

Prospective EWB Mentor,

On behalf of the Tri-Cities, TN Professional Chapter of Engineers Without Borders, I thank you for your interest in mentoring our organization. Our chapter is a part of the national organization Engineers Without Borders-USA (EWB-USA), which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to enabling developing communities to sustainably meet their basic human needs, ex. access to clean drinking water. EWB-USA seeks to partner developing communities lacking the specific technical skills required to construct and maintain basic infrastructure with groups of engineers and other interested parties so that they can implement a solution together.

EWB-USA was founded at the University of Colorado-Boulder in 2002 and has since grown to a national organization with more than 250 student and professional chapters. Combined these chapters have almost 400 projects completed or in progress and have impacted more than 2.5 million people in third-world countries all over the globe. The Tri-Cities, TN Professional Chapter was founded in July 2013. We have experienced tremendous and exciting growth and are in the process of selecting a developing community with which to partner. A partnership between an EWB-USA chapter and a developing community typically lasts five years and can include as many community improvement projects as the partners agree upon. Our chapter has elected to pursue clean water-related projects within a developing community in Central America, and we are seeking Mentors who will provide guidance on public health issues, environmental and economic impacts, construction and technical issues and bridging cultural divides.

Our mentor team will be led by a Responsible Engineer in Charge (REIC), who is tasked with oversight of international project planning and compliance with EWB-USA requirements, as well as advising the Mentor team and chapter members on project execution. At this time we are seeking to build the EWB Mentor team and will select an REIC once a Mentor team has been established.

In order to compensate for anticipated variations in projects, we are looking to build a team of experts with differing backgrounds, and we will draw upon each Mentor’s unique skill sets to achieve project goals. While each Mentor will provide his or her own expertise, EWB-USA has set forth general requirements for all Mentors:

* Become an EWB-USA member.
* Provide technical expertise as needed including project guidance, design approval, and assistance in implementation.
* Two full-time years of international development experience with 3 months in-country work.
* At least one Mentor with experience related to the current project phase must travel during each EWB trip.
* Traveling Mentors must meet project level requirements, which are detailed in the [EWB-Mentor Qualification Document](https://s3.amazonaws.com/ewbgeneral/405-Mentor-Qualifications-%28Rev-Aug-2013%29.pdf).
* Attend a professional mentor webinar.
* Complete the Mentor Statement of Intent. (Provided as an attachment.)
* Provide a current resume.

While it is not a requirement for the traveling Mentor to have cultural experience that aligns with the partner community, such expertise is desired. Similarly, Mentors who speak the language of the chosen community is also a plus.

If your experience does not meet the project level requirements for travel, we encourage you to consider joining our Mentor team to provide our chapter guidance or to become a chapter member.

For more information, please visit the following links:

[EWB-USA](http://www.ewb-usa.org/)

[EWB Tri-Cities Professional Chapter](https://sites.google.com/site/ewbtritn/home)

[EWB - Become a Mentor](http://www.ewb-usa.org/get-involved/become-a-mentor)

Feel free to contact EWB Tri-Cities Professional Chapter with any questions.

Sincerely,

EWB-USA Tri-Cities, TN Professional Chapter

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