



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LAUNCH TENNESSEE TO HOST RESEARCH GRANT WORKSHOP IN COOKEVILLE

Launch Tennessee, in conjunction with Tennessee Tech Office of Research & Economic Development, The Biz Foundry and Vertex Innovations LLC, is sponsoring two SBIR/STTR proposal preparation workshops in Cookeville and will be led by Jim Stefansic, PhD, MBA, Commercialization Director at Launch Tennessee, and Bill Wiley. During his career, Jim has successfully acquired over \$3.5 million in NIH SBIR funding, while Bill has been managing UT-CIS's Tennessee SBIR Assistance Center for almost ten years.

The Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) program awards more than \$2.2 billion to small businesses with innovative ideas throughout the US. To share in the awards, you must communicate your idea effectively to the targeted federal agency. Jim and Bill will review grant-writing strategies using material provided by Tennessee SBIR consultant Mark Henry, who is nationally recognized for his expertise in acquiring these grants. The session will include:

- The basics of preparing a competitive Phase I SBIR or STTR proposal
- How to avoid common mistakes many proposers make
- An overview of basic government accounting concepts
- Review of LaunchTN federally funded SBIR grant writing assistance program

The workshop will be on Wednesday, January 22nd at the Biz Foundry, 140 West 7th Street, Cookeville, Tennessee. There will be an open house at 10:00 AM CST. Session 1 is 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM CST and lunch will be provided. Session 2 is 3:00 – 4:00 PM CST and refreshments will be provided. The two workshops offered will cover the same material. You can select your session preference during registration. Lunch will be provided during the first session and refreshments for the second. Seating is limited and participants are encouraged to register online at: <http://goo.gl/gjzU56>. For additional information, contact The Biz Foundry at 931-372-1039.

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For questions regarding the event please contact Sammy Lowdermilk at 931-224-7770, or Sammy@uceftn.com