

A good research mentor should:

- describe student expectations and responsibilities clearly and precisely
- explain the project to the student and make sure that it is understood
- describe the role of other members in the lab
- respond to emails in a timely fashion.
- Update student on changes of schedule
- Give warning about time that mentor needs to be away from the lab to attend to other responsibilities
- Provide literature to the student and clarify when the student will be responsible for their own literature searches.
- Provide alternative plans in case the planned experiments will not work
- Give feedback to the student about his/her progress
- Be willing to listen to student's concerns and to take action to address them in the best possible way
- Provide appropriate lab safety training and yearly refreshers