



<p>November 2012</p>	<p>Aligning Business Mentors to Business Owner's Needs:</p>
<p>Prior VR News Brief Topics</p>	<p><i>Who, why and where?</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NH VR Entrepreneurial Toolkit • The Role of Counselor in Business Development • Counseling vs. Consulting: Focusing on the Individual • Refresher: Facilitating Venture Success One Step at a Time • Think and Act Like a CEO • Avoiding Business Burnout • Assurances About Insurance • Help Customers Find Their Passion to Succeed • Self-Employment and the Sales Flow • To Be or Not to Be in Business 	<p>There are thousands of no-cost, high quality business mentors available across the country that offer assistance for just about every type of entrepreneurial interest and need. The challenge is finding the right fit...</p> <p>Public Mentoring Agencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCORE Counselors to America's Small Business can be a great fit for anyone looking to start or grow a small business. They also offer a wealth of online tools and templates. • Small Business Development Centers also work with start-ups, as well as specialize in helping more experienced entrepreneurs grow through a robust network of related business development programs and resources through their association with state-based universities. • The Center for Women's Business Advancement is a great fit for women entrepreneurs and also maintains a robust network of related partners due to their university-based relationship. <p>Corporate Volunteer Mentors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MicroMentor represents a national network of working professionals who specialize in certain business disciplinary areas and volunteer to share this knowledge through a structured virtual mentoring platform. Mentors can be selected based on the area of expertise desired. <p>Special Interest Mentors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office of Veterans Business Development (OVBD) hosts a Veterans Business Outreach Program (VBOP). • American Corporate Partners (ACP) also focuses on Veterans and provides no-cost career counseling and mentoring through a national network of corporate and university employee volunteers • Women's Business Centers offer mentoring as well as other forms of technical assistance to women entrepreneurs. • The Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) is part of the U.S. Dept. of Commerce and focuses on assisting minority-owned businesses. • The U.S. Department of Education Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services supports state vocational rehabilitation (VR) agencies in providing a range of employment-related services for individuals with disabilities including in some cases, entrepreneurial training.
<p>Other Business Development References</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakeven Analysis • Business Success System • Business Planning • Business Plan Outline • Cash Management • Crowd Funding • Financing Proposal • Glossary of Business Terms • Management Control • 5 Steps to Business Networking • No-Cost Low-Cost Marketing • SWOT Analysis 	<p>The Right Fit</p> <p>In addition to matching the mentoring focus to the mentee's interests and needs, personalities and mentoring platforms are also important factors relative to outcomes. Look around, interview and choose wisely. There is no reason to have to go it alone. We welcome your comments and questions on this and other News Brief topics at AskBUZ. Thank you.</p>

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