

## **Why should I become a Distance Learning mentor? (or, What's in it for me?)**

Many of our students are reaching the point in the program when they are ready to begin clinical mentorships, and may be seeking sites to perform tasks for documentation. You may ask what the benefits are for you/your clinic if you agree to become a mentorship site. Here are some thoughts that may be helpful to you:

### **1. To give back to the profession**

- This is a way to repay the profession and your own mentors for sharing experiences they had as veterinary or veterinary technician students.

### **2. To bring fresh perspective to, and recharge the spirit of the mentor**

- Mentorships are sharing propositions. As a guide, a mentor can become "recharged" mentally and physically by working with someone who wants to learn and share.

### **3. To help someone who is a veterinary assistant in the practice to become educated, credentialed, and a more valuable employee**

- This is a way for a practice to communicate their support for an employee who wishes to further their education and advance professionally.

### **4. To identify potential employees**

- This is an opportunity to work with a person who may desire employment, while not making a long-term commitment. It is a chance to see if the student and the practice are a good fit for one another.

Regardless of the reason, the potential mentor must be aware of and agree to the requirements of mentors (see mentorship contracts on website) so that they provide the proper materials, experience, and coaching for the best educational experience. If you would like further information or have any questions, please contact me.

Pam Phegley  
[phegleyp@purdue.edu](mailto:phegleyp@purdue.edu)  
(765) 496-6809

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