



**Big Brothers Big Sisters**  
of Midcoast Maine

16 School Street Suite 201  
Rockland, ME 04841  
Phone: 593-0380 Fax: 593-0381  
Toll Free: 1-888-412-BIGS  
[info@bbbsmcm.org](mailto:info@bbbsmcm.org)

## SCHOOL-BASED MENTORING

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Midcoast Maine (BBBSMCM) has been making a difference in the lives of many children by matching them with trained volunteers in fun and rewarding relationships for over 30 years. School-Based Mentors (Bigs) are matched in one-to-one relationships with elementary school-aged youth (Littles) and spend time together for one hour after school, the same day and time each week. Bigs and Littles are matched according to their various characteristics, interests, and personality traits and meet at the Littles' school.

**Bigs-** Are screened, interviewed and trained local High School and College students who are free one hour each week and can commit to their Little for at least one full school year. Bigs have demonstrated responsible behavior, good listening skills, are willing to learn, love to play, have patience and a sense of humor.

**Littles-** Are children from local elementary and middle schools who would like a positive mentor in their life. Most Littles face adversity in their lives; some come from single parent or low income homes, some are struggling academically or socially at school. BBBSMCM's mission is to provide youth who would like a mentor with strong and enduring, professionally supported, one-to-one relationships that change their lives for the better forever.

**School Coordinators-** Are screened, interviewed and trained school staff and community volunteers who supervise weekly mentoring at each school one day each week. Each school mentoring location has 1-2 coordinators that attend, oversee and supervise the weekly match meetings to ensure match quality and child safety.

**Match Commitment-** Bigs and Littles commit to the relationship for at least one full school year, over time sharing experiences, having fun, and building a friendship to last a lifetime.

**One-to-One Relationships-** We all had someone in our lives, other than a parent, who made a difference to us. Making a difference is what our Bigs are doing every day through a one-to-one friendship with their Little, and School Coordinators play a vital role in empowering the friendship between our Bigs and Littles to develop and grow. Matches participate in activities together that they both enjoy, like sports, arts & crafts, and everything in between. A one-to-one friendship between a match is really made of a series of small, teachable moments that, in the end, make a BIG difference.

**BBBS Events-** Several yearly events take place that all matches are encouraged to attend: Bids for Kids Wreath Auction, an Annual Program Celebration, Bowl for Kids' Sake and various summer activities.

**Professional Match Support-** Professionally trained and experienced BBBS staff work hard to support the relationship between a Big and Little. Our goal is for the relationship to be as successful as possible for everyone. In addition to weekly School Coordinator support, BBBS Staff connects monthly with matches in person to aid in the healthy development of a Big's and Little's friendship throughout the year and the course of the match.

**Measurable Program Impacts-** Based on our yearly surveys completed by all involved in our matches, mentors in Big Brothers Big Sisters of Midcoast Maine's mentoring program experienced a:

- 47% increase in interpersonal skills
- 34% increase in personal skills, i.e., being responsible, reliable, organized
- 41% increase in knowledge of child development
- 35% increase in leadership abilities
- 22% increase in school and/or job performance

These impacts reflect the heart of our belief that friendship can open innumerable doors, help youth reach their true potential and achieve success in life.

Knox County Office: 16 School St. Suite 201, Rockland  
Lincoln County Office: 96 Bristol Rd., Damariscotta  
Penobscot County Office: Bangor Y, 17 Second St., Bangor  
Waldo County Office: Unity College Centre for the Performing Arts, 42 Depot St., Unity



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## SCHOOL-BASED MENTOR APPLICATION

Thank you for your interest in becoming a School-Based Mentoring Big! Please complete the following application with a parent/guardian and return it to your school liaison (usually the main or guidance office) or mail it to the address above.

Each Big applicant also needs two references from teachers, staff, or employers. These forms, located at the back of this packet, should also be included with the completed application.

**Please Print Clearly**

Big's Name:		Date of Birth:		Gender:	
Name of Parent/Guardians*:		School:		Grade:	
Parent's Marital Status:		Teacher:			
*if a Guardian please list relation to Big:		Parent's Email:			
Mailing Address:		Big's Email:			
Please check if you or you/your child receives the following:		<input type="checkbox"/> TANF	<input type="checkbox"/> Food Stamps	<input type="checkbox"/> MaineCare	
<input type="checkbox"/> Free/Reduced Lunch	<input type="checkbox"/> Subsidized Housing	<input type="checkbox"/> Child of current/past incarcerated parent			
Home Phone:		Cell Phone:		Work Phone:	

Why do you want to be a Big Brother or Big Sister?

Please list some of your interests and/or hobbies:

As a mentor, I will make a commitment to meet with my Little once a week for the academic year. If I am unable to meet with my Little I will contact the Big Brothers Big Sisters School-Based Mentoring Director and/or School Coordinator to inform them of my absence.

**Initial Here:** \_\_\_\_\_

### School-Based Mentoring Parental Consent

I give permission for my child, \_\_\_\_\_, to participate in Big Brothers Big Sisters of Midcoast Maine (BBBSMCM) School-Based Mentoring one day per week after school. In doing so I understand and agree to the following:

- My child (Big) will meet with a local elementary or middle school student (Little) one day per week, throughout the school year.
- The school guidance counselor may share information regarding my child with BBBSMCM for the purpose of determining a suitable mentor and addressing child safety concerns as well as reporting on school attendance and overall performance.
- All applicant information in regards to my child will be kept strictly confidential.
- I am responsible for picking-up my child, or arranging transportation for my child, at the designated end time each match meeting.
- BBBSMCM does not guarantee my child will be matched and has discretion in creating and/or closing a match in regards to child safety and the best interests of all parties involved.
- I understand contact outside of school mentoring activities is not permitted.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



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## EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Child's Name			
Parent's Name			
Home Address			
Home Phone:	Cell Phone:	Work Phone:	

Name of child's doctor and/or clinic	
Address	
Phone Number	
I.D. # (Blue Cross/Blue Shield, MaineCare)	

Person(s) to be contacted in emergency situations if parent/guardian is not reachable:	
Name	
Address	
Phone Number	
Name	
Address	
Phone Number	

Does your child have any behavioral, emotional, or medical concerns or special considerations?

### Emergency Medical Consent

I, \_\_\_\_\_, consent to the performance of such emergency medical care upon my son/daughter, \_\_\_\_\_, as may be deemed necessary or advisable in the judgment of the examining physician in the event I cannot be reached at the time of said emergency.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Media Release\*

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Midcoast Maine creates media (brochures, press releases, annual appeal letters, BBBMCM website, TV and radio spots, etc.) to highlight match successes and recruit volunteers. I understand my child's interaction with his/her match may be photographed/taped and possibly used for these agency purposes only.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*If you would NOT like your child's photo being used in a specific media form i.e. on the BBBSMCM website, please indicate in writing here:



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## SCHOOL-BASED MENTORING REFERENCE

Submitted on behalf of:

Name:	School:
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Reference Contact Information:

Name:	
Work Phone:	Position:
Mobile Phone:	Email:

- How long have you known this student? \_\_\_\_\_
- In what capacity? \_\_\_\_\_
- How does this student fulfill his/her academic responsibilities?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Does this student meet acceptable standards for attendance and punctuality?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Please give an example of how applicant follows through with commitments:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- How does this applicant relate to faculty and other students?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Would you consider this applicant to be a good role model for a younger student? Why or why not?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Other Comments:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reference Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



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Reference Signature

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Date