RE: STEP IT UP BOSTON – SBA Emerging Leaders/Emerging 200

Dear Small Business Owner,

The U.S. Small Business Administration Massachusetts Office is now accepting "***expressions of interest***" for this year's Emerging Leaders/Emerging 200 Program. We are searching for fifteen Boston area businesses that are looking to grow and create jobs and who have the **drive, energy and passion** to be part of the eighth year Emerging Leaders/E200 Boston program**.**

Boston was one of the ten inaugural cities when E200 was first launched by the SBA seven years ago and it continues to grow and expand across the US.

To date, we have graduated seven successful classes from the program….and the stats show that businesses that successfully complete the program are seeing results – **increased revenues, contracts and job creation**. This initiative focuses on small, poised-for-growth companies. It is a six month intensive curriculum that focuses on winning local strategies and attracting capital to fuel growth.

Entrepreneurs will be in class for 40 hours of instruction time, taught by Interise, divided over 13 class sessions. Participants will also spend roughly 14 hours in *CEO Mentoring Groups*. The average time out-of-class time commitment is three hours for each class, though some sessions demand up to six hours of preparation time. All the instructional approaches – classes, *CEO Mentoring Groups*, and self-paced learning are interconnected and of equal importance. Classes meet roughly every other week during the evening from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. so as to not take you away from your daily business commitments.

We have been fortunate to have the following co-sponsors to the Emerging Leaders/E200 Program in past years: Hispanic American Chamber of Commerce, Small Business Development Centers, Center for Women and Enterprise, SCORE, City of Boston, State Office of Supplier Diversity, and local lending institutions.

The program is **free of charge** and will run from April, 2015 to November, 2015. All that is required on the part of the small business is a time commitment (60- 80 hours total) by the senior executive of the firm and a desire to take your business to the next level. If you are interested in becoming an Emerging Leader/E200 participant, please fill out and return the enclosed form or register online. Companies that will benefit the most from the program should be in business for, at least, t**hree years** and have **revenues of, at least, $400,000**.

We are looking for this eighth year to the best yet. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO HELP TAKE YOUR BUSINESS TO THE NEXT LEVEL! If you have any questions, please contact David Polatin in my office at 617/565-5562.

Please register your interest online at: interise.org/sbaemergingleaders **or fill out the form on the reverse side.**

Thank you,

Robert Nelson
District Director
SBA Massachusetts Office

I'm interested in being an Emerging Leader/Emerging 200 participant!

BUSINESS NAME: _____

OWNER/PRESIDENT/CEO NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____
_____

DAYTIME PHONE: _____ **FAX NUMBER:** _____

EMAIL: _____

Briefly Describe Your Business and Interest in Emerging Leaders/e200:
_____
_____
_____

Years in business: _____ **Approximate revenues:** _____ **Number of employees**_____

Return to the U.S. Small Business Administration:

By Mail: U.S. Small Business Administration
ATTN: David Polatin
10 Causeway Street, Room 265 ***OR*** ***FAX to: 202/481-1517***
Boston, MA 02222

Completion of this form is an indication of your interest in the e200 program and does not guarantee that your firm will be an e200 participant. Space is limited and offered on a first come, first served basis.

***** Companies that will most benefit from this training are small businesses that have been in business three years or more, have achieved revenues of $400,000 or greater, and are located in the inner city. *****

Co-sponsorship Authorization # participation in this co-sponsored activity is not an endorsement of the views, opinions, products or services of any co-sponsor or other person or entity. All SBA programs and services are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Reasonable arrangements for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance.

For Questions, contact David Polatin at 617/565-5562 or david.polatin@sba.gov
Fax completed form to 202/481-1517