to investigate if participation in the program correlates with improvements in professional identity development in mentees.

What will happen if I take part in this research study?

If you volunteer to participate in this study, the researcher will ask you to do the following:

- Complete a registration survey to provide demographic information, career interests, cultural identity, and expectations of the mentor relationship.
- Mentees will complete the 16-item Professional Identity Scale in Counseling – short version (PISC-S) at the time of registration.
- Mentees will also work with the mentor to identify short and long-term goals during the first meeting
- Complete the Mentor-Mentee Agreement during the first meeting.
- The mentee and mentor will be expected to meet with each other virtually for one hour once a month, ending in May 2021.
- Maintain consistent communication with your mentor or mentee.
- At the end of the study, all participants will fill out a feedback with open and closed ended questions as well as the PISC-S that mentees will complete again.

How long will I be in the research study?

Participation will take a total of 6 months. Six hours will be spent across meetings with your mentor/mentee. Surveys, paperwork, and communication between participants should collectively take no longer than an hour to complete over the course of the study.

Are there any potential risks or discomforts that I can expect from this study?

- There is a risk for discomfort or inconvenience in being paired with an incompatible mentor/mentee.
- If any issues arise with the pairing, participants can contact the ICA mentorship coordinator to navigate these situations.

Are there any potential benefits if I participate?

You may benefit from the study by developing a mentoring relationship that enriches your professional identity development as a counselor. You may also benefit from adding another individual to your professional network.

The results of the research may help to establish a paradigm in mentorship among counseling graduate students that fosters professional identity development.

Will information about me and my participation be kept confidential?

It is possible that de-identified data from this study could be used for future research or shared with other researchers for use in studies, without additional informed consent. De-identified means that any codes and personal information that could identify you will be removed before the data is shared.

What are my rights if I take part in this study?

- You can choose whether or not you want to be in this study, and you may withdraw your consent and discontinue participation at any time.
- Whatever decision you make, there will be no penalty to you, and no loss of benefits to which you were otherwise entitled.

- You may refuse to answer any question/s that you do not want to answer and still remain in the study.

Who can I contact if I have questions about this study?

- **The Research Team:**

If you have any questions, comments or concerns about the research, you can talk to the one of the researchers. Please contact:

- Daniel Ryan Charles: charlesd@uindy.edu
- Emma Eckart, PhD: eckarte@uindy.edu

- **The Director of the Human Research Protections Program (HRPP):**

If you have questions about your rights as a research participant, or you have concerns or suggestions and you want to talk to someone other than the researchers, you may contact the Director of the Human Research Protections Program, by either emailing hrpp@uindy.edu or calling 1 (317) 781-5774 or 1 (800) 232-8634 ext. 5774.

Follow up studies

We may contact you again to request your participation in a follow up study. As always, your participation will be voluntary, and we will ask for your explicit consent to participate in any of the follow up studies.

How do I indicate my informed consent to participate in this study?

If you consent to participate in this study, then you affirm that you satisfy inclusion criteria and your consent is voluntary. To indicate your voluntary consent and proceed with the questionnaire, select one of the following options:

I voluntary consent to participate in this study.

I do NOT consent to participate in this study.