

Pair Event: Fit Factors

EVENT OBJECTIVES

Pairs will understand and analyze the factors that impact post-secondary research.

PURPOSE & CONTEXT

Identifying fit factors is essential in building a strong post-secondary list. Pairs will not be able to begin their research into post-secondary options without first identifying what they are looking for in a post-secondary program.

EVENT PREP

Set up a check-in table with event packets, pens/pencils, name badges, seating assignments and check in documents.

Post a few copies of the seating assignments on the walls. Make sure to use a large font!

AGENDA (1 h 30 min)

10 min	Welcome
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20 min	Chat and Chew: <i>Check-in</i>
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30 min	Cohort Fit Factors
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20 min	Fit Factor Exploration
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10 min	Close Out
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PM NOTES

You will need chart paper and plenty of markers for the “cohort fit factors” activity. Students will need access to computers to update their fit factor guide (located on the Platform).

ACTIVITY:	PM NOTES:
Welcome and Intro (10 min)	<p>ENGAGEMENT: The PM will welcome pairs and review the event agenda.</p> <p>TALKING POINTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome everyone and thank you all for coming. Our event today is focused on exploring fit factors. Can anyone remind me of what fit factors are? • Answer: fit factors are the elements we must take into consideration when creating our post-secondary list. They are: the school/program's size, location, diversity, academic fit, student support and financial fit. <p><i>Let pairs know what time mentees will be dismissed from the event. Remind mentors that they will be asked to stay an extra 10 minutes for a mentor huddle. Share any housekeeping logistics (where the restrooms are, how to get your attention during the event if they need it, (re)introduce other school and event staff in the room, etc). If the event is virtual, review how to access break out rooms.</i></p>
Chat and Chew (20 min)	<p>TALKING POINTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As you chat and chew, please answer the check-in questions in your packet to keep each other updated on how you are doing.
Cohort Fit Factors (30 min)	<p><i>PM Notes: Before the event, write each fit factor (size, location, diversity, academic fit, student supports and financial fit) on a large piece of chart paper. If you are hosting many pairs, you might need several pieces of paper for each fit factor. Set up the chart paper in a gallery walk around the room, with each fit factor having its own station. Pairs will be asked to rotate between the fit factors and write out their thoughts/preferences on each fit factor. If the event is virtual, you should consider setting up a cohort-wide Padlet (https://padlet.com).</i></p> <p>TALKING POINTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As you may have noticed, there are pieces of chart paper placed throughout the room. Each piece of chart paper contains a fit factor.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You and your mentor will be rotating through each fit factor station and writing down your thoughts, questions and preferences for each fit factor. You should be discussing each factor as a pair. Mentors, this is a great time to discuss how each fit factor influenced your post-secondary experience. As you rotate through the different fit factor stations, make sure to take time to read the thoughts of your peers. You can star any comments that resonate with you. I will let you know when you may rotate stations (<i>give pairs 5 minutes at each station</i>) <p>Debrief</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which fit factor is the most important to you, why? Which comments, that other pairs left, resonated with you? Why? Are you rethinking any of your fit factor preferences? If so, why?
Fit Factor Exploration (20 min)	<p>TALKING POINTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Now that we have discussed our fit factors as a cohort, please take the next 30 minutes to update your fit factor guide located on the Platform. If you have forgotten how to access your guide, you can use the screenshots in your event packet for support.
Close Out (10 Min)	<p>ANNOUNCEMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share the date of the next event. Remind pairs to continue their weekly communication. Express gratitude and appreciation for their dedication to their mentee and the iMentor program. Share any school-specific context and updates. <p>MENTOR COMMUNITY UPDATES</p> <p>The PM will share any mentor community events or information.</p>