



MaTCH

Makerspace Training, Collaboration and Hiring (MaTCH) Pilot Competition

mak·er·space

/ˈmākərˌspās/

noun

1: A space where new ideas are fostered and experience is shared; A collaborative workspace for making, learning, exploring and sharing ideas.

2: A space open to people looking to obtain new skills, including current and aspiring entrepreneurs. May offer a variety of maker tools such as 3D printers, laser cutters, woodworking machines, soldering irons and sewing machines.

The MaTCH Pilot Competition seeks to address the job skills and placement gaps faced by U.S. businesses by providing funding to create or expand programs with job-specific and soft skills training within existing makerspaces. Uniquely positioned to help increase workforce development in U.S. cities, makerspaces:

- Embrace independent work and self-employment
- Focus on new paths for vocational education
- Generate new apprenticeship opportunities
- Build new job skills
- Boost jobs that provide a pathway into the middle class

The MaTCH Pilot Challenge: to create or expand programs that provide job-specific and soft skills training within existing makerspaces, including industry or trade certifications when feasible. The goal is to have all program graduates immediately placed in positions with previously-identified employers that are in need of skilled labor. The SBA will award up to \$1 million total in prizes to fund winning proposals.

To Enter: Applicants must submit a business plan that, among other things, details their team's qualifications, experience, and resources; the proposed training curriculum; the nature and length of the training/certification program; and the number of trainees that will be accommodated.

The **MaTCH Pilot Competition** entry form, rules and requirements available online at:

[SBA.gov/MaTCH](https://www.sba.gov/MaTCH)

Submission Deadline: July 8, 2019



U.S. Small Business
Administration