

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 19, 2018

Contact: Shelby Unruh
Public Relations Coordinator
(580) 242-2750, Ext. 226
sunruh@autrytech.edu

Autry Announces Dates for Small Business Development Academy

ENID, OKLA. — The Small Business Development Academy at Autry Technology Center will offer two orientation sessions for entrepreneurs and small business owners seeking to learn how to start and grow a successful business. The first session is set for March 9 from 1 to 4 p.m. and the second session is scheduled for March 12 from 6 to 9 p.m.

“The Small Business Development Academy is beneficial to participants because they get to see the ideas in their head transform as they put them down on paper,” said Brenda Sheik, self-employment coordinator at Autry Technology Center. “The Academy is a unique opportunity to learn from other attendees and their peers as well as from the curriculum.”

This hands-on workshop will orient adults to LivePlan, an online, collaborative business plan software. After attending this orientation, students can work at their own pace with the support of Autry’s self-employment coordinator, resources found in LivePlan and expert community collaborators to complete their business plan and prepare for the Cherokee Strip Business Model Competition.

The cost to attend is \$120 with a limited number of scholarships available for military as well as Autry, NOC and NWOSU students.

“It’s a great opportunity for someone who has been sitting on a concept and is finally ready to start pursuing their dream,” Sheik said

Autry Technology Center’s James W. Strate Center for Business Development was constructed in 2008. The Fall Entrepreneurial Bootcamp began in 2009 and was followed with the Small Business Academy in 2010. Since this time, over 350 business have participated in the programs. Many of these companies are still operational. The Cherokee Strip Business Model Competition awards up to \$35,000 annually as well as multiple services and resources.

For more information, visit autrytech.edu or contact Brenda Sheik at bsheik@autrytech.edu or 580-242-2750.

Autry Technology Center has been a part of the Enid community since 1967 and is one of 29 CareerTech schools across Oklahoma. The center has more than 25 career programs and offers a wide variety of evening and weekend short-term courses and certifications for many diverse career fields. Autry serves nearly 16,000 individuals each year, including many area employees who receive training through the Business and Industry Services Department that works with over 500 local businesses each year.