



Syracuse Emerging Leaders FAQ

What is Emerging Leaders? SBA will offer the Emerging Leaders Initiative to 15-20 small business owners (participants) in the Syracuse region. The initiative uses a copyrighted curriculum called the StreetWise Steps™ to Small Business Growth. The curriculum gives small business owners an opportunity to gain knowledge and experience through a combination of 1) executive education; 2) practical tips based on “real-life” business experience, and; 3) advice from business leaders that can be readily applied.

Is Emerging Leaders offered in all SBA district offices? This is the ninth year the program will be offered in Syracuse! In addition, the program has expanded and for the first time will also be hosted in the Albany Region. For a complete list of host locations we invite you to visit <https://interise.org/sbaemergingleaders>.

What will the StreetWise Steps™ Curriculum cover? There are five modules that will be covered in class.

Module 1: Business and Leadership

Module 2: Financials

Module 3: Marketing and Sales

Module 4: Resources- People, Accessing Capital and Government Contracting

Module 5: Putting it all together- Strategic Growth Plan Presentations

Is there a cost? This FREE training program is offered by SBA at no cost to the participating small businesses.

What is the time commitment? The Emerging Leaders classes will begin in late April and end in November. Participants will commit to 40 hours of in-class time, divided over 13 in-person sessions. Sessions are typically held every other week. Participants will also spend at least 12 hours over the course of the curriculum in self-directed CEO mentoring groups. Participants should expect to spend 3-4 hours preparing for each session by completing out-of-class, practical session preparation. All instructional in-class sessions, CEO Mentoring Groups and session preparation are interconnected and of equal importance. In total, each participant can expect to commit approximately 100 hours to analyzing their business and planning for growth. Classes are held on Tuesday mornings.

How many classes may participants miss? To receive a certificate, participants cannot miss more than two classroom sessions. If a participant misses more than two classes, they



will be encouraged to continue to attend the classes for learning, but may not receive a certificate for completing Emerging Leaders.

What will the Small Business get out of Emerging Leaders? There are no guarantees, but the statistics of those businesses completing the curriculum speak for themselves.

Emerging Leaders Graduates have reported the following information via survey:

- **62%** of survey respondents reported **increased revenues**.
- Respondents have secured more than **\$1 billion** in government contracts.
- Respondents accessed over **\$73M in new financing**.
- Respondents reported creating **2,000 new full time positions** since program inception.
- **70%** of respondents reported **maintaining or creating new jobs** in their communities.

Want to be notified when we are accepting applications? We are currently accepting applications now through March 31st, 2021 you can apply at <https://interise.org/sbaemergingleaders> and select Syracuse as the program location.

Who should I contact with additional questions? Contact Steve Barr at stephen.barr@sba.gov or Jeffrey Boyce jeffrey.boyce@sba.gov