

Press Release



CareerSource Pinellas
13805 58th Street N., Suite 2-140
Clearwater, FL 33760
www.careersourcepinellas.com

CareerSource Tampa Bay
5100 W. Kennedy Blvd., Suite 300
Tampa, Florida 33609
www.careersourcetampabay.com

For Immediate Release
Tuesday, August 25, 2015
Contact: Kaitlyn Head
Phone: (813) 397-2060

Startup Quest® Concludes with Final Pitch Contest

HILLSBOROUGH AND PINELLAS COUNTIES (August 25, 2015) – Startup Quest® Pitch Contest is coming September 1st at Feather Sound Country Club from 1:00pm- 5:00pm. Eight teams of entrepreneurs will compete for top place and cash prizes as they pitch their startup ideas for a business from an undeveloped university based technology. The Pitch Contest hosted by CareerSource Pinellas and CareerSource Tampa Bay, is free and open to the public.

The Pitch Contest is the conclusion to the 10-week training program designed to train aspiring entrepreneurs and job seekers by teaching the elements of starting and continuing a business. The participants work in seasoned-mentor led teams to commercialize technologies from NASA, USF, FSU, UCF, and UF.

This event will be the fifth and final Startup Quest® Pitch Contest held in the Tampa Bay area as we conclude three years of a study on a US Department of Labor grant.

Some general facts from the Startup Quest® program for the last three years follow:

- Startup Quest® has enrolled over 500 underemployed or unemployed professionals
- 82% have graduated the program and received certificates in entrepreneurship
- 54 businessmen and women from the Tampa Bay area have volunteered as team mentors
- Over 40 CEO's, entrepreneurs, and executives have told their stories as guest speakers

Anyone interested in attending the Pitch Contest should register at: <http://bit.ly/1Gme1gx>

Both the Pinellas and Hillsborough Startup Quest® programs are part of a \$12 million statewide grant from the U.S. Department of Labor. The goal is to train job seekers for new skill sets to become entrepreneurs while educating them on opportunities to commercialize technologies from Florida's public universities and NASA. Startup Quest® is open to underemployed or unemployed individuals with college degrees. Startup Quest® is no cost program to those who qualify, with priority of service for veterans.

For more information about Startup Quest® please contact:

Kaitlyn Head, Marketing Associate at 813-397-2060 or headk@careersourcetampabay.com

Walter McCracken, Program Coordinator at 813-397-2074 or mccrackenw@careersourcetampabay.com

###

About CareerSource Pinellas and CareerSource Tampa Bay

For more information on CareerSource Pinellas' or CareerSource Tampa Bay's programs and services, please visit www.careersourcepinellas.com or www.careersourcetampabay.com. CareerSource Tampa Bay and CareerSource Pinellas are equal opportunity employers/programs. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. All voice telephone numbers on this document may be reached by persons using TTY/TDD equipment via the Florida Relay Service at 711.