







2014-2015 Opportunities for Missouri Young Entrepreneurs

Camps and Academies	
	<p>Summers @ Mizzou Build-a-Business Camp, Columbia Build-a-Business Camp is “where youth biz ideas become reality!” Plan to earn your own income, work at something you love, or take up a cause that makes a difference in the world. Team up with students, entrepreneurs, social media experts, and business advisors who can help you. Finish camp with a blueprint for a microbusiness you can start while still in school. Camp dates next summer are July 12-16, 2015. http://4h.missouri.edu/programs/summers/buildabiz/</p>
	<p>SBTDC Biz Boot Camp, Columbia The Missouri Small Business & Technology Development Centers (MO SBTDC) help businesses in every stage: from concept to startup, growth to renewal, mature to succession. Educational offerings are available for a variety of business subject areas, and advisors can help you succeed at every point. Offered periodically, Biz Boot Camps are open to all. http://missouribusiness.net/sbt/dc/</p>
	<p>University of Central Missouri “Entrepreneur or Bust” Camp, Warrensburg You can gain real experience as an entrepreneur during this weeklong camp in July 2015. The camp empowers you to create your own business, and you’ll have the opportunity to meet with local entrepreneurs, business coaches, teachers, and more! No prior experience is necessary, and students will stay on UCM’s campus in Warrensburg during the camp. https://www.ucmo.edu/sbt/dc/</p>
	<p>Summer Youth Biz Boot Camp, West Plains In July 2015, Missouri high school students in the Springfield/West Plains region can study how to become a better entrepreneur. The camp aims to demonstrate to campers that entrepreneurship is a viable career path, and campers will learn how to run a business and will work in teams to create innovative business ideas. http://ozsbi.com/registerbizbootcamp</p>
	<p>MU Trulaske Business Academy, Columbia This weeklong camp focuses on introducing high school students to disciplines within the business field. Students gain hands-on experience in the business world. The camp takes place at MU’s Trulaske College of Business, and applications for the program will open in March 2015. http://business.missouri.edu/trulaske-business-academy</p>
	<p>Missouri Agribusiness Academy, St. Louis If you’re a high school sophomore and interested in starting an agricultural business, this program selects 30 students to participate in a 5-day academy in June 2015. Students will learn how to become stronger agricultural leaders and how to understand the different challenges that come with operating an agribusiness. http://agriculture.mo.gov/connect/youth/agribusacademy.php</p>

Pitch Competitions and Events



Show Me 4-H Wares at the Missouri State Fair/ 4-H Salesmanship Contest

Any 4-H member, pair of 4-H members, or group of up to three 4-H members from the same club, is eligible to apply to market or sell *original* products or services at the Missouri State Fair. Youth enrolled in the 4-H entrepreneurship project and/or participating in county fair booths are especially encouraged to apply. Youth exhibitors are automatically enrolled in the state salesmanship contest, receive feedback from "mystery shoppers" on site, and compete for prizes.

<http://4h.missouri.edu/programs/entrepreneur>



1 Million Cups, Columbia, STL, and KC

Each Wednesday morning in each 1 Million Cups city, two early-stage startups present their companies to a diverse audience of mentors, advisers and, most importantly, other entrepreneurs. Each founder presents for six minutes and then fields audience questions for another 20 minutes. Entrepreneurs, innovators, and interested community members from the surrounding region meet at 9 a.m. Columbia location is Regional Economic Development Inc. (REDI), 500 E. Walnut St., Suite 102.

<http://www.1millioncups.com/>



MADE in Missouri State Entrepreneurship Competition, Sedalia

This competition is open to any Missouri resident (youth or adult) who wants to start a business or who is currently working on a business. The youth category is open to contestants age 18 and under. Applications for this competition close May 31, 2015. The competition aids young entrepreneurs in creating business plans and startup processes, and contestants pitch their ideas to judges for cash prizes.

