

### What is College of Business Connect and the Executive Mentor Program?

*College of Business Connect is the web-based mentoring and networking platform that houses the Executive Mentor Program and creates a virtual space for students, faculty & staff, and alumni & friends of the K-State College of Business to connect with each other based on mutual interests and help topics. **Each user chooses their level of engagement and availability for networking and/or mentoring.***

*Within College of Business Connect, seasoned business professionals may choose to make themselves available as a formal mentor through our **Executive Mentor Program**. Mentors and mentees communicate regularly and establish goals for the mentorship that support the mentee's career goals. Mentors provide mentees with valuable advice, serve as a sounding board, share significant experiences, and provide constructive feedback. Each mentee has the opportunity to select their own mentor (with the approval of that mentor, of course) based on the information the mentor shares on their program profile.*

### What are the requirements to join?

*Any alumni or friend of the College of Business Administration who is willing to share their time and experience with students or other alumni may join College of Business Connect. To become an Executive Mentor, one must have at least seven (7) years of professional business experience and be willing to commit to regular communication and support of their mentee.*

### Why should I get involved?

*Perhaps you had a great mentor when you were in college, or thinking back on it, wish that you would have. Joining College of Business Connect is an excellent opportunity to provide that type of assistance and advantage to a young person nervous about starting their career. You will have the opportunity to shape young professionals into the type of employees and colleagues with whom you wish to work while increasing awareness of your company at K-State.*

### What is the time commitment?

*Within the College of Business Connect site, you will choose the parameters for any networking-related communication, such as how many times per month someone may reach out to you (if at all) and if you wish to make your profile visible.*

*We encourage mentors and mentees in the Executive Mentor Program to meet with each other at least once per month (in-person meeting, phone, or video chat). At the start of the mentorship, each pair determines the specific expectations to which they will hold themselves accountable. (Note: The mentee is responsible for initiating the mentorship and for driving communication.)*

### I do not live in or near Manhattan. Is this a problem?

*The vast majority (90%) of alumni involved in College of Business Connect and the Executive Mentor Program live outside of Manhattan. We have individuals located internationally, on both U.S. coasts, and everywhere in between. While this often means fewer in-person meetings, technology makes it possible to build a meaningful relationship at a distance. Students may also apply for travel money to take a trip to visit their long distance executive mentor.*

### How do I get started?

*If you are interested in joining College of Business Connect for mentoring and/or networking, go to the following site:*

<http://ksu.peoplegrove.com>

*Do you want more information before you commit? Contact Emily Brueseke at (785)532-3982 or [ementor@k-state.edu](mailto:ementor@k-state.edu) with questions. I would be more than happy to speak with you in-person to discuss the program in more detail.*