Dear Veterans’ Resource Provider:

I am writing to update you and your staff about the Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities (EBV) program, an initiative that offers cutting edge training in entrepreneurship and small business management to post 9/11 Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines with service connected disabilities—and a passion for entrepreneurship! The EBV program is supported by a consortium of the nation’s leading business schools.

The goal of the program is to open the door to entrepreneurship and small business ownership to these veterans, by providing training and instruction to develop their competencies in the many steps and activities associated with creating and sustaining an entrepreneurial venture. The EBV Consortium of Schools consists of seven universities that will each offer the EBV program on their campuses June 2011 – January 2012 (specific dates are listed below). Most importantly, the program will continue to be offered entirely without cost to the participating veterans.

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<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Florida State University</td>
<td>June 9-17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Syracuse University</td>
<td>July 16-24</td>
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<tr>
<td>UCLA</td>
<td>July 23-31</td>
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<td>Texas A&amp;M University</td>
<td>August 6-14</td>
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<td>Purdue University</td>
<td>August 20-28</td>
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<td>University of Connecticut</td>
<td>September 23 – October 1</td>
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<td>Louisiana State University</td>
<td>TD (likely Jan. 2012)</td>
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We have enclosed promotional materials, and ask for your help in distributing these materials to eligible veterans. Due to our rolling admissions process and limited number of openings (approximately 150 seats) available for the program in 2011, we highly encourage applicants to apply as soon as possible. We will begin reviewing and accepting applicants this month. Interested veterans can apply for the program online at whitman.syr.edu/ebv/apply/.

Also included in this mailing is information about our EBV Families program that offers training in entrepreneurship to family members who are caregivers to wounded veterans, or for the surviving spouse of a military member who gave his/her life in service to our country. This program has 40 seats available and will be offered at no cost to participants in November 2011 at Syracuse University, and January 2012 at Florida State University. Applications are being accepted now, and they can be downloaded at http://whitman.syr.edu/ebv/programs/families/apply.asp.

We encourage you and your colleagues to learn more about the program online at whitman.syr.edu/ebv. Enclosed with this letter is a fact sheet about the EBV program and application requirements. Other questions can be directed to Ellie Komanecky, National Program Administrator, EBV Programs, at (315) 443-6007 or ebvinfo@syr.edu.

Thank you for supporting our veterans.

Raymond M. Toenniessen
National Managing Director, Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities
Whitman School of Management
Syracuse University
Program Overview

The Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans’ Families (EBV-F) is an education and training program offered by the Whitman School of Management at Syracuse University and Florida State University College of Business. The program is designed to leverage the flexibility inherent in small business ownership to provide a vocational and economic ‘path-forward’ for military family members who are now caregivers to a wounded warrior - or for the surviving spouse of a military member who gave his or her life in service to our country. The EBV-F program will integrate training in small business management, with caregiver and family issues, positioning the family member to launch and grow a small business in a way that is complementary or enhancing to other family responsibilities.

Modeled after the existing Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities (EBV) initiative, the EBV Families program will be offered without any cost to accepted applicants. The Whitman School of Management held the inaugural EBV-F program in November 2010. The next program offerings are in November 2011 at Syracuse University and January 2012 at Florida State University.

The Training Experience

The EBV-F is designed to provide both practical training in the tools and skills of new venture creation and growth integrated with family and caregiver issues, and also to provide a support structure for graduates of the program. The practical elements of the program will involve three phases:

- **Phase I**: A 40-day, online training course, where delegates will learn the ‘language’ of entrepreneurship, and work toward understanding the fundamentals of business ownership in the context of their own business concepts.

- **Phase II**: A 7-day residential entrepreneurship immersion experience at Syracuse University. Participants are exposed to the ‘nuts and bolts’ of business ownership through a hand-on training program in entrepreneurship and small business - experiential workshops and lessons from world-class entrepreneurship faculty, representing nationally ranked programs around the country.

- **Phase III**: Delegates are provided 12-months of ongoing support and mentorship from faculty experts, experienced entrepreneurs, and others. This mentorship and support is positioned to help you realize your entrepreneurial goals.
Costs and Logistics

This program is entirely free to accepted applicants. As a result of the generous support of Syracuse University and Florida State University -- and also the private giving of individuals and corporations -- we are able to cover all costs (including travel, lodging, and meals) for delegates accepted to the EBV-F.

