



SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND EMERGING ENTERPRISES
"home of dreamers and doers"

Announcing:

The Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities (EBV)

I am pleased to announce an exciting new initiative offered through the Whitman School of Management at Syracuse University. This program is called 'The Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities' (EBV), and is designed as an intensive training program positioned to offer cutting edge, experiential training in **entrepreneurship and small business management** to veterans with disabilities resulting from their service in Iraq and Afghanistan. The goal of the EBV program is to open the door to entrepreneurship and small business ownership to our veterans, developing their competencies in the many steps and activities associated with creating and sustaining an entrepreneurial venture, and also in coordinating with programs and services unique to veterans and others with disabilities. Put simply, we represent entrepreneurship as a means through which veterans with disabilities can engage the economic engine of their community, and ultimately our nation.

The inaugural bootcamp will be offered during the summer of 2007. We anticipate enrolling approximately 20 veterans in this first bootcamp – individuals who have expressed an interest in entrepreneurship, and demonstrate both the ability and motivation necessary to successfully complete the program and subsequently start their own business. ***Importantly, we are offering this program entirely without cost to the veteran.*** It is our position that these men and women have already earned the price of admission, and we have assumed the responsibility to raise the necessary funds to cover all costs associated with this initiative. Following the first offering of the program this summer, we see the program growing to 30-35 attendees at each EBV, with the residency lasting two full weeks. It is our hope to offer 2-3 EBV programs per year beginning in 2008. The program will involve two phases.

First, delegates in the EBV will participate in a self-study curriculum, facilitated by an online discussion and assessment module, which will be moderated by entrepreneurship faculty and graduate students from the Whitman School of Management. This module will begin the 15th of July, and run through early August.

Phase two will take place from August 11th through August 19th, and involves delegates traveling to Syracuse University to participate in an onsite program modeled after an existing, and very successful entrepreneurship training program, already established at Syracuse University. Key topical areas addressed in the program will include opportunity recognition, business concept development, profit models, resource acquisition strategies, business plan development, venture launch methods, guerrilla marketing approaches, deal structuring and negotiation, valuation,

entrepreneurial finance and unique funding opportunities for veterans with disabilities, operations and operating models, service delivery, risk management, human resource management, and legal and regulatory challenges.

The Whitman School of Management is home to one of the most respected and comprehensive entrepreneurship programs in the world. Recently ranked by *Entrepreneurship Magazine* and the *Princeton Review* as the #1 entrepreneurship program in the United States, the expertise and training of the entrepreneurship faculty at Whitman is unmatched. The Entrepreneurship and Emerging Enterprises (EEE) Program at Syracuse University includes 18 faculty members and twenty-five course offerings. Currently serving over 1200 students a year, the program includes an undergraduate major, undergraduate minor, MBA concentration and a Ph.D. in entrepreneurship.

Collaborating with the Whitman School of Management, and infusing the core disability-related content, is the Burton Blatt Institute. The Burton Blatt Institute (BBI), located at Syracuse University, is building the premier organization to advance civic, economic, and social participation of persons with disabilities in a global society.

More information about this program, eligibility requirements, and application procedures can be found at: <http://whitman.syr.edu/eee/veterans>. We ask that you share this information within the community of veterans with disabilities that you serve, and specifically highlight this initiative to those individuals who you feel are likely candidates. **Importantly, the application deadline for our first bootcamp is June 5, 2007.**

Questions about the program application procedures and eligibility requirements can be directed to Ellie O'Neill EBVinfo@syr.edu or to 315-443-8736.

Thank you in advance for your support.

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