



HEADWATERS

Regional Development Commission

Leading the Way



Northern Minnesota Entrepreneurial Academy

WHAT IS THE NORTHERN MINNESOTA YOUTH ENTREPRENEURIAL ACADEMY?

The Northern Minnesota Entrepreneurs Academy (NMEA) is a week-long program that teaches area high school students how to start and run their own REAL businesses. The purpose of the Entrepreneur Academy is to help students discover their entrepreneurial skills, provide opportunities to connect with area entrepreneurs, network with other northern Minnesota students, and encourage students to return to northern Minnesota to pursue careers.

NMEA was developed by the Headwaters Regional Development Commission with the support of the Northwest Minnesota Foundation, Bemidji State University, the Launchpad Bemidji, and the Hubbard County Economic Development Commission. The Entrepreneurial Academy consists of a 5 day academy in which students focus on the development of skills, knowledge, and attitudes of entrepreneur. NMEA will guide area high school students through the process of starting and running a legitimate business or social movement.

Over the course of the program, students will:

- Brainstorm business ideas
- Write a business plan
- Network with likeminded peers
- Pitch their business plan to potential “investors” (think Shark Tank)
- Learn how to obtain startup funding
- Legally register their businesses
- Actually launch their own businesses or social movements
- Have the chance to win seed \$ to launch their own businesses!

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

The NMEA is geared to students with a high level of interest in entrepreneurship who will be entering grades 9-12 in 2019. Through activities, group projects, and a business simulation program, students will learn business and marketing strategies, teamwork, creative problem solving and leadership skills. Successful entrepreneur guest speakers will share their knowledge of starting and growing their businesses. The academy will include field trips to local businesses to see first-hand how the company operates. Students will also develop ideas for businesses that they can start and on the final day pitch their ideas in a competition for an opportunity to win seed capital for their businesses. Every day is filled with interesting and challenging activities to help students learn the fundamentals of entrepreneurship and create a start-up business.

NMEA is for youth who want to develop their knowledge of business or have a passion for business. The application and accompanying materials should convey and communicate your level of maturity and motivation.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible, you must:

- Be a high school student entering grades 9-12 in fall 2019.
- Be able and willing to commit to attend a five day academy on the Bemidji State University Campus.
- Have completed all Youth Entrepreneurial Academy student application forms.

DETAILS

Where: Bemidji State University Campus

When: July 8-12, 2019

Director: Ryan Zemek

rzemek@hrdc.org

218-333-6541

Registration:

Registration deadline is June 1, 2019

To register visit:

www.hrdc.org/youth-entrepreneur-academy

COSTS

Tuition for the Camp is \$275 per student, which including the cost of tuition, lodging, supervised residences, breakfast, lunch and dinner, and transportation to field trips. Not included in this fee are transportation to Bemidji State University, and incidental costs incurred by participants.

Tuition assistance is available on request.

