



ENERGIZING ENTREPRENEURS PROGRAM

A 4-step program to help you take your business idea from vision to reality!

1 DEVELOP A CLEAR PICTURE OF WHAT YOUR BUSINESS LOOKS LIKE

- **DRAFT A PLAN:** BCDA is here to help! We offer business plan assistance and have access to business plan experts that have been in the field for 20+ years. We will help you transition your vision into a solid plan that sets you up for success.
- **BEGIN A FINANCIAL PLAN:** Create an asset inventory, research and collect accurate estimates for start-up costs and draft your budget.
- **CHOOSE A BUSINESS STRUCTURE:** Choosing the best legal structure for your business can be difficult. Work with a local attorney to figure out what structure is best for your business.
- **MARKET RESEARCH:** Dive deeper and get specific about your intended products and/or services.

3 BUILD A SUPPORT SYSTEM

- **FIND A MENTOR & GET INVOLVED:** Your fellow business owners and community members can be an excellent resource for working through strategies and improving your business.
- **JOIN THE BOONE COUNTY EMERGING LEADERS:** Meet other young professionals within the area and enjoy the networking opportunities that the group provides. Free membership!
- **JOIN AN ONLINE INFORMATION GROUP:** Subscribe to online networking and informational business groups.

2 TIME TO TAKE ACTION

- **WORK WITH A LOCAL LENDER:** As you move forward, you will want to work with your local bank to determine how much financing you qualify for. BCDA staff will then work with you to determine if there are any assistance programs, gap financing, or loan programs that you may qualify for.
- **FIND A LOCATION:** It's time to find a location that best fits your business needs.
- **ORGANIZATIONAL PLAN:** Develop a plan to keep your financials organized and fulfill tax responsibilities.
- **HIRE & DOCUMENT EMPLOYEES:** Develop a hiring process, business policies, and work with a local CPA to determine what new hire paperwork is needed, and what fees may be associated with employees.
- **MARKETING & ADVERTISING PLAN:** Develop a plan of action for the launch/opening of your business and for the years to come. We know that marketing/advertising is difficult to keep up with, but don't worry! BCDA will connect you with resources to assist you.

4 PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

- **START A RETIREMENT FUND**
- **BEGIN TRANSITION PLANNING:** If possible, identify your successor.

TIMELINE FOR GRANT AWARDS

Complete steps 1 & 2 within 4 months of program enrollment	\$1,500
1st year business anniversary	\$1,500
2nd year business anniversary	\$1,500
3rd year business anniversary	\$500

CONTACT US

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