

AO Access Mentoring Program forges meaningful connections

Leading medical organizations, including the Society for General Internal Medicine (SGIM) and the American Association of Medical Colleges (AAMC), have recognized the significant benefits of mentoring and leadership development programs. These initiatives foster networks and enhance leadership skills, providing focused learning opportunities on topics such as authentic communication, improving workplace well-being and self-esteem, and where to access further resources. In today's world, health care professionals are expected to excel not only as surgeons but also as leaders with strong communication skills, empathy, and the ability to empower others.

The [AO Access Mentoring Program](#) is growing in popularity and demand. Now open to all, this initiative is poised to contribute significantly to AO's success.



"The mentorship program is a really critical component of developing the sort of sustainable and really inclusive environment of development of faculty, identification, and retention of talent that is so critical to the future success of the AO."

Matthew Allen

[AO Access Officer and Faculty Selection Processes Task Force lead](#)

The AO Access Mentorship Program is a structured six-month program with accredited e-learning modules designed to provide participants with significant and competitive advantages, helping them develop their professional identity. This program, tailored to the needs of the health care professionals in the AO network and beyond, builds on competencies that extend beyond clinical practice, to enhance both professional and personal growth. Unlike most mentorship programs that are rather career related, the [AO Access Mentorship Program](#) is aimed at developing nonclinical competencies and maximizing the impact of your mentoring relationships. Learn how you can join this journey to develop your professional development, career, and networking opportunities.