



NEWS RELEASE
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Tech Park U Accepting Applications for Third Class

BATON ROUGE -- Louisiana Technology Park's class for rising entrepreneurs, Tech Park U, is now accepting applications to fill the ten open slots for its class of 2009. Historically, the program has brought entrepreneurs from all over South Louisiana, including the greater Baton Rouge area as well as New Orleans and Mandeville. In its third year, in association with Baton Rouge Business Report, the nine-month program provides promising technology entrepreneurs the education and facilities to jump start their ideas into a business.

Applicants must show their willingness and desire to turn their tech dream into a reality. Once accepted, each member will pay only \$99 a month for office space, support services, and office resources including their own cubicle with phone (including long distance services, voice mail and call forwarding), high-speed Internet access, email, secretarial support, free use of fax, printers and copy machines, office and meeting space, and 24-hour, seven-days-a-week, secured office access.

The nine-month program will use the FastTrac® TechVenture™ Curriculum to focus on the importance of business plans. During the first three months, the class will meet every Wednesday evening from 6-9 pm to discuss their progress, focus on writing a business plan, and listen to guest speakers from the Baton Rouge area. At the end of the program, the members will compete in a business plan writing competition, where the winner will receive a \$2,000 grant and possible acceptance into the Louisiana Technology Park's business incubator. Participants are also encouraged to submit their business plans to the Louisiana Purchase Venture Capital Forum, an event where entrepreneurs can seek out investment capital. For the past two years, Tech Park U graduates have been chosen to present at the forum.

Applications can be obtained at www.TechParkU.com and must be submitted by November 14, 2008. Applicants will be notified of acceptance by December 1, 2008.

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