



NEWS RELEASE

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SBA Seeks Boston Inner City Entrepreneurs for Participation in Executive Level Training Program

Boston -- The U.S. Small Business Administration is searching for 15 small, poised-for-growth inner-city Boston companies with potential for job creation to participate in their *2010 Emerging 200 Program*, a six month intensive executive level training initiative. Boston was one of the original ten cities selected to host the E200 Program three years ago. The number of cities chosen to participate has been increased from 15 in 2009 to 22 in 2010.

E200 participants are expected to attend 40 hours of classes spread out over 13 sessions. Class members are also asked to spend 14 hours in *CEO Mentoring Groups*. All the instructional approaches – classes, *CEO Mentoring Groups*, and self-paced learning, are interconnected and of equal importance.

“Over the last few years e200 has been a catalyst for expanding opportunities for many promising small businesses in underserved communities – in particular those who have been most impacted by these tough economic times,” SBA Administrator Karen Mills said. “Graduates of the program have increased their revenue, created jobs and helped drive local economic growth in their communities. SBA’s commitment to not only continue, but expand the program, will build on this success and provide even more entrepreneurs in underserved communities with the support, resources and skills to succeed.”

Companies that will benefit the most from the program should be in business for **at least three years** and have **revenues in excess of roughly \$400,000**. Companies will be selected on a first come first served basis.

The program is **free of charge** and will run from April, 2010 to November, 2010. All that is required on the part of the small business is a time commitment by the senior executive of the firm and a desire to take your business to the next level.

Please contact David Polatin at SBA at 617-565-5562 to express your interest. To view information on former Boston participants and for an over view of the program, visit SBA’s website at www.sba.gov/ma and click on the two e200 links under the Spotlight section and the “local success story” link.

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