



In recognition of the contributions of entrepreneurs to economic growth of our communities, Colorado Mountain College's Timberline Campus announces the Spring 2009 Mini-Grant Program for Student Entrepreneurs.

Eligibility

Entrepreneurial Mini-Grants from \$250 to \$750 are available to students who propose entrepreneurial projects with economic potential. The mini-grant application process is open to all local high school and college students who have an idea to start as business or who have started a business.

Elevator Pitch Competition

All students who apply for the Entrepreneurial Student Mini-Grants will participate in the Elevator Pitch Competition. The applicant students will pitch their business idea to a committee of practicing entrepreneurs and entrepreneurship instructors.

An elevator pitch is an overview of a business idea or commercial opportunity. The term "elevator pitch" comes from being able to convince an investor to consider invest in your business idea in the amount of time it would take to reach your floor while riding in an elevator with her or him. Venture capitalists often judge the quality of an idea on the basis of the quality of the entrepreneur's elevator pitch, which quickly weeds out bad ideas and weak teams (John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center, The University of Iowa).

Timeline and Application Procedure

Monday, March 30	Elevator Pitch Workshop New Discovery Building 12:00 noon – 1:30 pm (<i>Walk-ins welcome</i>)
Wednesday, April 1	Registration Deadline Applicants register online at www.cmcneverstoplearning.com
Monday, April 6	Elevator Pitch Competition 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Note: Each applicant must bring a hard copy of an executive summary to the competition. The executive summary must include a description of the problem being solved, the product or service, the target market and competitive advantage, and the business model; i.e., how the business will make money

Competition Format

Each applicant will have two minutes to make her or his pitch to a panel of judges. The presentation will be followed by up to five minutes of Q&A.

Judging Criteria

Elevator pitches will be judged on the viability of the business concept and the applicant's actual intent to pursue the business.