

Institute for Family Entrepreneurship Mentorship Program | 2020-2021

Welcome to the IFE Mentorship Program! The IFE's Family Entrepreneurship Global Mentoring is a wonderful way for students to get connected with Babson alumni and friends from family entrepreneurship in a variety of industries.

The IFE will hold two virtual mentoring events a year – one per semester. The fall semester's event will be on Friday, November 6th from 10.30am-12pm EST. During the event, students will have a mentoring session with an alumni mentor based on their areas of interest (e.g., industry, functional expertise, family entrepreneurship experience).

Over the course of the academic year, students may also request to be connected for **a one-time coaching session** with one of our IFE mentors, based on their areas of interest.

Below are some conversation topics that can help spur ideas on what to discuss with your mentors:

- Ask your mentor about:
 - Their journey as someone from a family entrepreneurship background
 - Their decision and thought process around whether or not to join their family business
 - The opportunities and challenges that come with being a family entrepreneur and how they navigated that
 - Family dynamics in the context of family business
 - Growing, pivoting, or turning around their family business
 - Whether their current work aligns with their personal values
 - Their day-to-day work in the role; what do they love; what do they not love
 - Turning points in their career and who/what has helped them along the way
- Ask for advice on a challenging project or difficult conversation with a colleague or family member
- Ask how they manage time and work/school/life balance
- Ask about mistakes, challenges, and things they might have done differently in their careers
- Discuss personal branding strategies and how to make a great impression early in your career
- Review interview, presentation, pitch, and public speaking techniques
- Discuss industry trends and what you can be doing now to prepare for future growth
- Develop a career strategy plan aimed to achieve long-term goals

Please note that:

- Students **should not** ask mentors to fund their businesses.
 - *Instead, students can ask mentors for advice and guidance around funding strategies and funding opportunities that students should consider.*
- Students **should not** ask mentors for jobs or internships at the mentor's company.
 - *Instead, students can ask mentors for advice and guidance around searching for jobs and internships.*