Eligibility and Application Procedures

EBV-F applications will be accepted from:

1) Family caregivers of post-9/11 veterans who have been identified by the DoD or VA with a ‘service-connected’ disability, that now require assistance to perform activities of daily living. Specifically:

   - An eligible caregiver under this program shall be a spouse, parent, sibling, adult child, or other first-degree family member of a post -9/11 veteran with a service-connected disability, who assumes responsibility for assisting the veteran to perform activities of daily living that the individual would typically perform without assistance if not for the service-connected disability.

   - An eligible veteran under this program shall be a spouse, parent, sibling, adult child, or other first-degree family member of a post -9/11 veteran with a service-connected disability, who assumes responsibility, or who has been designated by the veteran, to assist the veteran to perform activities of daily living that the individual would typically perform without assistance if not for the service-connected disability.

2) The surviving spouse or adult child of a soldier, sailor, airman, coast guardsman, or Marine (active, guard, or reserves) who lost their life since 2001, as a consequence of their military service.

Apply NOW to the EBV-F

We operate on a rolling admission basis; therefore early application is highly encouraged. We are accepting applications now, and you can download an application from the program website at http://whitman.syr.edu/ebv

The EBV-F program represents a unique opportunity for military family members who have sacrificed for America’s freedom to take an important step toward realizing their own freedom – economic freedom – through entrepreneurship. The EBV-F is a selective, rigorous, and intense educational initiative. Successful candidates for admission will demonstrate a strong interest in entrepreneurship, high motivation for owning and managing a business, and a high likelihood of successful completion of this intense training program. For more information, or to submit an application, contact:

Ellie Komanecy
EBV Families Coordinator
Falcone Center for Entrepreneurship
Whitman School of Management
721 University Ave
Syracuse, NY 13244
315-443-6007
ebvinfo@syr.edu
EBV Fact Sheet

As you prepare to make one of the biggest decisions of your lives, you deserve all the answers. If you are considering the EBV, chances are you have both concerns and questions. Ask us! If you cannot find an answer to what you’re looking for here, please contact us.

1. **Do I need to have a college degree, or have taken some college courses, to attend?**
   No. The EBV is designed to take any qualified students, regardless of prior educational experiences, through the steps and stages of starting a new business.

2. **Are there spaces still available for this year’s program?**
   Yes. We have more than 150 seats available in the EBV for June 2011 – January 2012 at the seven participating schools (Syracuse University, Florida State University, Texas A&M University, UCLA, Purdue University, University of Connecticut and Louisiana State University).

3. **Are members of the National Guard and Reserves eligible for the program?**
   Yes. The only qualifications to be eligible for the program are a service-connected disability, military service post-9/11, and a passion for starting your own business.

4. **Does my service—connected disability have to be from combat in OEF or OIF?**
   No. As long as you have served after 9/11 and have sustained a service-connected disability while in the military, you qualify for the program.

5. **Do you need a certain percentage disability rating to get admitted into the EBV program?**
   No. We accept applicants based on the fact that they have a disability rating, the specific percentage rating does not play a role in your acceptance into the program.

6. **You require two letters of recommendation: why? And who should these letters come from?**
   Starting a business is hard. The EBV program was developed and designed as an intense, rigorous program positioned to help those individuals with a drive, determination, and passion for business ownership, take the first steps toward that goal. As such, we are seeking applicants who have demonstrated such drive and determination in their approach to life and work. Letters of recommendation from current or former co-workers, commanders, supervisors, counselors, etc., help us make such an assessment. Letters of recommendation from family members are discouraged.

7. **Your program information states that all costs will be assumed by the EBV schools. Does this include travel and lodging while attending the bootcamp?**
   Yes. It is our position that through your service, you have already earned the price of admission. We have assumed the responsibility to raise the necessary funds to cover all costs associated with the bootcamp. Travel expenses, lodging, meals, and the cost of the program itself will be funded by the EBV program.

8. **How long do I have to take time off from work to attend the EBV program?**
   The only time you need to take time off from work and be away from your family is for the residential phase of the program. The first phase is a 30-day online course that you complete from home, the second phase is the 9-day residential phase at an EBV University, and the third phase is the mentoring program that you complete from home.

9. **How will I get to and from the airport?**
   Transportation will be provided throughout the bootcamp residency for our delegates.

10. **I have special dietary requirements. Can these be accommodated?**
   Yes, we will make every effort to accommodate these requests.