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In this Moss Media post, Alice Mansley shares a list of some of the top sites that you can use to find work. BizSugar members also commented on the article here. Learn the benefits of Subchapter SWhen you're just starting a business, it's important to consider the pros and cons of every structure. An S subchapter company is an option that can attract a number of entrepreneurs. Nellie Akalp of CorpNet details the pros and cons you should know in this post. Consider allowing employees to work remotely Find a physical location and create an office where your employees can traditionally work as an important part of getting a new business off the ground. However, allowing employees to work remotely can also be a beneficial option. And it can even attract potential employees. Learn more in this getresponse post by Oskar Markiewicz.Benefit from an Ecommerce ChatbotIf you are starting an e-commerce business, you need to set up a website that supports your customers throughout the shopping experience. A chatbot can be an important part of that. You can read all about the benefits in this article SMB CEO's Ivan Widjaya.Deepen Engagement with Your Marketing Retirement as you create your marketing plan, creating authentic engagement with your audience should always be the ultimate goal. To do that, you may need to rethink how you look at emotions. Read thoughts on this topic of land marketing post by Jade Bunke.Learn How to influence peopleThe ability to influence people is key for any entrepreneur. It helps you sell better to your customers, motivate team members, and connect with others in your industry. So do it. Can you develop this skill if you are new to the business world? Matt Shealy's Smallbiztechnology.com post included some details. Starting a Money-Making BlogA blog isn't always just a marketing tool. It can also help you earn income or serve as a key platform of your business. If you're looking to start a blog-based business in 2020, 2020, this money @ 30 post by Kyle Burbank for tips. Then go to the BizSugar community to see what the members think. Willingness to pay taxes All businesses need to pay taxes - even relatively new businesses. Keeping your books in order and understanding the requirements can help your company get off to a strong financial start. In this post on the Acuity blog, Chris Chapman shares a check list that can help you this tax season. Find out your website structure and internal links Create a structure for your new business website that can help you create an experience that makes sense to customers. But it can also be beneficial for SEO purposes. In this Search Engine Journal post, Jesse McDonald discusses the effects that site structure and internal links can have. If you want to suggest your favorite small business content to be considered for an upcoming community roundup, please send your news advice to: sbtips@gmail.com.Image: Depositphotos.com A third of all small business owners in the U.S. are working without any higher education, which sounds like a great thing if you're trying to save money on student loans. Then again, half of all small businesses fail in their first four years, so perhaps a little education won't be such a bad thing. This is a dilemma faced by countless small business owners, some of them ignoring higher education by choice, others by necessity. For many, the idea of balancing both - starting a business and working through university - is simply not realistic. But expanding and improving online college options is changing all of that. So the question is, as a small business owner - or an ambitious small business owner - is college online worth it for you? We'll do our best to help you navigate that question. Nothing quite as romantic as self-made success. That's the heart of the American dream, isn't it? Each of us has the opportunity to turn an idea into reality, to start a business with nothing but a loan and a prayer, and to turn ingenuity into income. Small business owners are the lifeblood of our economy, diligent entrepreneurs who charge boldly in the face of risk and adversity for a shot at personal freedom, financial independence, and maybe even wealth. Notably, more than 50% of men and women classified as small business owners are running their biz without a college degree. Notably, more than 50% of men and women classified as small business owners are running their biz without a college degree. But is this really the best way to go? University is a waste of time and money for enterprising risk-taker? If you're going to take out a loan, wouldn't you be better off investing it in your dreams, be it your first storefront, or restaurant, or a factory that makes windshield ice-scrappers? (Hey, who are we to judge dreams?) Don't let us trample your vision. But before charging boldly, you should know that 50% of small businesses fold into the fourth year. You don't need a degree in business administration to know this is a deterrent rate. And it means all the money you invest in hand-molded rubber grips for your ice-scrappers is gone. (Looking back, maybe Florida isn't the best place for that business idea). Anyway, if you've taken a few business classes, you may already know more about defining your consumer goals, effective marketing in your business area, and managing your supply chain to comport with customer needs. While there is no alternative to on-site training that comes with a business startup, there is also no substitute for things you can learn on your way to a degree in business administration. If a degree feels somewhat abstract while you're dealing with the specific reality of business ownership, consider the tangible value of topics like financial accounting, human resource management, organizational leadership strategies, business ethics, trade law, and the rise of automation. You need at least one awareness going through these things to run a successful business. Of course, there's the tantalizing appeal of the drop-out billionaire, so reminiscent of being caught in Steve Jobs' famous 2005 Stanford University speech begins. When I dropped out of college, the late Apple founder said, In return, it was one of the best decisions I've ever made. I'm sure Stanford was delighted to hear that. However, drop-outs may also own their own hanger - think Mark Zuckerberg and Bill Gates - only cementing the maverick image of the drop-out billionaire. But is this really the likelier result you should eschew the university in favor of a business start-up? I'll save you research; ability to verges on fantasy. These companies are called unicorns, a term invented by venture capitalists Aileen Lee to reflect the statistical rarity of a private startup achieving a billion-dollar price. As of April 2018, TechCrunch said, only 276 of these companies exist. According to a 2008 study, which measured the turnover of more