



January 25, 2021

## **PORT AUTHORITY ANNOUNCES OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR 10,000 SMALL BUSINESSES PROGRAM**

Wilmington, OH - The Clinton County Port Authority, through its partnership with the Ohio SBDC, announces that Sinclair Community College will be providing virtual access to the Goldman Sachs *10,000 Small Businesses* (10KSB) program in May of 2021. Applications for the 2021 cohort are available at [10KSBapply.com](http://10KSBapply.com).

"The 10KSB program is dedicated to small businesses," said Jennifer Klus Ekey, economic development director for the Clinton County Port Authority, "and is an especially valuable opportunity for the small business community during this time."

*10,000 Small Businesses* has helped strengthen over 9,700 small businesses in all 50 states since its inception in 2009. The program provides business education, wrap-around support services, and pathways to capital for growth-oriented entrepreneurs. The program is offered at no cost to the business owner – every business owner selected to participate receives a full scholarship, funded by the Goldman Sachs Foundation.

"Participants will gain practical skills to take their business to the next level," explained Ekey. "This initiative provides tangible education and mentoring on a variety of topics, such as reading and developing financial statements, negotiations, and marketing."

With one-on-one business advising, participants develop an actionable and specific 5-year growth plan for the business with the help of business advisors and like-minded entrepreneurs. Within 6 months of graduating, 67% of the program alumni reported increased revenues, and 47 percent added new jobs.

*10,000 Small Businesses* looks for applicants who are passionate about growing their business and creating jobs in their communities. Applicants must be the owner or co-owner of a business which: has been in operation for at least two years; brought in at least \$75,000 in revenues from the most recent fiscal year; has at least two employees (including the owner).

The application deadline is February 1, 2021. Visit [10KSBapply.com](http://10KSBapply.com) to learn more about the program and to apply. Questions should be directed to [10KSB@sinclair.edu](mailto:10KSB@sinclair.edu).

### **About the Clinton County Port Authority**

The Clinton County Port Authority is a special purpose government formed to operate transportation infrastructure and lead economic development efforts. Designated by the County, City and the CIC as the lead Economic Development agency for the County, it coordinates with the Dayton Development Coalition and JobsOhio to attract jobs to the area. It owns and operates the Wilmington Air Park, an integrated aviation and logistics business park located on 1,900 acres with nearly three million square

feet of industrial, office and hangar space. The Port Authority was recognized as one of Ohio's Best Workplaces in 2020. Learn more at [ChooseClintonCountyOH.org](http://ChooseClintonCountyOH.org).

**About Ohio Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at Miami Regionals**

Small Business Development Center Program of Ohio is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. The SBDC program is also funded in part by the Ohio Development Services Agency. Learn more at <https://www.miamioh.edu/regionals/sbdc>.

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