



The Carlson School of Management is seeking alumni in the business community to be volunteer mentors to our undergraduate students for the Fall 24 semester. The mentor's role is to act as a consultant/advisor to a small team of students in our new signature course - Impact Lab In Action. This course is a required experiential course collaborating with nonprofit, social enterprise, and community-based organizations to provide all students the opportunity to solve real-world business problems.

MENTOR COMMITMENT

- **Meet virtually with your student team via zoom for 30-minute mentor calls 3 times throughout the semester.** Note: This commitment is to meet with the group, not individual meetings with each member.
- Act as an advisor/consultant to a team of 4-6 students who will be tasked with solving a business problem for their client.
- Serve as a safe person for students to bring questions to and to be able to respond with stories (both successful and less-than-successful) from your own careers.
- Help your team develop a process for identifying the problem, analyzing the issue, and delivering compelling recommendations.

IDEAL MENTOR

Students respond to various backgrounds, personalities, and communication styles. We seek diverse mentors from every background and in every phase of their careers. Mentors are required to have 3+ years working experience. No prior mentor experience required.

- Model an approachable attitude. Remember that these are 2nd year undergraduate students who will be out of their comfort zone in this course.
- Listen to your group and be understanding when they struggle and celebrate them when they succeed.
- Be positive and supportive when asking challenging questions, reframing the problem, or reworking the solution
- Let the students lead. Meetings and communications should begin with them

The sign up form is currently open at <https://z.umn.edu/ImpactLab>. The deadline to apply for the Fall 2024 semester is August 23, 2024. Contact impactlab@umn.edu with any questions.