



VE Program Updates – August 2016

Start Up Funding

All firms must complete the **Business Registration Form** before doing business in the VE marketplace. New firms will be eligible for seed funding through successful completion of the Business Registration Form.

All firms are eligible for three basic sources of cash to support their operations: (1) **equity** funding through Angel Investors (*new for this year*); (2) **debt** financing through a Small Business Loan; and/or (3) in-network and out-of-network **sales**.

Firms should refer to the **Capital Needs Flowchart for VE Firms** to determine available options for raising capital.

Information and resources regarding the business registration form and sources of cash can be found on the Portal / Administration / Reference Files. These resources are also available in the Accounting & Finance Reference Files.

Student Assessments

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:

Contrary to prior communication, there will be no additional charges for the VE Pre/Post Assessment for the 16-17 school year. All schools will have access to the pre/post-test provided through VE and accessed through the Portal (Path: Portal / Teacher Tools / Assessments).

The login information will be the same as last year for existing schools and we will generate access and report codes for new schools. Please contact your regional director for account access. The pre-test is open for use and will be available through October 30.

Schools may still also elect to participate in the NOCTI - Virtual Enterprises exam (test code 7975). The cost for administering the online pre/post assessment and performance assessment is \$32 per student and ordered/paid directly through NOCTI. Students who pass the NOCTI post-test with a score of 70 or better are eligible for three (3) college credits in applied business. More information can be found here: [NOCTI Test Code 7975](#)

Student Portfolios and Career Readiness Framework

Additional assessment opportunities are available through the completion of student portfolios and implementation of an employee evaluation system aligned to the new VE Career Readiness Framework.

During the past year, VE partnered with talent strategy experts from Deloitte to conduct research on how education and business are defining career readiness and subsequently established a comprehensive Career Readiness Framework that captures the key competencies and skills that students develop throughout the program, accelerating their growth and preparing them for success in the workforce.

Information on Student Portfolio Projects and the VE Career Readiness Framework can be found on the Portal (Path: Portal / Teacher Tools / Assessments).

Trade Show Calendar

There will be 10 VE Trade Shows taking place throughout the US during the 2016-17 school year. The list of dates and locations of all US trade shows can be found on the Portal/Trade Shows. Additionally, all details and information about upcoming trade shows will be available here: <https://veinternational.org/regional-trade-shows/>

Firms will register for all trade shows and associated competitions through the Portal (Path: Portal / Firm Admin / Trade Show Registration).

Perhaps your school may be interested in participating in an international trade show. A list of international trade show opportunities can be found here: <http://www.penworldwide.org/tradefairs.aspx>

2017 Youth Business Summit

The 2017 YBS will take place April 3-5, 2017 in New York City. With a new venue for 2017, this year's YBS will be an exciting and fresh experience bringing together over 3,000 participants from across the world.

Information can be found here: <https://veinternational.org/2017-youth-business-summit/events/>



National Business Plan Competition

This year's National Business Plan Competition will take place on Monday, April 3, 2017 as part of the YBS at Microsoft. In addition to the NBPC, firms will have the opportunity to participate in several other small team competitions, including Human Resources, Marketing, and Accounting competitions.

Qualification for the NBPC will be achieved through local and/or state-level competitions. Details on these competitions will be provided by your regional director. Rubrics and guidelines for the 2017 NBPC will be available at the beginning of September (Path: Portal / Business Plan).

National Online Competitions

The national online competitions were a huge success last year and will be expanded to include more opportunities for all areas of the firm this year. A complete list of this year's National Online Competitions can be found at veinternational.org/national-online-competitions/.

Portal Accounts and How-to Manual

At this time, all new teachers should have received a username and password to access the VE Portal. If you have not yet received your login credentials, please reach out to your regional director for access.

See the Regional Map to find your regional director or state coordinator:

<https://veinternational.org/regions/>

The Portal User Manual can be found here:

http://resources.veinternational.org/Integrated_Data_Portal_How-To.pdf

Portal help, support and user manuals can be found on the right sidebar of the Portal.

VE Junior Ventures Career Academy

Explore the new [VE-JV Career Academy](#), a middle school program developed by VE! The VE-JV Career Academy has been designed to help middle school students explore career opportunities and to learn and apply the technology skills used in business. This program will be open to all interested middle schools throughout the country beginning in the 2017-18 school year.

