

What is Illinois Business Consulting (IBC)?

[IBC](#) is the largest university consulting organization in the US. Every year over 300 students from 50 disciplines at the University of Illinois participate in real-world consulting projects for Fortune 50 clients, mid-sized companies and startups. IBC conducts 50 projects per year in a variety of industries, helping companies with new market entry, financial analysis, strategy & innovation and data analysis.

Through a new partnership with IBC, iMBAs can now get involved in the program in two ways.

1. Participate on a project, as a team member or as an industry expert

Why: Gain new skills, learn and explore a new industry, gain experience in a new business function, broaden your network

Option 1: You can join IBC as a team member. In this role, you join weekly team and client meetings, work through the project scope and conduct the project research and analysis. This involves 10-12 hours of work per week for a period of 14 weeks. You can indicate industries and topics of interest in order to be placed on a project of relevance to you.

Option 2: You may join IBC as an industry/topic expert. You may have experience in certain industries and business functions, such as healthcare, strategy, energy, or finance. You would be assigned to a team where you can share your expertise to guide the team. You would join team and client meetings as needed but not get involved in the day-to-day work of the project. This role involves 2-4 hours per week for a period of 14 weeks.

**Note:* Projects are conducted during the academic semesters; January to May (Spring) and August to December (Fall). Applying to IBC is a competitive process. We receive 900+ applications per year and accept 1 out of 6 applicants. The process includes a resume screen and behavioral and case interviews.

2. Sponsor a project

Why: An IBC team will help your company solve business challenges and explore new opportunities. Be a hero by giving your company access to 1,000 hours of work from some of the best students at the University of Illinois, at below-market rates.

How it works: Your company poses a challenge that you want an IBC team to work on, such as –

- What market should we move into next?
- How do we measure and increase customer loyalty?
- What are the use cases for implementing artificial intelligence at our company?
- How can we better interpret, visualize and use our data in real-time to improve our business?

A team of 7 IBC students will spend 1,000 hours working to create a solution. Teams receive guidance from professional staff and mentors and tap into the many resources available at the university.

**Note:* IBC professional staff will work with your company to brainstorm and refine your project scope. Projects normally cost \$15,000. However, iMBAs receive a \$1,000 discount.

We will host a webinar on **Monday December 16th at 6pm CST** to answer questions and provide more information. Join us!