<http://www.mvcaa.net/index.cfm?Page=MADEinMissouriCompetition>



#BOOM Pitch Competition, Columbia and Mid-Missouri Region

This pitch competition is open to any individual or team of up to four living in Mid-Missouri. Thirty-six finalists are selected from written entries to present at the #BOOM Bounce Pitch Competition. Categories and cash prizes are available for high school entries, social entrepreneurs, most innovative business concept, and overall. Next event is coming up April 2015!

<http://www.comoboomb.com/pitch-competition>



Startup Weekend, Columbia, STL and KC

Startup Weekend is a global grassroots movement of active and empowered entrepreneurs who are learning the basics of funding startups and launching successful ventures. SW is the largest community of passionate entrepreneurs with over 1,800 past events in 120 countries around the world in 2014. Entrepreneurs, coders, and programmers team up and pitch ideas at the end of the weekend for prizes and seed capital. In Columbia, SW takes place each October at the Museo Building, 3500 Buttonwood Drive.

<http://columbia.startupweekend.org/>



Hack Mizzou, Columbia

Spend a weekend with computer whizzes from across Missouri at this hack-a-thon event. The goal is to collaborate with other developers and designers to create mobile apps and websites, and all high school and undergraduate college students are eligible to attend. Participants do not need to be experts in this area and can bring minimal knowledge. Projects are judged and prizes are awarded to the winning teams. The event lasts for an entire weekend, and food is provided!

<http://2014.hackmizzou.com/>

	<p>CLIMB, Columbia and Warrensburg CLIMB is a student organization founded by University of Missouri with an initial grant from Kauffman Foundation. The mission is to promote and facilitate the exchange of entrepreneurial ideas and create a meeting place for people with ideas and people with experience and resources to realize those ideas. CLIMB Mizzou offers a technology pitch competition, seed grant competition, and entrepreneurial speaker series. http://www.climbmizzou.org/</p>
<p>2014 Missouri Entrepreneurship Challenge</p>	<p>Missouri Entrepreneurship Challenge, Kansas City This program gives high school students the opportunity to develop a business plan. An online round is open to all high schools in Missouri. Teams of five students have a two week window to develop and submit their business plan. A team of judges selects the top twenty business plans and those teams are invited to the State Entrepreneurship Challenge held on the campus of the University of Missouri-Kansas City. http://mochallenge.com/#home</p>
	<p>Rural Entrepreneurship Challenge The first national business competition focused exclusively on rural entrepreneurs, the Farm Bureau Rural Entrepreneurship Challenge highlights entrepreneurship and innovation from the heartland of Rural America. This year's deadline has passed, but anyone who lives in a rural community is eligible to apply. Two of the top ten semi-finalists are entrepreneurs from rural Missouri! Winners can earn up to \$30,000. http://www.strongruralamerica.com/challenge/</p>
<h2>Financing and Scholarships</h2>	
	<p>Central Missouri Community Action, Mid-Missouri CMCA offers a microenterprise program that aims to help entrepreneurs create innovative businesses. Classroom training is offered through a 6-week course called Operation Jump Start First Step. CMCA also offers information about loans and provides loans to entrepreneurs to help kick-start businesses. http://showmeaction.com/</p>
	<p>Show Me Innovation Center, Fulton This fledgling center brings entrepreneurs from mid-Missouri together to create innovative businesses. Mentorship, training, and other resources will soon be provided to those who participate in this innovative program in a rural setting! http://www.showmeinnovation.org/</p>
	<p>USDA Rural Youth Loan Program Youth can access loans of up to \$5,000 as part of a 4-H, FFA, or other agricultural project that will produce income under the guidance of an advisor. With agreeable terms and low-interest rates, youth can utilize this program to start an agribusiness. Applicants must be between age 10 and 20. http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=fmlp&topic=ryl</p>
	<p>National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) NFIB supports small businesses. The organization sponsors the NFIB Young Entrepreneur Awards program, which aims to raise awareness about the importance of entrepreneurship for youth. Scholarships are offered to high school seniors across the nation, from \$1,000 to \$10,000. Applications are open until December 18, 2014. http://www.nfib.com/foundations/yef/yef-programs/young-entrepreneur-awards/</p>

