

POLSKY SMALL BUSINESS GROWTH PROGRAM

The Polsky Small Business Growth Program supports small business owners to help them grow and scale their businesses through consulting work completed by top student talent.



OVERVIEW:

The Polsky Small Business Growth Program pairs teams of highly-skilled University of Chicago students with small business owners located in the South and West Side of Chicago. These businesses receive hands-on consulting support aimed at addressing specific business challenges and determining new strategies for growth.

WHAT WILL CLIENTS RECEIVE?

As “clients”, business owners receive free consulting services from teams of student consultants, supervised by Chicago Booth faculty. This work will be organized into a three-month engagement that includes in-depth research and analysis, regular touchpoints between client and team, and the development of a final report. Clients will also receive complimentary access to the Polsky Center’s 34,000 square foot co-working facility and its resources.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Businesses that have been in business for at least one year and have annual revenue exceeding \$250,000 are eligible to apply. Preference will be given for minority-owned, women-owned, or veteran-owned small businesses that are located on the South and West Side of Chicago. Owners seeking to grow their business, either in terms of increasing revenue or entering new markets are encouraged to apply.

APPLY ONLINE:

Application details can be found online at: bit.ly/Polsky-SmallBiz

DEADLINE:

The deadline to apply as a client for the Fall 2017 program is **Tuesday, August 15** by 5 p.m.

SELECTION:

Qualified applicants will be invited to interview and will be notified if they are selected as a client by **Thursday, August 31**.

QUESTIONS:

Contact Kristin Barrett, Senior Director, at kbarrett@uchicago.edu. Referrals and questions are welcome.

SUPPORTED BY:

This program is part of JPMorgan Chase’s national Ascend 2020 program, which provides funding to organizations and universities that support entrepreneurs in underserved areas and neighborhoods.