



YOU HAVE A GOAL.

YOU HAVE THE DESIRE.

YOU HAVE THE MOTIVATION.

YOU HAVE THE EXPERIENCE.

YOU HAVE THE ABILITY.

ALL YOU NEED IS A

QUICK START

Essentials of Starting and
Building a Consulting Practice



IMC USA

Institute of Management Consultants USA
Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter

CONSIDERING A CAREER AS A CONSULTANT?

Maybe you have marketable expertise and are considering a consulting career. Or, perhaps you've launched a consulting practice but would benefit from practical advice or mentoring. **First, some definitions.**

A consultant is a professional with an expertise in a functional discipline (e.g. technology, marketing, manufacturing, or finance) and/or industry (e.g. retail, banking, healthcare, manufacturing) that's needed within a client organization. Consultants can be internal (employee) or external (engaged under a fee for service).

Management consulting is the practice of helping organizations improve their performance, primarily through the analysis of existing organizational problems, development of improvement plans and/or oversight of the solution implementation.

There are benefits as well as challenges. On the one hand it's your business, with few entry barriers and negligible capital requirements. But this also entails cash flow, time management, and capacity considerations.

Have you thought about the skills that are required, or what support is available?

A skills checklist would involve: industry knowledge, discipline and experience, strong interpersonal skills, good communications and selling skills, ethics, and an ability to grasp and understand the basics of the client's business *even if you have no experience in that industry.*

Daunting? **Help is available through a special program called **QUICKSTART**, sponsored by the DFW Chapter of the Institute of Management Consultants (IMC).**

IMC USA is a community of professional consultants. *Its mission is to promote excellence and ethics in management consulting through certification, education and professional services. The Institute of Management Consultants (IMC) USA provides the only certification for individual management consultants in the US that conforms to the standards of the International Council of Management Consulting Institutes and is ISO Certified (ISO/IEC 17024).*



WHY IMC DFW OFFERS THIS PROGRAM?

Many with functional or industry expertise seek to enter the consulting profession, but often lack a good understanding of what it takes to be successful in establishing a service offering and delivering quality results to clients. This can result in a negative experience for the individual and clients, and erosion of the reputation of the consulting profession.

IMC DFW is here to help, with the unique QuickStart program. It is a convenient way to learn the concepts and fundamentals of consulting, and to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to set up a successful consulting practice. Essentially, it's an opportunity to *get advice* from the people *in the business of giving advice!*



QUICK START

In the QuickStart Program expert practitioners teach the fundamentals of launching and building a successful consulting practice.

Two Saturdays:

April 1 and 8, 2017

9 am to 4 pm

***Continental breakfast
and lunch included***



CONSULTING PROGRAM CURRICULUM

April 1 and April 8, 2017

Consulting as a business

- Why consider consulting?
- Different types of consulting practices
- Why a company would use a consultant
- Different types of consulting engagements
- Challenges and pitfalls (on a personal basis)
- Skills, credentials & mindset required

Creating Your Marketing Plan & Sales Strategy

- Defining your scope of service offerings & target client groups
- Planning and building your brand, image
- Creating a pipeline of prospects
- Determining client needs and decision making process
- Planning sales processes
- Converting prospects into clients; closing
- Marketing Tools (to fill the funnel)

Managing your consulting engagement

- Stages of consulting engagements: Understanding client needs
- Adding value to the enterprise / Different types of engagements
- Defining objective, scope, deliverables, timeframe
- Scope: additional resources/consultants?
- Understanding client politics
- Making an effective proposal / Pricing
- Managing projects effectively
- Situations with ethical implications
- Managing expectations, avoiding scope creep
- Building post-project systems for on-going success
- Reflection and learning from engagements

Handling back-room operations

- Types of business structures; Legal implications
- Partners? Associates? Staff?
- Tax and insurance considerations
- Periodic reports, recurring tasks, agreements

Our team of Consulting Mentors will help you to compress your journey, establish your consulting goals and build a successful practice.

For registration and fees see the next page.

QuickStart provides a high-value educational program designed to address your consulting aspirations or augment your career development. Compared to other seminars, it's far more comprehensive but costs three times less!

Fee Schedule for the 2017 program which starts April 1, 2017.

Discounts for early registration and IMC members (15%)

Pricing: **\$350** if registering by 3/19/2017
\$450 if registering from 3/20-26/2017
\$500 if registering after 3/26/2017

Location: 12221 Merit Drive
Suite 250
Dallas, TX 75251

Here's what you'll get:

Course materials, knowledgeable experts who are practicing consultants, collegial setting, interactive lessons, networking opportunities, business-building relationships, mentoring; Convenient parking, lunch and refreshments.

QUICK START

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SEATING IS LIMITED, SO ACT NOW!

Registration form

Fax: 972-239-5613
Online: <http://quickstart.imcdfw.org>
Mail to: IMC-DFW 12221 Merit Suite 850,
Dallas, TX 75251

Yes - I'd like to become a successful consultant!

Date: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Fee enclosed: _____

Credit Card: # _____

Type: V MC AE Exp: _____

Tell us about yourself:

- I am thinking of a consulting career
- I'm consulting now but want to advance my practice
- I am an IMC member
- I am interested in learning more about IMC membership

What is your business focus area or practice specialty?



SCAN THIS

for more information on the QuickStart Program

