



U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20416

July 27, 2010

Dear Potential Mentor:

The 28th National Annual Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week conference is fast approaching. The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is pleased to participate in the MED Week Conference, an event sponsored by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency. MED Week is a celebration of the contributions made by minority enterprises and provides the opportunity to recognize and honor accomplished minority business owners and advocates throughout the country. The 2010 National MED Week Conference will be held August 25-27, 2010 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C.

SBA considers training to be a vital component of MED Week. I invite you to participate in SBA's two, **free** small business training activities August 25th and 26th (see attached flyer) focusing on how small businesses can take advantage of government contracting opportunities and the benefits of marketing yourself to the Federal government.


As part of its celebration of MED Week, SBA will also host a Mentor-Protégé Conference on August 23, 2010. The Mentor-Protégé Conference is designed to assist 8(a) firms in their efforts to learn more about SBA's Mentor-Protégé Program, joint ventures and meeting potential mentors. The Conference will include training and one-on-one and virtual matchmaking sessions. A workshop entitled "**Succeeding in a Tough Construction Market**" will also be held for attendees in the construction industry. This Conference will be held on August 23, 2010 from 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C.

There are many benefits to being a mentor in the SBA Mentor-Protégé Program. They include: allowing the Mentor and the Protégé to joint venture as a small business for any government contract; the expertise, resources and capabilities of the Mentor are made available to the 8(a) Participant Protégé; and the Mentor may aid the Protégé in its efforts to raise capital. {e.g., Mentors may own an equity interest up to 40% in the Protégé firm.}

You must register to be able to participate in either the Mentor-Protégé Conference, at [sba.mybusinessmatches.com](http://sba.mybusinessmatches.com), or the MED Week workshops at [www.medweek2010.gov](http://www.medweek2010.gov).

Thank you in advance for your participation and I look forward to seeing you at the Mentor-Protégé Conference and the MED Week Conference.

Sincerely,

  
for LeAnn Delaney  
Acting Associate Administrator  
Office of Business Development



