

# 2008 North of Boston Business Plan Competition



and Merrimack Valley Venture Forum

## :: 2008 North of Boston Business Plan Competition ::

Designed to encourage growth companies to locate in Essex County  
and the Merrimack Valley Region.

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Special Thanks  
to the  
North Shore  
Technology  
Council

Formerly the North Shore Business Plan Competition

## We're looking for growth businesses!

The North of Boston Business Plan Competition will showcase your business plan in front of our panel of **judges**, many of whom are **early stage investors**. Winners will be awarded **cash prizes** — \$10,000 first place, \$6,000 second place and \$4,000 third place. **All necessary information, including entry forms, is on our website at [www.enterprisectr.org/bpc](http://www.enterprisectr.org/bpc).**

### Our goal?

To help businesses develop new products, new services, and new ideas that exhibit **vision**, business **acumen** and **innovation** on the North Shore.

### What do you have to do to qualify?

Our requirements are very simple.

- **Only startups** (not yet operational) and **emerging businesses** (less than two years old) may apply
- Existing early stage businesses must be located in Essex County or commit to **locating on the North Shore or in the Merrimack Valley Region**
- If the plan is for a startup business, that business must commit to being **located on the North Shore or in the Merrimack Valley Region**
- Businesses with existing professional **venture investment are not eligible**
- Contestants shall have **no more than \$200,000 investment (exclusive of real estate) from outside sources other than professional venture capital**
- Business must have **plans to grow to at least 5 full time or FTE employees** within two years
- Your business idea must be **original work** that you'll be able to fully disclose

### How do you enter?

Log on to our website, [www.enterprisectr.org/bpc](http://www.enterprisectr.org/bpc) and download the entry forms. There you'll also discover valuable information about how to create a business plan, links to help you create one yourself and other important details about the competition. **Act Now! Business plan overviews are due no later than February 22, 2008 and final plans no later than March 28, 2008.** This is an incredible opportunity to launch that idea you've been thinking about or expand your North of Boston business.

All information is available on our website at [www.enterprisectr.org/bpc](http://www.enterprisectr.org/bpc)

### The 2008 North Shore Business Plan Competition is co-sponsored by:

- Beverly Chamber of Commerce
- Cape Ann Business Incubator
- Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce
- Creative Economy Association of the North Shore
- 128 Innovation Capital Group
- Lynn Area Chamber of Commerce
- Marblehead Chamber of Commerce
- Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Newburyport Chamber of Commerce
- North Shore Chamber of Commerce
- Peabody Chamber of Commerce
- Salem Chamber of Commerce
- Bertolon School of Business, Salem State College
- Small Business Development Center at Salem State College

[www.enterprisectr.org/bpc](http://www.enterprisectr.org/bpc)  
entry forms and information on past winners

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## Business Plan Competition Timetable

<b>February 7, 2008</b>	Writing a Competitive Business Plan workshop for those interested in entering the 2008 BPC. Held by the Small Business Development Center at The Enterprise Center. 9:00a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
<b>February 22, 2008</b>	Plan overviews and entry forms are due
<b>March 28, 2008</b>	Final Business Plans are due to the Enterprise Center no later than 5:00 p.m.
<b>April 16, 2008</b>	Semifinalists announced
<b>April 23, 2008</b>	Judges interview semifinalists and select finalists
<b>April 29, 2008</b>	Finalists announced
<b>May 14, 2008</b>	Public presentations at Central Campus Recital Hall, Salem State College, 71 Loring Ave., 4:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

### 2007 WINNERS

- First** Most RE, LLC
- Second** Sential Corporation
- Third** Love, Jolan B.

### 2006 WINNERS

- Tie** Apredica Speech Therapy Group, LLC
- Second** North Shore Nurse Practitioner Associates, LLC

### 2005 WINNERS

- First** SemiNex, Inc.
- Second** BioPoint Solutions
- Third** Custom Medicine

*\*For details, see  
[www.enterprisectr.org/bpc/](http://www.enterprisectr.org/bpc/)*

▶▶ [www.enterprisectr.org/bpc](http://www.enterprisectr.org/bpc) ◀◀

## Enterprise Center at Salem State College

The Enterprise Center at Salem State College is both a business incubator and a virtual center for entrepreneurs throughout Boston's North Shore at every stage of business development. The Enterprise Center leases office space to start up companies, offers free skill-building workshops to the public, and hosts numerous other programs including 128 Venture North Networking Breakfasts and an annual Business Plan Competition. [www.enterprisectr.org](http://www.enterprisectr.org)

## Merrimack Valley Economic Development Council

The Merrimack Valley Economic Development Council is a private, non-profit, tax-exempt charitable organization whose mission is to advance the economic interests of the entire Merrimack Valley region, from Greater Lowell to the sea. [www.merrimackvalley.info](http://www.merrimackvalley.info)

## Merrimack Valley Venture Forum

The Merrimack Valley Venture Forum is an on-profit organization that facilitates business growth in the region's technology and scientific sectors by serving the needs of entrepreneurs, emerging and established companies, professional service providers, academia and investment community. [www.mvvf.org](http://www.mvvf.org)