

Businesses You Can Start for Under \$1000

Common Themes on All These Ideas

1. Can start today
2. Unlimited growth models
3. A lot to learn

#1 - Speaker/Corporate Trainer

Solve a common problem with companies. Common issues are increasing sales, teaching sales skills, teaching communication and customer relations, or even health and wellness or budgeting to help the employees be better.

How To Market

Connect with HR or leaders in the companies.
Offer to do lunch and learns that teach a small idea.
Speak OFTEN

Skills Needed

Like to speak and coach people on common sense skills.
You see a lot of common problems in businesses that need help and you have ideas about how to help.

Credentials needed

You have worked in business. You have lived. You package your background.

How To Start

Connect to the right people in your areas in LinkedIn. (If you are doing employee training - start with HR)

Speak for free OFTEN on your topic.

When you speak, from the stage offer to help other companies and tell them what you will do and how to contact you.

Income and Cost

Revenue \$1k -

Cost = \$0-\$1000

Examples

[Dennis McIntee - http://dennismcintee.com/](http://dennismcintee.com/)

Brian Rabon braintrustgroup.com [Interview with Brian](#)

#2 - Retailer on Amazon / EBAY

Sell or resell items on Amazon or Ebay.

How To Market

Amazon will do a lot of the marketing for you and has several ways to sell with them. Many do FBA (fulfillment By Amazon) but they have lots. See [Sell ON Amazon](#)

Skills Needed

Common sense - understand buy vs sales pricing. Basic math and business

Product knowledge

Customer communication skills via email

Basic computer skills

Credentials Needed

None really

How To Start

Find top selling products on Amazon or eBay in categories you like, find where to buy wholesale, then put on the site.

Stores online easy to setup and LOTS of how to videos for free.

Income and Cost

Revenue \$1k -

Cost = \$0-\$1000

Example

[Kendall Davis](#)

#3 - Service Provider / Coach

Solve common problems for people by providing a service and helping them get through it. Common problems might be 1) writing resumes, 2) helping them find a job 3) filling out applications for various programs, 4) helping parents with kids who have specific health issues, 5) helping them get organized, etc, etc, etc

How To Market

Start with small workshop you do free on the subject - things like local libraries. Just tell people 5 steps to deal with _____.

Develop a simple product offering and let others know

- Use CraigsList or other free sources to advertise.
- Post your willingness to help on Facebook or other site.
- Contact friends and family offering what to do.
- Go to meetings where these people show up

Skills Needed

Experience you have in dealing with the same problem.

Credentials Needed

Experience you have in dealing with the same problem.

In some cases licenses or certifications - but few.

How To Start

Offer a small group coaching or mentoring for a basic fee of \$99 for X weeks. (The numbers do not matter as much as doing it) Work to get 2-10 people in this group and then meet with them and help them while they also help each other. Then package what you learned.

Income and Cost

Revenue \$100 - \$1M

Cost = \$0-\$100

Examples

Dale Callahan - Business Coach - Entrepreneur Dream Academy/BYOB

[Jackie Ulmer - Network Marketing Coach](#)

[Cliff Ravenscraft - Podcast Coach](#)

[Debra Mastic - Virtual Resume Coach](#)

#4 - Personal Chef

Cooking for parties or people who are busy.

How To Market

Invite prospective clients to a dinner or event where you provide their food.

Get on local TV with spots - perhaps even cooking.

Get involved with communities where clients will be - companies, non-profits, wealthy people, families with special needs, etc.

Skills Needed

Need to be a good cook.

Friendly and like dealing with people

Enjoy serving others

Credentials Needed

Cooking at parties, for friends, at church, etc. More word of mouth credentials.

How To Start

Offer to cook and serve for some fee - email friends etc. Fee not critical to start, just start. Make it a point to be cooking for someone so many times per week or month - even if you have to do it for free a few times. After each ask for referrals. Also you can offer cooking classes.

Connect to <http://saltedchef.com/>

Income and Cost

Revenue \$100 - \$100k

Cost = \$0-\$1000

Examples

Shane Hill - [Tailgate Chef](http://alabamatailgate.com/) - <http://alabamatailgate.com/>

Michael Cooks - <http://www.michaelcooks.com/home.html>

#5 - Product Distributor

Direct marketing of products like Avon, Tupperware, etc Tons of options.

How To Market

Each company has their own model for marketing. But the real success key is not the product, but building the sales team under you.

Skills Needed

Like working with people.

Driven and motivated.

Credentials Needed

None - but some experience in the market helps.

How To Start

Sign up and get their training. Usually involves some kind of parties or events where you present.

Income and Cost

Revenue \$100 - \$100k+ (Yes - some really make money)

Cost = \$0-\$2000 (depends on program)

Examples

<http://enterprise.my.tupperware.com/>

I am sure you know of others.

#6 - Adventure/Hobby Trainer

Teach people what you know and love to do. From sports to hobbies. Can use as corporate leadership events or corporate getaways.

How To Market

Word of mouth - being around the kind of clients you want to attract. Free or paid ads in social media also effective.

Skills Needed

Be an expert in your sport or hobby.

Credentials Needed

Might be credentials you need to show proof you know your stuff - depends on the area.

How To Start

Offer to those on your list to teach them. Could start with free talks and show and tells at libraries. Also might connect to stores that sell the items used in your sport/hobby.

Income and Cost

Revenue \$100 - \$100k+ (Yes - some really make money)

Cost = \$0-\$2000 (depends on program)

Examples

Helen Todd - combines Public Relations with [Kayak training](#)

#7 - eCommerce Store

Selling products using an online store. Product may be products you make, products you buy and add value to (Value Added Provider - VAP), or product you just buy and resell.

How To Market

Facebook and Google ads. Social media postings.

Skills Needed

Ability to learn to use basic software tools - similar to Facebook.

Credentials Needed

None - but product knowledge is helpful.

How To Start

Start with what you know, find some basic products (or make them) and build the site using a packaged tool such as BigCommerce or Shopify.

Income and Cost

Revenue \$100 - \$100k+

Cost = \$0-\$1000 (depends how much it costs to buy some inventory)

Examples

[AskDrCallahan](#) - VAP - takes textbooks and adds teaching videos.

[Parlor Custom Skies](#) - Manufacturer of custom skies