

**“Winning the 2004
\$35,000 Business
Plan Contest prize
enabled our
company to
develop our barrier
prototype, create
marketing materials
and attend industry
shows. This funding
really gave us a jump
start on getting our
products ready to
commercialize.”**

**— Dr. Tom Potter, P.E.,
President,
PRO Barrier Engineering
2004 BP Contest Winner**

Make YOUR business idea a reality by entering Ben Franklin’s Eighth Annual Business Plan Contest.

Have you been thinking about starting a new business? Do you own a young, start-up company and need a financial boost to move forward? Enter the Business Plan Contest and you may win **\$35,000** to implement your business plan.

To enter, contact the Ben Franklin Venture Investment Forum and request an application packet. Completed applications along with your 3-page business plan summary must be received by April 10, 2006 in order to be eligible.

**Don’t delay!
Contact us today!**

*Eligible counties include:

Adams, Bedford, Blair, Cambria,

Cameron, Centre, Clarion,

Clearfield, Clinton, Crawford,

Cumberland, Dauphin, Elk, Erie,

Forest, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon,

Indiana, Jefferson, Juniata,

Lancaster, Lebanon, Lycoming,

McKean, Mercer, Mifflin,

Perry, Potter, Somerset, Tioga,

Venango, Warren, York.



Ben Franklin
Technology PARTners
Central and Northern Pennsylvania



**777 W. Harrisburg Pike
Middletown, PA 17057
(717) 948-6625**

**Web site: www.cnp.benfranklin.org
E-mail: BPContest@psu.edu**

8th ANNUAL
The Big
\$35,000
IDEA
★ **Business Plan Contest** ★

**Submit your
business idea...
Implement it
with \$35,000!**



Ben Franklin
Technology PARTners
Central and Northern Pennsylvania



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The Eighth Annual Ben Franklin Business Plan Contest

Do you have a great business idea or a new company that could use a financial boost to move forward? Enter the Business Plan Contest by April 10, 2006, and you may be the one to win an award of **\$35,000** to help make your business a reality.

Who is eligible to enter?

You are eligible to enter the Business Plan Contest if:

- Your business did not have substantive sales before October 10, 2005.
- You seek to develop a manufacturing or technology-based company.
- Your business does or will reside in one of the eligible 34 counties in Central and Northern Pennsylvania (*see list of counties on the back panel*).
- You are not currently under contract with Ben Franklin Technology PArtners to receive financial support or have not won a sub-regional or regional Business Plan Contest.

How do I apply?

To enter the Eighth Annual Ben Franklin Business Plan Contest, applicants must contact the Ben Franklin Venture Investment Forum to receive an application packet. You will be asked to prepare a 3-page business plan summary, along with other required submissions. The deadline for receipt of completed business plan summary is April 10, 2006.

How are business plans evaluated?

Applications will be considered on the basis of degree of innovation and chances for commercial success. The potential to create jobs in Pennsylvania will also be weighed. A group of finalists will be selected from among the applicants. These finalists will be required to submit a 10-page business plan and to present it to a panel of judges on May 31, 2006. The winner will be announced at a ceremony in July.



How do I contact Ben Franklin?

Contact the Ben Franklin Venture Investment Forum at the mailing address, telephone number or e-mail address below to request an application packet.

Ben Franklin Venture Investment Forum
777 W. Harrisburg Pike
Middletown, PA 17057
Attention: BP Contest
Phone: (717) 948-6625
E-mail: BPContest@psu.edu
Web site: www.cnp.benfranklin.org



“The business plan contest is a great way to provide ‘a fast idea-to-funding mechanism’ for today’s fast paced business environment. The contest gives people with good ideas a chance to make them happen.”

**—H. Dean Bunnell
Past Chairman,
Ben Franklin Board
of Directors**

The Ben Franklin Technology PArtners

The Ben Franklin Technology PArtners, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, is designed to stimulate business growth and economic development in the Commonwealth. Ben Franklin supports manufacturing and technology-based companies that are interested in developing new products or processes. The Centers provide low risk capital to early seed ventures, start-up companies and established companies that meet certain technical, market and management requirements. The overall objectives of this effort are high technology job creation and retention, and statewide growth.

Remember — Your completed application with the 3-page business plan summary must be submitted to our office by April 10, 2006!