# University of LaVerne

# Take your business from concept to reality

Starting a new business is an exciting venture that requires a lot of planning and preparation. One of the most important aspects of starting a business is securing funding to get it off the ground. Whether you're a first-time entrepreneur or an experienced business owner, finding the right funding can be a challenging process. Here are some tips:

# □ Determine your funding needs.

Before you start looking for funding, you need to determine how much money you need. Create a detailed business plan that outlines your expenses, including startup costs, operating expenses, and projected revenue. This will help you determine how much funding you need to get your business up and running.

### Research funding options

There are many funding options available for small businesses, including loans, grants, and investments. Research each option carefully to determine which ones are the best fit for your business. Look into traditional bank loans, small business loans, crowdfunding, angel investing, venture capital, and government grants.

### □ Network with other entrepreneurs

Join local entrepreneur groups and attend business networking events. This can help you connect with other entrepreneurs and investors who can offer guidance on finding funding.

### □ Create a pitch deck

A pitch deck is a visual presentation that outlines your business plan, including your market research, revenue projections, and funding needs. This can be an effective tool for attracting investors and securing funding.

### □ Apply for grants

There are many government and private grants available for small businesses. Research grant programs that are applicable to your business and submit applications.

### □ Consider crowdfunding

Crowdfunding is a popular way to raise money for startups. This involves creating a campaign on a crowdfunding platform and asking people to invest in your business in exchange for rewards or a percentage of your business.

# $\hfill\square$ Work with a financial advisor

If you're struggling to find funding, consider working with a financial advisor who specializes in small business finance. He or she can offer advice on funding options, create a financial plan, and help you identify funding sources.

### □ Be prepared for rejection

Finding funding for a business is not easy, and rejection is common. Don't get discouraged if you're turned down. Use feedback to improve your business plan and pitch and keep trying.

Finding funding for a business can be challenging, but it's essential to get your business off the ground. Use these tips to research funding options, network with other entrepreneurs, and create a solid business plan and pitch to attract investors. Remember that perseverance is key, and don't give up on your dreams of starting a successful business.