



VentureWell mentors are experts and leaders in early-stage investing for science and technology startups. Selected mentors will participate in an intensive 5-day workshop to help startups prepare for investments and partnerships necessary to launch their ventures.

THE ROLE OF A MENTOR

PROFILE:

You represent a key stakeholder with whom the participating startups are likely to engage, such as; angel investors, early-stage VCs, corporate strategic partners, regulatory experts, and corporate and IP counsel. You have the relevant expertise and experience and have a multitude of best and worst practices for startups commercializing science-based and engineering innovations.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Contribute your comments and perspectives during discussions, stress tests, progress reports, and expert speaker presentations;
- Float the room during work sessions to make sure companies understand assignments; provide feedback on the work product;
- Help entrepreneurs during “mentor sessions” to synthesize learnings and improve the work product;
- Lead discussions based on your areas of expertise;
- Host office hours;
- Act as a mock board member for select startups for the week.

ETHOS:

We ask you to be a friendly, but firm mentor. Be candid, but constructive. We want to be straightforward with the companies and help them identify and address any flaws or holes in their plans.

This program is an opportunity to decelerate, focus, and deliver on work product created alongside a group of dedicated mentors. The ASPIRE program is not about the 5-minute pitch or the “startup shuffle.” Startups leave with a clear investment ask or next steps in order to get there.

Why mentor for the ASPIRE program?

Help startups develop investment-ready work product, such as components of their deal room, and the ability to have a robust, deep investor Q+A discussion. We’re giving the startups the tools and skills to raise funding on their own.

- Engage in 1-1 time with 10-15 startups during the week.
- Witness early-stage deal opportunities.
- Observe real world *stress tests* – actual startup disaster scenarios.
- Network with fellow mentors and share your experiences with a cohort of entrepreneurs.

Interested in being an ASPIRE mentor?

Please email **Christina Tamer** at ctamer@venturewell.org to learn more about mentorship opportunities ranging from 3 to 5-day engagements or guest speaking opportunities.

Learn more: venturewell.org/aspire