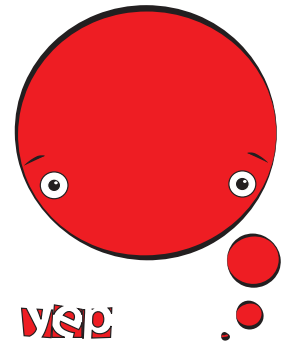


# Y.E.P Young Entrepreneurs Program

**Location:** Marion High School

**Dates:** Fall 2011, Tues/Thurs – after school



## **Overview**

The Young Entrepreneurs Program of Grant County is executed and designed by the Grant County Economic Growth Council and the Innovative Network of Grant County. This after school entrepreneurship program offers a learning opportunity to high school juniors and seniors at Marion High School who have demonstrated excellence in their schoolwork and have met a proficiency level in math/writing.

Students will be selected from submitted nominations to attend a bi-weekly one-hour after school session for ten weeks in the fall semester. Through an established curriculum approved by the Innovative Network and local school board, students will be separated into teams of three to learn about entrepreneurship and to create a business plan over the course of those ten weeks.

Students will come up with their own business case but will be provided with instructions, necessary material, and college student mentors to ensure their success in completing the program. The program will culminate with a presentation ceremony, where the student teams will present their business idea to a panel of judges (investors, business professionals, etc). Prizes for the winning business plan are as listed below.

## **Goal**

The goal of the Young Entrepreneurs Program is to provide a countywide program where innovation, entrepreneurship, and business skills are developed in Grant County's high school students.

## **Volunteers**

Tuesday sessions will be informational seminars taught by professionals from within the Grant County community. Thursday sessions will be hands-on: college student mentors from Indiana Wesleyan University will assist the high school students with writing their business plans. The volunteers will be trained by the Growth Council and must also be approved by Marion High School.

Students will also take part in an off-campus team-building field trip in September.

## **Selection Process**

All high school juniors and seniors who meet the basic criteria are eligible to be nominated. A teacher must nominate a student participant.

**Basic Criteria:**

- Must be entering his or her junior or senior year of high school.
- Must meet the basic aptitude test in math and writing.
- Must live in Grant County, Indiana.
- Suggested 3.0 GPA

(See Basic Criteria on Nomination Form)

**Nomination:**

- A teacher must nominate a student.
- The nomination will consist of a statement about the student's character, conduct, and qualifications- essentially, "Explain why you believe he or she would be a solid candidate for the program."
- The additional student qualifications are as follows:
  - Demonstrates leadership and practices respect among peers
  - Works well with others
  - Excels in academics and involvement with extra curricular activities
  - Demonstrates creativity and self-motivation
  - Shows interest in entrepreneurship

**Student-Essay:**

One 200-300 word essay from the nominated student must be submitted along with a completed nomination form and recommendation letter. The essay should answer the following questions: What is entrepreneurship? Why would Y.E.P be beneficial for you?

**Commitment:**

Students are expected to attend all sessions and the team building field trip unless prior notice is given. Attendance is necessary for the completion of the program; if a student misses more than two meetings, he or she will be dismissed from the program at the discretion of the program manager, school supervisor, and group advisor.

**Prizes**

Each student from the team with the winning business model will receive an iPod Touch, Dr. Dre Beats Studio headphones, a check for \$500, as well as the possibility of additional scholarships. Students from the runner-up team will receive an iPod Shuffle, Dr. Dre Beats ear-bud headphones, and a check for \$100.

All students will receive a certificate of completion at the end of the program.