



Adams Entrepreneur Fellowship at Walsh College

Entrepreneur Fellowship Program Overview

Walsh College received a generous grant from The Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan through the Ann and Carman Adams Fund for “The Walsh College Adams Entrepreneurial Fellowship” to develop the entrepreneurial skills of promising business students. The Adams Entrepreneur Fellowship Program encourages promising scholars to become successful entrepreneurs through a mentoring program that links them with local entrepreneur mentors.

GOAL:

The goal of the Walsh College Adams Entrepreneurial Fellowship program is to provide the opportunity for selected individuals to gain the knowledge and skills needed to be successful entrepreneurs and business leaders.

THE FELLOW:

The mentor-fellow relationship is the core of the Adams Entrepreneur Fellowship Program. Mentors serve as role models and a source of motivation, guidance and encouragement. Every fellowship experience is individually designed based on mentor and fellow interests, fellow competencies, and entrepreneurial project opportunities. Adams Fellows are individuals who demonstrate passion, intelligence, creativity, integrity, leadership, and capacity for entrepreneurial achievement. Academic records are considered, although scholarly achievement is not of primary importance. The willingness to commit to an intensive experience of significant duration coupled with entrepreneurial aptitude and an intense entrepreneurial desire are the primary characteristics that distinguish Adams Fellows.

The Adams Entrepreneur Fellowship Program at Walsh College is based on the belief that students and alumni can learn to be successful entrepreneurs by applying their formal learning to a hands-on mentored experience in a dynamic, entrepreneurial business environment.

The fellowship is a one-year, full-time placement. Individuals selected must agree to leave other employment for the term of the fellowship. The program requires risk-taking by both the fellow and the mentor.

The fellowship program is enhanced by:

1. the mentor and fellow partnership
2. academic credit through Walsh College’s graduate education program
3. guidance from the faculty advisor
4. an opportunity to attend an executive leadership training academy
5. the stipend and benefit package

1. The Mentor and Fellow Partnership

The mentor-fellow relationship is the core of the Adams Entrepreneur Fellowship Program. Fellows and mentors will co-create plans for the term of the learning experience and, ideally, the relationship between the mentor and fellow will continue well beyond the term of the fellowship. Mentors serve as role models and a source of motivation, guidance and encouragement. Because success depends on making the right match between fellow and mentor, fellows and mentors are matched through a mutual selection process that involves an initial screening, interviews with the Adams Entrepreneur Fellowship Program Selection Committee, and interviews between potential mentors and fellows. Both fellows and mentors are selected by the Adams Entrepreneur Fellowship committee.

2. Academic Credit

The Adams Entrepreneur Fellowship allows for 6 graduate level credits – either directed study or two courses (six credits) approved by the faculty advisor. Fellows and mentors work closely with a Walsh College faculty advisor who assists in developing the fellow's project plan, monitoring progress, troubleshooting, and providing ongoing counsel and support.

3. Guidance from Faculty Advisor and Staff Administrator

The faculty advisor serves as the liaison between the fellow and the College as an advocate for the success of the fellowship program. Fellows should expect to meet with the faculty advisor or staff administrator at least monthly to assist with the following:

- Structured journal assignment for fellows
- Mid-term and summary report guidelines for fellows.
- Ongoing fellow support and guidance.
- Monitoring of the fellow progress via reports and regularly scheduled meetings with fellows and mentors. Maintain written records of fellows' progress.
- Troubleshooting fellow-mentor problems, as necessary.
- Providing academic advice to support achievement of fellows' academic goals.

4. Professional Development

Products of the fellow's work will become the knowledge-base building blocks for future entrepreneurship case studies in the academic program. These building blocks are expected to include learning outcomes assessed in the courses, faculty and host mentor assessments of progress, demonstrations of core competencies, activity journals, and similar products. Entrepreneurship, problem-solving, critical thinking, teamwork, and communications are among the ten core competencies already regularly delivered and assessed in the Walsh curriculum.

5. Fellow Stipend and Benefits

Fellow stipends will be determined on an individual basis depending on placement, fellow background and experience, as well as program budget. Fellows may expect to receive a stipend that is equivalent to the current market value for a comparable position as an employee of the host mentor company. Entrepreneur mentors contribute a portion of the stipend. Fellows will receive health and other appropriate benefits.

