The Data Center industry is in a constant state of change. Learning is never complete and demand for qualified, experienced mission critical infrastructure specialists continues to grow.

Your company or educational institution can help by recruiting participants. Participating in the 7×24 Exchange Mentoring Program will be rewarding to your employees and participating protégés alike. Help shape the next generation of mission critical professionals and make a difference!

Here are the basic details:

**Mentor Roles and Responsibilities:**
- A mentor is someone with the knowledge, tools and experience that can help develop the protégé and ensure professional growth.
- Helping a student advance in his/her career is a rewarding experience which provides data center industry professionals with the opportunity to “give back.”
- Taking the time to get to know and respect an early career mission critical industry professional and share your experiences is a powerful way to impact the future of the industry.

**Mentor Eligibility, Requirements and Recommendations:**
- Have at least five years of industry experience.
- Ability to mentor 1-2 protégés per academic year.
- Meet with protégé for a minimum of two hours per semester.
- Commit to being accessible and engaged for the duration of the semester-long mentoring relationship.
- Be willing to share your personal and professional experience, insights, and network with your protégé.
- We recommend attending the 7×24 Exchange International Spring and Fall Conferences and chapter events.
- Be a good listener, have a sense of humor, and enjoy your mentoring experience.
- Mentors should not discuss or share any intellectual or proprietary information with protégés, but should focus on helping them learn about the profession, career advancement strategies, skills, etc.

**Protégé Roles and Responsibilities:**
- Establish effective communications with mentor; Be proactive in seeking advice.
- Open to advice and feedback.
- Develop an individual or personal growth plan with a timeline of goals and progress.
- Seek guidance and advice of a trained, experienced professional in the areas of career expectations and demands.
- Willingness to share information on academic struggles in career-related topics with their mentor in an effort to receive advice/counseling.
- Be respectful of time allotments, confidentiality, and punctuality for meeting sessions.

**Protégé Eligibility and Requirements:**
- College students that have declared a major and are actively pursuing their degree in an MCO field.
- Student’s under the age of 18 must get parental or guardian permission.
- Early Career professionals with an interest in advancing their career in the MCO field.
- Commitment to meet with mentor as required (no less than two times) throughout the one-semester engagement period.

* Protégés do not have to live in the respective state of the mentor in order to participate.

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To participate, visit www.7x24exchange.org/mentoring