

## 10 Tips on Writing a Winning Grant Application

- 1. Check out this online guide
- 2. Get crystal clear on your project, (how you will use the grant funding to accelerate your business' growth). Free assistance is provided by:
  - a. SCORE request a mentor
  - b. <u>SBTDC</u> become a client
  - c. Alamance Community College SBC make an appointment
- 3. Don't put off this application and its required documents. Start today! If you plan to use one of the free resources listed above, CONTACT THEM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE! If you wait too long, you may not be able to get an appointment, or have enough time to act on their advice/suggestions.
- 4. Make sure your narratives are compelling and accurately reflect you as an entrepreneur. Be honest about your entrepreneurial journey don't be afraid to include some of the lessons you've learned along the way. Judges will be considering the merits of investing in you, the entrepreneur, just as much as they will be looking at your company.
- 5. Have a "neutral" third party look over your application before you submit it.
- 6. Spelling and grammar do count.
- 7. Make sure you respond to <u>every</u> question on the application. The organizations above can assist with business plans. If you don't have financial statements for your business, now is the time to start developing them! Contact a bookkeeper or accountant. This will be a wise investment for your business.
- 8. The deadline is <u>firm</u> and there will be <u>no exceptions</u>. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL 4:58 pm on DECEMBER 6<sup>th</sup> TO SUBMIT!
- 9. Save a copy of your application. If you are selected to move to the second phase of the competition, you will need it.
- 10. There will only be one \$25,000 winner. You are competing against all other entrepreneurs who apply. We hope that as you go through this application process, you will gain something of value that you can use to ensure the growth and prosperity of your business even if you aren't named the grant winner.