

RFP for Small Business Assistance Services extended through February 16th

The Center for Economic Development (CED), in collaboration with USDA Rural Development, has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Northern California businesses to participate in a business assistance program running through 12/31/2012. CED intends to select seven businesses that are poised for growth from the applicant pool and provide assistance in the following areas of their operation: competitive intelligence, marketing services, financial services, website services and social media utilization.

The goal of the program is to position businesses to be able to expand their operations through information on new and existing market and customer bases and to position the business to approach both private and public lending organizations to seek funding for the business's expansion. To qualify for the program, applicants must be headquartered in Northern California but outside of the Chico and Redding Urban areas (for a list of available areas please contact the Center) and have fewer than 300 employees. Businesses located in Oroville, California will also be given precedence in the evaluation process.

The CED will rank candidates based on their adherence to application requirements as well as their ability to demonstrate participation and growth capacity. Special consideration will be given to medium sized (6-99 employees) high-growth companies. The application has been extended through February 16, 2012. To receive a full copy of the RFP and application please e-mail Michael Suplita at msuplita@csuchico.edu or [Click Here](#) for an RFP.