



TN Entrepreneurship & Small Business Development Course
UT Conference Center – Knoxville, TN
April 1-2, 2026

Wednesday, April 1 (ET)

9:30 – 10:00	Registration	
10:00 – 10:15	Welcome & Introductions	Tintin Czach, TCEcD UT CIS
10:15 – 11:00	Entrepreneurship & The Economy: <i>The Role of ELED in Economic Development</i>	Mo Collins Entrepreneurial Communities
11:00 – 12:00	Who is an Entrepreneur in Your Community? <i>Microenterprise, SMEs, Innovation-Led and more</i>	Mo Collins
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch & Networking	
1:00 – 1:45	The Role of Entrepreneur Support Organizations (ESOs) <i>Asset Map Graphic and Asset Directory</i>	Mo Collins
1:45 – 2:45	Building Businesses: Blues Game <i>Table Group Activity</i>	Course Participants
2:45 – 3:00	Break	
3:00 – 4:30	Tennessee Experts Panel: Best Practices & Resources	Panelists: Lindsey Cox , LaunchTN Paige McVity , Pathway Lending Wisty Pender , TNECD
4:30 – 5:00	Understanding Your Local Ecosystem	Mo Collins
5:30	Optional Dinner Gathering	



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Thursday, April 2 (ET)

7:00 – 8:00	Full Breakfast	UT Conference Center
8:00 – 8:15	Day 1 Recap	Course Participants
8:15 – 9:15	Leverage Your Entrepreneurs to Build Your Economy <i>Connect, Serve, Empower, Measure</i>	Mo Collins
9:15 – 9:30	Break	
9:30 – 10:45	Financing Entrepreneurs	Mo Collins
10:45 – 11:15	Keep the Ball Rolling: Sustainable, Resilient Ecosystems <i>Best Practices from Urban to Rural America</i>	Mo Collins
11:15 – 12:00	Embedding Innovation into Your Local Community	Mo Collins
12:00 – 12:15	Summary of Learning <i>Group Exercise</i>	Course Participants
12:15 – 12:30	Wrap Up & Final Comments Evaluation Forms/Adjourn	Tintin Czach

