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Service des
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Canada-Chicago Mentoring Program (C2MP)

November 10, 2026 – Chicago, Illinois

Are you a Canadian innovator and entrepreneur in life sciences/healthcare?
Do you have a product or technology you would like to gain traction in the US market?
Are you seeking mentoring and guidance to refine your go-to-market strategy?

If you answered “Yes!” to any of these questions, then we encourage you to submit your application to our 2027 mentoring program in Chicago – No registration fee

The Trade Commissioner Service has entered into a partnership with Point B at MATTER (www.matter.health), the leading life sciences/healthcare nexus in downtown Chicago, to provide strategic guidance to five Canadian start-ups for the annual C2MP cohort. Point B is a translational and acceleration program that collaborates with universities, research institutions, and corporations to advance biopharma, medical devices, and digital health ventures through team-based mentorship.

The Canada-Chicago Mentoring Program (C2MP) catalyzes the local Chicago life sciences/healthcare ecosystem to accelerate technology commercialization opportunities in the US market by matching experienced and supportive mentoring teams with early-stage innovators from Canada.

Why participate?

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

Program for the four selected companies:

Part 1: Virtual Orientation for the program (October 2026)

- Participate in a webinar with the Consulate and Point B at Matter to go over the details of the mentoring program
- Participate in practice pitch sessions and receive presentation feedback

Part 2: Day of Acceleration in Chicago (November 2026) - virtual

- Participate in a kickoff day organized by the Trade Commissioner Service at MATTER
- Pitch your technology to an audience of mentors and stakeholders
- Connect with your potential mentors and key Chicago contacts in the life sciences and healthcare industry
- Gain insights into characteristics of the Chicago market to improve your chances of success



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Part 3: Five Month Mentoring Program (December 2026-April 2027) – hybrid

- Be matched with a team of 3 to 4 mentors, including an assigned lead mentor who will work closely with you and the rest of the team
- Total number of monthly meetings is 5, in addition to the Day of Acceleration as well as workshops organized by MATTER and the Consulate
- Engage your team of mentors for guidance and advice. Be proactive to gain valuable feedback on your growth challenges, market access strategy, business model, and investor pitch
- Get access for free to MATTER, Chicago's top tier healthcare incubator, its workspace, its network and all of its educational programming for the entirety of the program (www.matter.health)
- The program ends on **May 5, 2027**, with a live pitch **in person** to potential business contacts and/or investors in Chicago

Program Expectations

- Plan to travel to Chicago at least one time for the final pitch event in May as well face to face meetings with your mentor team.
- Part of the mentoring can be done virtually (emails, conference calls, videoconferences)
- Able to commit at least one senior team member (C-level or Founder) to take part in the program

Eligibility Criteria

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

- Created a technology/product with high potential for growth in the US market
- Initial traction in the market (in Canada, US, or another geography)
- A strong and experienced management team
- A need for local professionals to evaluate their business model/strategy
- Resources to visit the market to meet with their mentoring teams

How to apply?

If you are interested in participating in the program, please contact julien.rosan@international.gc.ca to receive the application form. Space is limited to **FIVE** Canadian companies; all applicants will be qualified by a vetting committee. The Trade Commissioner Service supports equality and diversity; we strongly encourage companies led by Canadians of all backgrounds and orientations to apply.

**Deadline: Completed forms must be received by email to the Consulate by
August 31, 2026**

