

# Small Business Plan

## **<u>5 Reasons You Should Have A Small Business</u>**

- 1. A small business allows you to do something you are passionate about.
- 2. A small business allows you to earn unlimited amounts of income, which will enable you to determine your financial destiny.
- 3. A small business allows for additional tax write offs.
- 4. A small business allows you to be in control and do things your way.
- 5. A small business allows you to create something that can be passed on to future generations of your family.

## 5 Reasons People Won't Start A Small Business

- 1. FEAR OF FAILURE!
- 2. Lack of knowledge.
- 3. Don't know where to start.
- 4. Criticism by friends and family.
- 5. Lack of capital. \*\*All of these can be overcome!

### 25 Steps To Get Your New Business Started

- 1. Hire a coach to guide you through the business inception as well as on going.
- 2. Create a business that follows your passion.
- 3. Complete a self-analysis checklist.
- 4. Find a niche i.e. determine if your idea is feasible.
- 5. Perform a market analysis.
- 6. Plan your start up.
- 7. Create a net worth statement-see if you have what it takes from a capital standpoint.
- 8. Determine startup cost estimates.
- 9. Determine monthly expenses, both personal and business. If everything is good up to this point, begin a simple business plan.
- 10. Prepare a SIMPLE business plan.
- 11. How much working capital will be needed?
- 12. Are any special licenses or permits needed?
- 13. Where will the new business come from?



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- 14. How much will you charge?
- 15. What will be the business expenses?
- 16. How will you be different from your competition?
- 17. Conservatively, how much do you think you can earn during the first year and years 2-5?
- 18. What are your (if any) barriers to entry?
- 19. How will you market the business?
- 20. Determine your entity.
- 21. Once the business plan is written and if the business still makes sense, do the following:
- 22. File a d.b.a. (doing business as) with the city/county.
- 23. Open a business checking account.
- 24. Meet with a tax professional and establish the business books.
- 25. Create an exit strategy (if the business is not profitable or you are unhappy after 2 years, get out)

### Elements of a Business Plan

- 1. Cover Sheet
- 2. Statement of Purpose
- 3. Table of Contents
  - I. The Business
    - A. Description of business
    - B. Marketing
    - C. Competition
    - D. Operating procedures
    - E. Personnel
    - F. Business insurance
  - II. Financial Data
    - A. Loan applications
    - B. Capital equipment and supply list
    - C. Balance sheet
    - D. Breakeven analysis
    - E. Pro-forma income projections (profit & loss statements)
    - Three-year summary
    - Detail by month, first year
    - Detail by quarters, second and third years
    - Assumptions upon which projections were based
    - F. Pro-forma cash flow



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