

Canada-Chicago Mentoring Program (C2MP)

February 8, 2017, 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 are looking for you!

The Trade Commissioner Service in partnership with the province of Ontario and the Chicago Innovation Mentors <http://matterchicago.com/programs/cim/> (CIM@MATTER) is putting together 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 technology commercialization opportunities in the Chicago area 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 and 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 2017)

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

Part 2: Day of Acceleration (February 8, 2017)

- 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 (Mid-February – Mid-August 2017)

- 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 three times (February 8 + 2 other dates) to meet face-to-face with your mentoring team.
- Able to commit at least one senior team member (C-level or Founder) to take part in the virtual program and attend the three in-market events.

Eligibility criteria

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

- Established a technology/product with high potential for growth
- Initial traction in the market place
- A management team
- A need for local professionals to evaluate their business models/strategy
- Resources to visit the market three times to meet with their mentoring teams.

Testimonials

"The velocity at which ideas are generated in the mentor meetings really surprised me I was very impressed with how quickly every mentor got up to speed and produced relevant advice. I applaud CIM and the Canadian Trade Commissioners for a wonderful and extremely productive experience in the C2MP." **Garry Liu, Innovere Medical**

"C2MP has allowed our company to make tremendous progress in a short period of time and establish a business network in the medical community in the Chicago area, including two renowned cardiologists joining our scientific advisory board," **Eric Caron, Three Rivers Cardiovascular Systems.**

How to apply?

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

Deadline: Completed forms must be received by **November 23, 2016** to be considered