

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kellie Snaith, Marketing Director, SBDC at UCF, 407.420.4850 or ksnaith@bus.ucf.edu

SBDC at UCF Helping Businesses Create Opportunities with Local and State Governments through Workshop and Business Matchmaking Session

Orlando, FL-Monday, May 3, 2010. The Small Business Development Center at University of Central Florida is offering a two-day workshop and a business matchmaking session, "Doing Business with Local & State Governments," on Wednesday, May 26, 8 am – 4 pm, and Thursday, May 27, 8 am – 12 pm. The workshop is being held at the SBDC at UCF located in the Disney Entrepreneur Center, 315 East Robinson Street, Suite 100, Orlando, FL 32801. The registration fee is \$95. Orange County businesses pay only \$45 through scholarships provided by Orange County Government. Registration fee includes program book, continental breakfast and lunch on Wednesday and refreshments on Thursday. The workshop is part of the SBDC at UCF's National Small Business Week Celebration, May 24 – 28, 2010.

The workshop will provide small business owners with the knowledge and tools to immediately begin creating business opportunities with local/state governments and other entities. Small business owners will learn procurement procedures, the proposal process and how to succeed in winning local/state government contracts. The first day of the workshop will be facilitated by Tony Espinosa, procurement expert for the SBDC at UCF and its Procurement Technical Assistance Center, and will include the following topics: doing business with the State of Florida; contract law and the RFP; dispelling myths in procurement; and proposal writing tips.

A business matchmaking session will take place on the second day – allowing participants to meet with a limited number of local, state and federal agency purchasing department representatives. The matchmaking arrangement gives small business owners the opportunity to learn first-hand what the purchasing departments are looking for in a vendor. Agencies invited to participate in the matchmaking session include: City of Orlando; City of Winter Park; Greater Orlando Aviation Authority, OUC; Orange County; Orange County Public Schools, Seminole County, UCF and many more. (Agency participation is subject to change the day of the event.)

For additional information or to register for this workshop, call 407.420.4850 or visit www.sbdcorlando.com.

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With its main office in the Disney Entrepreneur Center in Downtown Orlando, the SBDC at UCF is part of the UCF College of Business Administration and the Florida Small Business Development Center Network, providing business seminars and free one-on-one business consultation to small business owners. The SBDC at UCF serves an eight-county area that includes Brevard, Flagler, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Sumter, and Volusia counties and maintains six satellite service centers. In 2009, the SBDC at UCF helped entrepreneurs create or retain 1,627 jobs, win contract awards worth \$31.4 million, acquire \$14.8 million in capital formation, and increase sales by \$31.7 million. The SBDC at UCF is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration.

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