Walsh College will disperse its share of fellowship stipend and employee benefits payments to the host mentor company. The host mentor company will be responsible for administering and dispersing fellow payments.

Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility requirements to be considered for an Adams Entrepreneur Fellowship include:

- ◆ Reside in Southeast Michigan
- ◆ Current student at Walsh College or graduate of a Walsh College degree program.
- ◆ Three or more years full-time work experience

Criteria for Fellow Selection

- ◆ Serious commitment to an entrepreneurial career
- ◆ Strong leadership, communication, and analytical skills
- ◆ Business savvy
- ◆ Initiative – demonstrated self-starter
- ◆ Innovative thinker and practitioner
- ◆ Able and willing to commit to all fellowship requirements for the full term
- ◆ Additional employment requirements may be requested by the host mentor's company (e.g. background research, reference checks, etc.)

Fellowship Application

Interested applicants must provide the following application materials:

- ◆ Completed application
- ◆ Responses to essay questions
- ◆ College unofficial transcripts
- ◆ \$50 non-refundable application fee

Application Submission

Application Deadline: by 5 p.m. December 2, 2009

Applications may be mailed to:

Jan Hubbard, Director of Corporate Relations
Adams Entrepreneurial Fellowship
Walsh College
PO Box 7006
Troy, MI 48007-7006

Or dropped off to the receptionist at either the Troy or Novi Campus

Questions? Email jhubbard@walshcollege.edu

**Adams Entrepreneur Fellowship at Walsh College
Fellowship Application
COVER PAGE**

Fellowship Application Checklist:

Interested applicants must provide the following application materials:

- Completed application
- Responses to essay questions
- Current resume
- Walsh College unofficial transcripts
- \$50 non-refundable application fee, check payable to Walsh College

APPLICANT'S NAME: _____

Adams Entrepreneur Fellowship at Walsh College

Fellowship Application

Please paperclip documents together, add your last name to the bottom of each page. Please do not staple or put documents in folders as they will need to be copied.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Work Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____ Cell Phone: _____

List all degrees conferred by Walsh College:

Degree Status	Major Field of Study	Dates Attended From To	GPA

List all degrees from other colleges:

Degree Status	Major Field of Study	Dates Attended From To	GPA

Work Experience

I have ____ total years full-time work experience.

Please complete the following employment information. Begin with your most recent employment and proceed in date order accordingly. Copy this page for each additional employer.

Name of employer _____

Most recent position held - title _____

Dates of employment: From _____ To _____

Starting annual earnings _____

Ending annual earnings _____

Did you own the business? Yes No

If you owned the company, list first year revenues _____

Most recent year revenues _____

Please describe business _____

Positions held at company:

Position Title	Key Challenges of Position	Most Significant Achievement In This Position	Reason for Leaving

Leadership and Community Involvement Activities

Name of organization _____

Positions held/awards received _____

Dates of involvement _____

Briefly describe the organization and your responsibilities and accomplishments _____

Name of organization _____

Position held/award received _____

Dates of involvement _____

Briefly describe the organization and your responsibilities and accomplishments _____

Name of organization _____

Position held/award received _____

Dates of involvement _____

Briefly describe the organization and your responsibilities and accomplishments _____

Essay Questions

Please limit your responses to the following essay questions to two pages.

1. What do you hope to gain from the entrepreneur fellowship experience?
2. What talents/assets would you bring to an entrepreneurial company?
3. Describe your most gratifying entrepreneurial experience.

Personal Vision Statement

Write a detailed essay (limit: 1,200 words) that provides insight into what motivates you and how your experience and education will contribute to an entrepreneurial career. Points that should be included in your essay are:

- ◆ How your background and experiences shaped your motivation to pursue an entrepreneurial career
- ◆ Personal entrepreneurship experiences and aspirations
- ◆ Evidence of leadership ability

Adams Fellowship Program
Walsh College
3838 Livernois
P.O. Box 7006
Troy, Michigan 48007-7006