

Dear Educator,

The NDSU Research & Technology Park is offering an opportunity to Fargo, West Fargo and Moorhead high school students in the 11th and 12th Grade (School Year 2011-2012) who demonstrates an aptitude in the areas of engineering, math, science and technology along with an interest in entrepreneurship.

Selected students will attend the seven day (half days), technology-focused Entrepreneurship Academy at the NDSU Research & Technology Park on April 13th, 14th, 17th, 19th, 24th, 26th and 28th. The Academy is led by NDSU Research & Technology Park staff, with critical assistance from industry leaders and successful entrepreneurs. Students work in teams with a simple business case to determine the best way for the business to compete, identify capital needs to start the business and devise a plan for marketing the business successfully.

Participants are provided with business cases, instruction and necessary materials to assist them in the successful completion of the program. On the final day, teams give a 15-minute business plan “investor pitch”. Tuition vouchers to NDSU are awarded to the top two teams whose presentations are judged as having the most solid business strategy and potential for success.

The Entrepreneurship Academy is a **free** program for all students who are selected to participate with the **exception of a \$50 registration fee**. Waivers are available to cover the expense of the registration fee if the student’s family is unable to.

In order to identify qualified students, your assistance is critical. On the enclosed nomination form there are several items of performance criteria that should be used in considering students for this program. Please complete the attached nomination form for all students you wish to nominate. Please feel free to make as many copies as needed of any of the materials. The enclosed Entrepreneurial Quiz is an exercise you may want to use.

Please return your nomination forms on or before March 30th, 2012

NDSU Research & Technology Park Entrepreneurship Academy

Attention: Emily Schreier

1854 NDSU Research Circle North Fargo, ND 58102

Fax: 701-499-3632

Questions? Contact Emily Schreier at emily@ndsuresearchpark.com or 701-499-3632

Sincerely,

Paul Tefft
Consultant

Enclosure

To learn more about the NDSU Research & Technology Park’s Youth Entrepreneurship Academy please visit us at www.ndsuresearchpark.com