The Carlson School of Management seeks nonprofit, social enterprise, and community partners needing project assistance through the Impact Lab. Partner organizations will present students with real-world challenges. Over a semester, student teams will research, ideate, and develop actionable plans to address these challenges. Each team will be supported by a professional mentor guiding them through the problem-solving process. Partners will collaborate closely with undergraduate students, meeting five times during the semester to introduce business challenges and provide feedback on student analyses and solutions.

IMPACT LAB OVERVIEW

The Impact Lab, a signature experience of the Carlson School's undergraduate program, equips students with critical problem-solving skills from their first year. Through case studies, simulations, and real-world projects, students learn to identify, understand, and solve complex problems. This program introduces problem-solving frameworks, fosters leadership and teamwork skills, and encourages creativity and adaptability. Serving approximately 2000 students annually, the Impact Lab prepares students to innovate and solve real-world business problems. The Impact Lab is a product of Carlson's commitment to experiential learning at the undergraduate level.

CLIENT COMMITMENT

The experiential course, Impact Lab In Action, meets twice a week for 15 weeks. Organizations are welcome to attend class as often as they would like to; the minimum expectation is being available for 5 classes over 14 weeks. Classes are held Monday - Thursday at various times to accommodate Client schedules. There is no cost to participate in Carlson Impact Lab projects. Client organizations are expected to have a point of contact for the professor and students to connect with regularly.

Project applications are open now at https://z.umn.edu/ImpactLab.
- For projects starting the week of September 2, the application deadline is Friday, August 9, 2024,
- For projects starting the week of January 20, 2025, the application deadline is Friday, December 13, 2024.