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SAGINAW AND BAY CITY NEWS

Bay County pitch competition offers \$11,000 in prizes to local entrepreneurs

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Lolobee's Lounge, located at 106 S. Linn St., in Bay City, is a form Business by the Bay finalist.
Kaytie Boomer | MLive.com



By [Joey Oliver](#) | joliver@mlive.com

BAY CITY, MI – Applications are open for the upcoming Business by the Bay Pitch Competition in Bay County.

The Michigan Small Business Development Center (SBDC) puts on the competition, which offers area entrepreneurs and early-stage business owners a chance to showcase their plans and compete for \$11,000 in cash prizes.

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The application process opened on Wednesday, May 14. They are due by Aug. 13.

“An event like this is so exciting because we bring [business owners] forward into the community and they get to enjoy that support,” said Michelle Judd, Small Business Consultant for the Michigan SBDC. “They also get some cash infusion into their businesses, which is not something existing businesses have the opportunity to do very often.”

During the event, competitors participate in a series of in-person training workshops covering marketing, financial, and pitch development.

Over the course of several weeks, applicants will receive business training, personalized coaching, tips for refining pitch presentations and network, according to a news release.

Things culminate on Nov. 12 at John Glenn High School, where five finalists will take the stage to pitch their business ideas to a panel of judges and a live audience.

What to know

Eligible applicants for the competition include entrepreneurs and small business owners or early-stage company owners based in Bay County.

Businesses must be less than two years old as of Nov. 13, with annual sales below \$1 million.

The business owners also must be at least 16 years old at the time of the application.

Those interested in applying can do so online [here](#).

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