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**SOMERSET  
PULASKI COUNTY**  
Chamber of Commerce

## **Chamber searching for the next top Young Entrepreneurs.**

SOMERSET – Students with a desire to start and run their own businesses are being sought out to apply for the 2016-17 Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!).

The Young Entrepreneurs Academy, sponsored by the Somerset-Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce, will provide students in grades 7-12 with the knowledge and skills needed to start and run their own businesses. No business experience is required, only creativity, enthusiasm, dedication and lots of effort.

Students enrolled in the program will learn from local business owners and educators about how to create their own ideas and business platforms to eventually manage their own functioning businesses following the program's completion.

"Those who complete the 25-week program walk away with skills they need to open their own business," said Bobby Clue, Somerset-Pulaski Chamber of Commerce Executive Director. "And even if they never open a business, they learn skills they can utilize all their life. There are many benefits to receiving hands-on access to local businesses, and the Chamber is happy to be able to provide that access to our YEA students."

YEA! is currently accepting applications for the Class of 2016-17. The winner of this year's program will win a scholarship to either Campbellsville University or Somerset Community College.

To date, over \$15,000 has been awarded to participants the past three years. Nationwide over 4,000 kids have graduated from YEA! and started more than 2,700 businesses.

The YEA! Program will run from October to May.

Classes meet at Somerset Community College on Tuesday nights from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and the deadline for applications will be September 30<sup>th</sup>. Classes will not be held during school breaks.

Applications are available at [www.somersetpulaskichamber.com/about/about-the-yea-program/](http://www.somersetpulaskichamber.com/about/about-the-yea-program/) Applications can also be requested by calling the Chamber of Commerce at 606-679-7323.

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