

Canada-Chicago Mentoring Program (C2MP)

February 13, 2019, Chicago, Illinois

Are you a Canadian innovator and entrepreneur in life sciences/healthcare?
Do you have a product or technology you would like to showcase?
Are you seeking mentoring and guidance to advance your innovation?

If you answered “Yes!” to any of these questions, then we encourage you to submit your application to our 2019 mentoring program in Chicago

The Trade Commissioner Service in partnership with the Chicago Innovation Mentors <http://matterchicago.com/programs/cim/> (CIM@MATTER) offers a tailor-made mentoring program focused on life sciences and healthcare innovators working in the three following sub-sectors: pharmaceuticals; health IT; and medical devices.

C2MP catalyzes the local Chicago life sciences ecosystem to accelerate technology commercialization opportunities in the Chicago area (and the US market) by matching experienced and supportive mentoring teams with early stage innovators.

Why participate?

- Receive coaching and mentoring for a period of 6 months from a team of life sciences/healthcare and other business professionals
- Build your network of key contacts in the Chicago market to take advantage of the business relationships you will develop to identify business opportunities
- Improve your understanding of market access issues in the US
- Immerse yourself in a culture of collaboration, open innovation and entrepreneurial inspiration
- Receive dedicated services from the Trade Commissioner Service

Program for the selected companies

Part 1: Orientation for the program (January 2019)

- Participate in a webinar with the Consulate and CIM to go over the details of the mentoring program

Part 2: Day of Acceleration in Chicago (February 13, 2019)

- Participate in a morning program organized by the Trade Commissioner Service
- Pitch and showcase your technology during the Chicago Innovation Mentor monthly meeting
- Meet your potential mentors and network with key Chicago contacts in the life sciences and healthcare industry
- Gain insights on the characteristics of the Chicago market that can improve your chances to success



Part 3: Six Month Mentoring Program (February – Mid-August 2019) – Total number of monthly meetings: 6 (in addition to the Day of Acceleration).

- Be matched with a team of 3 to 5 mentors (you will be assigned a lead mentor to work closely with you and the rest of the team)
- Engage your team of mentors for guidance and advice. Be proactive to gain valuable feedback on your growth challenges, market access strategy, business model, investor pitch
- Get access for free to MATTER, Chicago's top tier healthcare incubator, its workspace, its network and all of its educational programming www.matterchicago.com

Program expectations

- Part of the mentoring will be done virtually (emails, conference calls, videoconferences)
- Plan to travel to market **AT LEAST FOUR TIMES (February 13 + 4 other dates)** to meet face-to-face with your mentoring team. Note: we recommend face-to-face meetings.
- Able to commit at least one senior team member (C-level or Founder) to take part in the virtual program and attend a minimum of three in-market mentoring sessions.

Eligibility criteria

C2MP companies are selected using a competitive application process. Ideal candidates have:

- Created a technology/product with high potential for growth
- Initial traction in the market place (in Canada or the US or another geography)
- A management team
- A need for local professionals to evaluate their business models/strategy
- Resources to visit the market a minimum of four times to meet with their mentoring teams.

How to apply?

If you are interested in participating in the program, please contact Laura Dalby (laura.dalby@international.gc.ca) or Chantal Glass (chantal.glass@international.gc.ca) to receive the application form. Space is limited to **FIVE** Canadian companies; all applicants will be qualified by a vetting committee.

Deadline: Completed forms must be received at the Consulate by **November 15, 2018** to be considered.