The Wyoming Hunter Mentor Program (HMP) allows a person who has not yet earned their hunter education certification to apply for a special authorization to hunt while accompanied by a mentor. The HMP allows someone new to hunting to experience the hunt before committing to the coursework required to complete their hunter safety certification.

Who Qualifies:

Mentors
To qualify as a mentor in the HMP, the mentor must:
- Be at least 18 years of age.
- Possess a valid hunter education certificate, regardless of any exemptions, while in the field with the mentee (A hunter education certificate from any state is valid).
- Possess a current and valid WY hunting license while in the field with the mentee.
- The mentor’s valid WY hunting license does not have to be the same species/unit/type as the mentee’s hunting license.

Mentees
Anyone who plans to hunt in Wyoming may participate in the hunter mentor program, but the mentee must be at least 12 years of age to hunt big game.
- If the hunter mentee is under 18 years of age, he or she must obtain parental/guardian permission to participate. Permission is given through the parent/guardian’s signature on the special authorization certificate.

How to Register:

• Registration must be completed online at the Game and Fish website. Use this QR code to take you to the registration page.
• The mentee must supply their Sportsperson ID (SPID) and birth date. A SPID is a unique number that is generated upon the purchase of a WY hunting or fishing license.
• If the mentee does not have a SPID, there is an option to create one when applying.
• Once the mentee supplies their SPID and birth date, a special authorization certificate will be generated.
• Both the mentee and the mentor must sign the certificate, and the mentor must legibly write down their hunter safety certificate number and valid WY hunting license information.

What you need in the field:

Mentors
- Must carry a valid hunter education certificate while in the field with the mentee (A hunter education certificate from any state is valid).
- Must carry a current and valid WY hunting license while in the field with the mentee.

Mentees
- Must their carry special authorization certificate (signed by the mentor they are hunting with) at all times while hunting.
  - The mentor’s hunting license type and number and hunter safety certificate number must be documented on the mentee’s special authorization certificate.
  - With a special authorization certificate, a mentee can hunt with multiple mentors as long as each mentor meets the listed requirements.
  - A new copy of the certificate shall be printed out and signed by each additional mentor.
  - The mentee must carry all necessary licenses, stamps or permits needed for the hunt.

Regulations:

• Mentors may supervise only one (1) hunter mentee at a time in the field (a family member may mentor multiple immediate family members).
• Mentors must maintain direct supervision (within sight and direct voice contact) of the hunter mentee at all times while in the field.
• The HMP is not a substitute for a hunting license. The hunter mentee must still obtain the appropriate licenses, stamps and permits necessary for each hunt.
• A mentee can hunt for any species with appropriate licenses, but must be at least 12 years of age to hunt big game in Wyoming.
• This special authorization is not valid to hunt in Elk Hunt Areas 75 and 79.
• This special authorization will serve as a one (1) year temporary exemption to a hunter education certificate.
• Mentees should take hunter education if they wish to continue hunting in subsequent years. However, if circumstances prevent the mentee from taking a hunter education course, they may apply for the HMP again.

Visit the Wyoming Hunter Mentor Program page at wgfd.wyo.gov/education/hunter-mentor-program for more information.