than 500 tech startups, companies founded by college graduates typically have twice the average revenue and the number of employees is technology companies owned by nongrads. Despite these high-end unicorns, the data tells a different story. According to a 2008 study, which measured the turnover of more than 500 tech startups, companies founded by college graduates typically have twice the average revenue and the number of employees is technology companies owned by nongrads. An article in SFGate observed that Small business start-ups founded by people without more than one high school education tend to underperform all other small businesses. The article then notes that graduates enjoy a sales rate greater than the 25% greater than the average start-up of a high school drop out, and that graduate students see 40% greater sales than their college graduates of the same age. These figures underscoring a fairly simple fact. Operating a business is difficult and complex. The number of individuals with limited education who become successful entrepreneurs is small. According to economist Scott Shane, author of The Illusions of Entrepreneurship in 2008, a better education tends to create better access to external capital, lower failure rates, greater sales, better job growth and generally more profitable projects. It's not that you can't succeed in business without a college education. It's just much harder and your odds are much worse. With a boot failure rate of one-second, you will want to look for every advantage you can on the path to mere survival, let alone success. If you still don't think college is worth it, just have a survey of college graduates owning their own business. According to Entrepreneur, 68% believe that attending university has made a difference in their success. We guess at least another 32% of the questionees oversem for their education. But that doesn't have to be you. The reward for your entrepreneurial spirit is the freedom to choose any school that fits your budget and educational requirements. You don't need a Harvard education or a tuition payment in excess of \$50,000 to earn valuable knowledge in business administration or organizational leadership. In other words, your motivation should have less to do with the university name printed on your degree and more to do with the university's ability to provide a current, comprehensive, and engaging education in business. Oh, and it really has to be recognized. Also, it all depends on you. Research shows that, as a small business owner, you can reap all the advantages necessary for survival and success simply by pursuing a quality education focused on topics related to your business area. This is true whether you just graduated from high school or returned to your university now that you've got your business off the ground. If everything goes according to plan, your actual degree will be of equal importance to the knowledge you have gained on the way to it. So before you search for a college based on suit or prestige, consider that a least prestigious, comprehensive and recognized university will provide your foundational education at a fraction of the cost. Our 25 most affordable Online Bachelor's degrees in business research is a great place to start. If you are already a small business owner and you have read this far, it is very likely that you are actively considering the value of a college education. But you may also consider the pros and cons, pondering how in the world you may be able to take classes while Your sales team, meet your accountant, analyze your inventory, and outline goals for next year. Perhaps the better question is, how do you do all the things without having to do some business class? Not to undermine your innate intelligence, but the correct answer is probably something like that, not as well as you can do it. Luckily for you, the ability to make both become more manageable all the time. As choices for edied online education gain both reputation and access, the prospect of a balance between business and education becomes more realistic at all times. In fact, taking online courses in business while actually operating a business is a great way to enhance your performance in both areas. You'll find ways to apply your growing knowledge to drive your business and how to apply your practical knowledge to improve your experience in virtual classrooms. You'll probably also find many programs that target small business owners specifically for planning, flexibility, and course content. This is one of the distinct advantages of online education. Other small business owners share the challenges of planning and managing your time. Recognized colleges and universities are increasingly setting out online educational experiences to answer these challenges. To make the most of your investment, you must adjust to the unique reality for online education. In truth, the biggest adjustment for most students is the discipline, motivation, and personal responsibility required of this experience. As a small business owner, you may have honed these qualities in your working life. They'll help here. To get started, see the 20 Best Online Business Administration Bachelor's Programs or the 25 Best Bachelor of Business Administration Programs online. Being an independent entrepreneur comes with deeper value than perhaps you realize. If you are looking to attend college with the help of a financial aid package, your small business provides a perfectly legal and ethical path to maximizing your access to federal assistance. When you apply for financial assistance, the amount that you qualify for is based on a formula that relates to your educational costs with your family income. Here, the lower your expected family income (EFC) compared to the cost of attendance (COA), the higher the amount of aid you can qualify for without repayment obligations. ... as a small business owner, you can increase the size of your federal aid package by linking the majority of your assets to your business, as opposed to your personal real estate. As a small business owner, you a unique opportunity to maximize your support conditions while still operating a successful and profitable venture. In 2006, Small Business Exclusion takes effect. Designed to help in sheltering a livelihoods, the law stipulates that a family-owned and run business with fewer than 100 employees can hold any and all assets tied to the family business separate from EFC's calculations. This ultimately means that, as a small business owner, you can increase the size of your federal aid package by linking the majority of your assets to your business, as opposed to your personal real estate. For more advice on paying for school, check out The Student Financial Aid Source. And to learn more about earning a degree in business, and the many options you have at your fingertips, read on. Last updated: March 23, 2020 2020