



# MaTCH

## Makerspace Training, Collaboration and Hiring (MaTCH) Pilot Competition

**mak·er·space**

*/ˈmākərˌspās/*

*noun*

1: A space where new ideas are fostered and experience is shared; A collaborative workspace for making, learning, exploring and sharing ideas.

2: A space open to people looking to obtain new skills, including current and aspiring entrepreneurs. May offer a variety of maker tools such as 3D printers, laser cutters, woodworking machines, soldering irons and sewing machines.

**The MaTCH Pilot Competition** seeks to address the job skills and placement gaps faced by U.S. businesses by providing funding to create or expand programs with job-specific and soft skills training within existing makerspaces. Uniquely positioned to help increase workforce development in U.S. cities, makerspaces:

- Embrace independent work and self-employment
- Focus on new paths for vocational education
- Generate new apprenticeship opportunities
- Build new job skills
- Boost jobs that provide a pathway into the middle class

**The MaTCH Pilot Challenge:** to create or expand programs that provide job-specific and soft skills training within existing makerspaces, including industry or trade certifications when feasible. The goal is to have all program graduates immediately placed in positions with previously-identified employers that are in need of skilled labor. The SBA will award up to \$1 million total in prizes to fund winning proposals.

**To Enter:** Applicants must submit a business plan that, among other things, details their team's qualifications, experience, and resources; the proposed training curriculum; the nature and length of the training/certification program; and the number of trainees that will be accommodated.

The **MaTCH Pilot Competition** entry form, rules and requirements available online at:

[SBA.gov/MaTCH](https://www.sba.gov/MaTCH)

**Submission Deadline: July 8, 2019**



U.S. Small Business  
Administration