

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## **Veteran Entrepreneurship Program Coming to Palm Desert iHub in September**

PALM DESERT, Calif. – The <u>Inland Empire Center for Entrepreneurship</u> (IECE) and <u>CSUSB School</u> <u>of Entrepreneurship</u> have partnered with the Riverside County Office of Economic Development to support veteran entrepreneurship in Riverside County.

The free Veteran Entrepreneurship Program, designed for Riverside County veterans, activeduty members and their direct family members, will teach the skills, knowledge and mindset needed to navigate the entrepreneurial landscape.

"Veterans and their families give so much to this country," said Rob Moran, deputy director for the County of Riverside Economic Development Agency. "By supporting programs like this we can give back to our service members and give them the skills to be successful entrepreneurs."

The five-month program starts Sept. 14 and is divided into two phases, with foundational workshops covering mindset priming, problem ideation, validation and market-entry strategies, followed by individualized consulting, pitch competitions and specialized knowledge sessions.

## Program Highlights:

- Session I: Saturday, Sept. 14 Engage in activities to prime your entrepreneurial mindset.
- Session II: Saturday, Sept. 28 Delve deeper into customer interviews and solution ideation.
- Session III: Saturday, Oct. 12 Interpret customer discovery data and develop market hypotheses.
- Session IV: Thursday, Nov. 21 Celebrate at the Spirit of Entrepreneurs Award ceremony.

Upon completion of the program, the top entrepreneur will receive up to \$7,000 toward starting their business.

"Thank you to the Riverside County Office of Economic Development for sponsoring this vital program," said Mike Stull, a professor of entrepreneurship and director of the IECE and the CSUSB School of Entrepreneurship. "Veterans are increasingly turning to entrepreneurship as a post-service career path, and programs like this help to give them the skills to succeed in the business world."

The Palm Desert iHub is a regional business resource center, providing training and counseling services to small businesses and entrepreneurs, as well as co-working and incubation space.

For more information or to register, visit pdihub.org.

**About the CSUSB Palm Desert Campus:** The CSUSB Palm Desert Campus offers bachelor's and master's degrees, teaching credentials and certificates, and plays a vital role in educating the region's growing population.

For more information about the CSUSB Palm Desert Campus, contact Mike Singer in the Office of Marketing and Communications at <a href="mailto:msinger@csusb.edu">msinger@csusb.edu</a> or (760) 341-2883, ext. 78107, or visit the PDC website at <a href="mailto:www.csusb.edu/pdc">www.csusb.edu/pdc</a>.