



Frequently Asked Questions

WHAT IS A VIRTUAL BUSINESS INCUBATOR?

Hands On VBI is an independent virtual business incubator specialising with mentorship, consultation, capacity building and business development. We provide professional business support services to individual clients and small business owners. As a virtual business incubator our operation is not restricted within a building. Hands On VBI is privately funded, operated and owned.

DO I NEED TO HAVE A REGISTERED COMPANY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAMME?

Yes, for the programme to remain successful all incubatees need to run registered and active companies. This will enable us to mentor on the basis of existing challenges rather than what is likely to happen in the future. Advisory is given on situation where clarity is the only identified need. In case you wish to register a new company, kindly notify us for assistance with CIPC company registration.

IS IT A MUST THAT THE COMPANY BE BASED IN GAUTENG TO TAKE PART IN THE PROGRAMME?

The incubator is open for entrepreneurs in Gauteng and all other provinces. The most important aspect is the ability of both the incubatee and his/her mentor to stay connected.

ARE THERE COSTS INVOLVED TO PARTAKE IN THE INCUBATOR?

Yes, for the incubatees to experience world class service, prompt communication and adequate access to business resources all registered incubatees choose the service programme which is suitable for their affordability and business needs. Unlike other incubators and accelerator programmes we do not take equity from the companies we mentor. The incubatees need to contribute in time, availability, continued effort and monthly commitment fees to solve the challenges they face in their businesses.

Hands On Start Up	Hands On Premium	Hands On Pro
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to mentor via unlimited phone calls, email, Skype and Please Call service • One hour training every three months • Invitations to business events • Access to our referral list • Runs for 12-18 months 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to mentor via unlimited phone calls, email, Skype and Please Call service • Two hour training every three months • Invitations to business events • 4 hours per month Face-to-Face meeting with your mentor • Access to our referral list • Direct access to networking events in Gauteng • Runs for 12-18 months 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to mentor via unlimited phone calls, email, Skype • 4 hour training every three months • Invitations to business events • 4 hours per week Face-to-Face meeting with your mentor • Access to our referral list • Direct access to networking events in Gauteng • Runs for 12-18 months
R299pm	R499pm	R1450pm

WHAT DO I NEED TO SUBMIT FOR MY APPLICATION TO BE PROCESSED?

Once the incubatee has decided to take part, the SME Skills Set Assessment and the Application Forms must be fully completed and returned to the incubator for assessment. The panel of mentors will evaluate the application form. Once the applicant is successful he/she will be notified by either phone call or email after 48 hours. A dedicated mentor will assigned. The mentor is available for 10 hours a day Monday to Friday. Arrangements must be made with a mentor where the incubatee needs to see a mentor on weekends.

HOW DO I SIGN UP?

Signing up is easy, simply fill in the SME Skills Assessment and Application Form, submit it to handson.vbi@gmail.com in PDF format. Once the application is assessed and approved the applicant needs to activate their account by paying their chosen programme level [Start Up, Premium or Pro] at the nearest Standard Bank branch. The banking details are available on request.

Follow us on all social media accounts using the hashtag **#HandsOnVBI** to get the latest news and all awesome things lined up for entrepreneurs.