

JobsOhio Small Business Academy

Powered by Aileron

Aileron and JobsOhio have partnered to elevate Ohio's small businesses in a fully sponsored business growth program.

The Small Business Academy is a 12-month program that helps small business owners enhance the skills they need to run thriving businesses.

Through the program's cadence of workshops, Peer Group meetings, and Business Coaching sessions, 25 participants will learn and practice professional management—a proven, transformative approach for growing a business that thrives for the long-term.

The program blends in-person and virtual events, all of which are facilitated by Aileron, a nonprofit organization that develops business owners and teams to learn and practice the seven disciplines of running a thriving business. The program includes:



The Small Business Academy is designed to uplift Ohio-based organizations looking to grow their businesses and leadership skills.



Professional Management Workshops

Participants will gather as a cohort to learn the seven disciplines for running a thriving business in three two-day interactive, in-person workshops.

Business Coaching

Participants will benefit from one-on-one time with an Aileron Business Coach where they can process challenges, get unstuck, and build their skills for running a thriving business.

Peer Group

Participants will build community through a facilitated Peer Group — virtual sessions where the cohort will process real challenges, learn from each other, and advance their businesses together.

Aileron Day Passes

An Aileron Day Pass gives participants access to common spaces on Aileron's Campus in Tipp City, Ohio—a destination for business owners and teams looking to get out of the day-to-day to work on their businesses.

Travel Stipend

Participants will receive a \$1,000 stipend to cover travel and lodging expenses for in-person events.

Program Details

Who should apply

We're looking for owners and presidents of growing B2B businesses in Ohio who have received JobsOhio funding in the past. Ideal candidates will meet the following criteria:

- Minimum \$750,000 in annual revenue
- Motivation to grow your business and personal leadership
- Interested in learning from other business owners and open to sharing your personal experiences
- Willingness to apply what you learn and complete homework outside of program activities
- Ability to step away from the day-to-day and commitment to working on your business during program events

Time commitment

- Away from the office for a total of six full business days across one year
- Five 90-minute virtual peer groups across one year
- Three 45-minute virtual business coaching sessions across one year
- Three to four hours per month for homework and application

Learn more

To learn more about the partnership and program, visit www.jobsohio.com/aileron.

- **Application deadline:** July 1
- **Applicants notified:** August 1

Course for Presidents September 23-24, 2025

Aileron's Campus in Tipp City, Ohio – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

In Aileron's flagship program, you'll learn about professional management, a proven approach for running a thriving business that has transformed thousands of businesses for 25+ years.

Business Coaching

Virtual – 45 minutes scheduled by the participant

These one-on-one sessions with an Aileron Business Coach are private time and space to process challenges, develop skills, and get unstuck.

Peer Group November 11, 2025

Virtual – 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Virtual, facilitated cohort gatherings provide time for you and your peers to share and process issues and learn with and from one another.

Designing and Leading Your Strategy January 20-21, 2026

Aileron's Campus in Tipp City, Ohio – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

On day one, you'll learn the principles of conscious leadership, a transformative approach to leadership that emphasizes self-leadership and emotional responsibility. On day two, you'll set direction for your organization as you work on your strategy, vision, mission, and values.

Business Coaching

Virtual – 45 minutes scheduled by the participant

Peer Group March 17, 2026

Virtual – 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Aligning the Business to Your Strategy April 21-22, 2026

JobsOhio in Columbus, Ohio – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

On day one, you'll learn a collection of powerful tools for having leading conversations in your organization. On day two, you'll work on your organization's business model and value proposition and learn about a board of advisors: a valuable source of outside perspective, accountability, and wisdom.

Business Coaching

Virtual – 45 minutes scheduled by the participant

Peer Group June 16, 2026

Virtual – 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Peer Group September 15, 2026

Virtual – 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.