Texas MBA+ Consulting Projects - Fall 2016

Connecting Employers to Texas MBA Teams

If you are interested in having a team of top MBA consulting talent address a pressing business issue, consider participating in the Texas MBA+ Consulting Projects. Texas MBA+ provides your organization with a consulting team of 4-6 Texas MBA students to tackle a project that you define in cooperation with the student team.

Texas MBA+ Project Details
- Fall projects are open to all Texas MBA students: full-time, evening, executive, Dallas, Houston, and Mexico City. Projects are initially offered to students in the Full-Time program. Those projects not paired with teams in that round can then be offered to students in the Working Professional and Executive programs.
- Projects last approximately eight weeks during the fall session typically starting in late September and concluding in late November.
- Companies provide a project proposal based on an existing business issue.
- Student express interest in projects that best match their professional aspirations by submitting a resume to the MBA+ office, and we forward resumes to companies for review after a set deadline.
- Companies select students for their project team based on resume review with the option to schedule brief phone screens or in-person interviews. We ask clients to consider resumes from international students or students with diverse backgrounds, as many students who apply for projects are career switchers and are looking for experience in new industries or functional areas.
- Companies forward their selections and alternates to the MBA+ office, and we extend offers to students, finalize teams and leaders, and connect the team to the company.
- Student commitment is approximately 5 hours per student per week through the course of the project for a total of 120-200 consulting hours.
- Company commitment is relatively low with 2-4 hours of planning/scoping time with the students, 3-6 hours during the life of the project, and 2-3 hours for the final executive-level presentation. Depending on the project, there may be additional time commitment for companies that may need to compile internal data to provide to the student team for analysis. On average, we ask clients to prepare to provide approximately one hour to the team each week reviewing team communications or providing feedback. We find those clients who can engage with the student team have extremely successful projects.
- Progress will be reviewed by McCombs MBA+ staff midway through and at the conclusion of the project to ensure company and student expectations are being met.

Becoming a Client
- Complete a project proposal form at http://links.utexas.edu/bnggtpu
- Your proposal will be reviewed to ensure the scope is realistic for the 120-200 total team hour commitment and that it will be beneficial to students.
- We seek to provide more project submissions than available student teams; not all projects will have enough student interest to move forward.
**Project Descriptions**
- Projects should be part of a very specific, tangible, immediate, and relevant business issue.
- Project scope should be feasible for a team of Texas MBAs to complete within 120-200 total team hours over 8 weeks.
- Projects deliverables should be within the consulting space with a final product/recommendations delivered at the completion of the project cycles. Projects should not include ongoing tasks or multiple deliverables throughout the course of the project cycle. Final deliverables should not be mission-critical or imminently time sensitive.
- Your proposal will serve as the initial project scope. The team will then discuss this with their project coach who will provide feedback on a scope and deliverable(s) feasible within the project timeline. In your official kick-off meetings with the team you will review what was originally submitted on your proposal and the coach recommendations to determine the final project scope and deliverables.

**Your Commitment**
- Appoint a minimum of two company representatives\(^1\) to work with the project team.
- Commitment from company representatives to refine the scope if needed, provide access to information and resources as necessary, spend time working with the team, schedule the final presentation, and complete the mid-point and final feedback surveys.
- Let the MBA+ staff know if the project should get off track.

**Projects Most Commonly Sourced by MBAs**
- Have a clearly-defined scope that is manageable within 120-200 total team hours across 8 weeks.
- Have clear needs, expectations, and goals related to a current business issue.
- Allow MBAs to apply advanced business skills to a real-world problem.
- Provide a sense of business value to the client’s organization.
- Create networking opportunities within your organization and/or with your clients.

We hope you will join us to connect Texas MBAs with opportunities at your company. If you have any questions or ideas, please contact MBA+ Projects ([PlusProjects@mccombs.utexas.edu](mailto:PlusProjects@mccombs.utexas.edu)).

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\(^1\) For smaller companies and start-ups, a single representative is allowed.