



Better Business Basics Plus

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The Better Business Basics Plus (BBBp) program is provided by the Wytheville-Wythe-Bland Chamber of Commerce, Mount Rogers Planning District Commission, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, and Virginia Tourism Corporation.

BBBp is designed to assist new entrepreneurial ventures and/or existing businesses to develop a deeper understanding of the operations of a profitable business with an added Plus of receiving incentives.

The program will consist of a six-week intensive business training course that will culminate with a business plan presentation/competition in which participants will be able to compete for grant money and additional prizes worth over \$5,000. Some grant money will primarily be focused on new or expanding businesses to locate in the Town of Rural Retreat in support of the local revitalization efforts. Entrepreneurs in the Town of Wytheville and Rural Retreat along with all the communities in the Counties of Wythe and Bland can participate in the training courses.

Business Training	6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
September 10, 2015	Intro to Business Ideas & Business Plan
September 17, 2015	Business Plan & More Information Business Idea
September 24, 2015	Cash Flow Planning/Financing Your Business
October 1, 2015	Operations Planning with Legal & Accounting
October 8, 2015	Marketing & Customer Service
October 15, 2015	Presentation of Business Idea

This business training series is an excellent networking and mentorship opportunity. Participants will acquire important skills and receive tools necessary for business success. At the conclusion of the training sessions, participants will submit a written business plan and present their idea to a panel of judges.



Benefits of Participation

- Incentives to start or expand a business
- Develop a deeper understanding of planning for a successful business
- Networking opportunities with other entrepreneurs and professionals

Preferred Business Categories

- Recreational
- Sporting Goods
- Art Related
- Specialty Food
- Apparel
- Clothing, Accessories and Jewelry
- Gifts
- Furniture and Home Décor

Program Requirements

1. Must be 18 years of age.
2. Must be a U.S. Citizen or legally allowed to work in the United States.
3. Must be willing to set up or expand their business.
4. Applicant will be full-time proprietor of the business.
5. Idea or business concept must be the original work of the applicant.
6. Must be able to attend all classroom sessions unless an excused absence is granted by the Organizing Team for extenuating circumstances.
7. If you are awarded prize monies, you must be ready to open the business by April 30, 2016.
8. The winning businesses will be tracked for three years to assess the success of the program. All winners will be required to provide business and financial information to the Chamber on a quarterly basis.
9. Business idea should fit into one of the preferred business categories OR explain how and why your business idea is needed.





Awards

Awards will be given for qualified business expense once an eligible business is established. The awards are non-negotiable & non-transferable. Participants must abide by all Awards Guidelines. Business ideas will be scored on – Business Description/Concept, Competitive Advantage, Business Idea Match with Local Needs and Business Impact. A decision of the panel is final for awards.

Sponsored by

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Useful Link:

Small Business Administration

- www.sba.gov

Top Notch Better Business Basic

Award (2 available)

- \$2,500 in Grant Money
- Advertising Package - Three Rivers Media
- Chamber Membership
- Two Hour Consultation - Leonard's Accounting and Tax Service
- 1,000 Color Business Cards & Marketing Consultation - Wordsprint
- Locality Incentives

Other Better Business Basic

Awards (4 available)

- \$500 in Grant Money
- Advertising Package - Three Rivers Media
- Chamber Membership
- One Hour Consultation - Leonard's Accounting and Tax Service
- Marketing Consultation - Wordsprint
- Locality Incentives

Disclaimer: Participants in the Better Business Basics Plus program gives entrants no guarantees, expressed or implied, to any awards funding. The program sponsors reserve the right to disqualify any participant from the program at any time for any reason. Disqualified participants cannot receive prizes. Award recipients are generally expected to open their business by April 30, 2016, and use awarded funds and in-kind services within one year of award. However, applicants may propose an alternate timeline as part of their proposal. Better Business Basics Plus or its Organizers are not responsible for any confidentiality issues that may occur during the course of the classes or during presentations and will not be involved in any way with disputes arising thereafter.

Wytheville-Wythe-Bland Chamber of Commerce
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