

PRESS RELEASE

March 14, 2019

Lead Staff: Erica Lynch
845-292-6180, ext. 118
Catskills Kitchen Program Coordinator
ell68@cornell.edu

Aspiring & Established Food Business Owners Invited to Apply for April 2019 Entrepreneurial Training Program at the Catskills Kitchen

LIBERTY, NY—Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County (CCE Sullivan) is now accepting applications for its “Entrepreneurial Training for Food Business” series of eight (8) classes to be held on Monday and Thursday evenings, 6:00 to 8:00 pm, during April 2019. The enrollment fee is just \$50 and covers all classes, with scholarships available as well. The classes will be held in the on-site Catskills Kitchen, a food business incubator and commercial kitchen, certified by the Board of Health and New York State Agriculture and Markets.

- Class 1 | Monday, April 1 Small Business Basics
- Class 2 | Thursday, April 4 Market & Customer Analysis
- Class 3 | Monday, April 8 Business Structure: Taxes, Permitting, & Licensing
- Class 4 | Thursday, April 11 Develop Your Marketing Plan
- Class 5 | Monday, April 15 Credit Scores & Financing
- Class 6 | Thursday, April 18 Writing Your Business Plan #1
- Class 7 | Monday, April 22 Writing Your Business Plan #2
- Class 8 | Thursday, April 25 Panel – Local Food Businesses

“Our goal is to empower both aspiring and current food business owners with expert guidance from local and regional professionals, each class is hands-on and guides participants through a step-by-step process to set up their business for success,” said Erica Lynch, Catskills Kitchen coordinator.

The Entrepreneurial Training offers participants pathways to funding and other support services to help new businesses get off the ground, and existing businesses to improve and expand their operations. Graduates of the program will be eligible for low-interest loans through the Sullivan County Division of Planning and Community Development, to buy capital

Your Trusted Resource of Choice.

goods like machinery, furniture, fixtures, equipment, inventory, or working capital to support operations.

“We urge anyone who is interested in starting a food business – or improving an existing operation – apply right away. Currently, the program is open to up to 15 entrepreneurs, and we expect space to fill quickly,” said Lynch.

To apply, download and fill out the application at www.sullivanccce.org/events or call 845-292-6180. Those unable to attend the April training series are still welcome to access the Catskills Kitchen resources – including the kitchen space as well as training and support services – by calling the number listed above.

Contact the CCE Sullivan office to request any special accommodations.

###