



Wichita BizFest 2019 Fast Facts

What is Wichita BizFest?

Wichita BizFest offers high school juniors and seniors in the Wichita Metropolitan area an opportunity to learn a variety of life skills and business techniques. The majority of Wichita BizFest participants come from the emerging Latino Community. During a four-day intensive training period, Wichita BizFest focuses on helping students **(a)** turn hobbies and skills into profit-making ventures; **(b)** establish entrepreneurial and leadership goals; **(c)** create plans for business and life; and **(d)** become effective leaders and team players. Additionally, students learn the art of networking in business environments; identifying investment opportunities; implementing money management skills; and making public presentations. By attending Wichita BizFest, students gain entrepreneurial experience, economic literacy, improved skills in math, reading, writing and verbal communication and they gain workforce readiness. During the event, students have access to adult mentors, who help them create feasible business plans.

Who is the presenter of Wichita – Wichita BizFest 2019?

The Wichita Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is the primary presenter and its partners: more than 15 funding supporters including corporations, small businesses, colleges and universities.

How are student participants selected?

Students are selected based on their responses to the application. In addition, students are asked to secure a letter of recommendation from teachers, counselors, employers, or community leaders.

How many students are expected to participate in Wichita BizFest 2019?

There is not a designated limit. The size of the group will be determined on the number of qualified applicants. Approximately 50 junior and senior high school students will be selected to participate in Wichita BizFest. Counselors, teachers and administrators at public and private high schools in the Wichita area are urged to promote student applications. Participants from prior Wichita BizFests are not eligible but are encouraged to be mentors during the Wichita BizFest program.

When are applications due?

The application is due by **November 30, 2018**. Please call 316-265-6334 for more information. Applications can be submitted online, scanned and emailed to: whcc@wichitahispanicchamber.org or mailed to the Hispanic Chamber at 350 W. Douglas Ave., Wichita, KS 67202

When will I be notified if I am accepted or not for Wichita BizFest?

The applicants will be notified by mail on **December 31, 2018**.

Is there additional information prior to the full program?

Selected Students and parents are expected to attend a 9-11 a.m. orientation session on Saturday, January 26, 2019, at Friends University, Davis Building, Room TBD , 2100 West University Avenue, Wichita, KS 67213. Students are urged to ask their parents or guardians to attend the orientation.

How long is Wichita BizFest?

The Wichita BizFest training program is four (4) days in length. The training portion of the program will start at 8:00 am and end at 5:00 pm each day—February 6, 7, and 8 -- with the exception of the final day, Saturday, Feb. 9. On Saturday Feb. 9, the program will end at 3 p.m. with a graduation ceremony. Parents/guardians and family are invited to the graduation ceremony. The graduation ceremony will start at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday February 9. *(Please note that students may need to stay beyond 5:00 pm on to work on their business plans on Thursday and Friday.)*

What will the students gain from the experience?

Wichita BizFest students will gain entrepreneurial experience, economic literacy, improved skills in math, reading, writing and verbal communication and workforce readiness. The availability of mentors also will assist students in future career planning. By participating in Wichita BizFest, each student becomes part of a Wichita BizFest Alumni group.

What will the winners gain from the experience?

The top three winners at Wichita BizFest will receive scholarship dollars applicable to a college/university of their choice.

Why invest?

During the entire event, the Wichita Hispanic Chamber of Commerce will display posters of contributors and sponsors. Moderators recognize major sponsorship corporations, small businesses and foundations from the stage. Additionally, the Collaborative mentions sponsors in press releases; and reminds students of companies/foundations/organizations that have invested time and dollars to help them prepare for the future. The time to invest in Wichita's young people is now.

Whom do we contact to learn more about Wichita BizFest?

If you have specific questions, please contact The Wichita Hispanic Chamber of Commerce at (316) 265-6334.