

Entrepreneurs could benefit from grant

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

Northeastern Junior College is slated to receive a \$50,000 grant from Colorado Springs–based El Pomar to benefit area entrepreneurs through an innovative business plan competition.

The grant will be distributed to NJC in the coming weeks and was recommended by El Pomar Foundation’s Northeast Regional Council, an advisory board of community leaders representing Sedgwick, Phillips, Logan, Morgan, Washington, Elbert, Cheyenne, Kit Carson, Yuma and Lincoln counties.

Sterling resident and consultant Tom Westfall and Lance Bolton, president of Northeastern Junior College, serve on the council.

The grant will fund a business plan competition course for entrepreneurs or current business owners across the region who wish to start or improve their business.

The NJC business plan course will solicit business plan proposals from entrepreneurs or organizations from Sedgwick, Phillips, Logan, Morgan, Washington, Elbert, Cheyenne, Kit Carson, Yuma and Lincoln counties that are interested in participating in the class.

This one-semester course will be taught in person as well as online. Travel expenses will be reimbursed and students will receive a laptop computer for the duration of the semester. The course will provide entrepreneurial training, including basic business skills, and information on how to create and present a business plan.

The most qualified business plan proposals will receive up to \$25,000 in initial seed funding to start or improve their business.

“This is a unique opportunity for entrepreneurial creativity in northeastern Colorado,” said Westfall. “I am excited and would encourage anyone with a business idea to participate in the development of their dream.”

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Local residents wishing to learn more about this opportunity should contact Cyndi Vandebark at Northeastern Junior College, 970-521-6763, or look for NJC Small Business Management on Facebook.