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USF St. Petersburg to host 4th Startup Weekend Tampa Bay

Posted May 17, 2013 at 12:06 pm by [Tom Scherberger](#)



Startup Weekend Tampa Bay logo

Startup Weekend Tampa Bay will connect local entrepreneurs, developers, designers and startup enthusiasts with mentors and resources at USF St. Petersburg June 7-9.

It is the fourth [Startup Weekend Tampa Bay](#) event and the first to be held at USF St. Petersburg, hosted by the USFSP Entrepreneurship Club.

Throughout the course of this 54-hour event, attendees will share ideas, form teams, and launch startups.

Attendees arrive at the University Student Center Ballroom on Friday, June 7, to kick off the event with idea pitches, voting and team building. Startup veterans and mentors will be on hand throughout the weekend to provide expertise and give talks on their experiences while teams build their business ideas. On Sunday evening the teams pitch their ideas to a panel of judges comprised of some of the Tampa Bay area's most knowledgeable business leaders.

USF St. Petersburg is an appropriate location for Startup Weekend, said William Jackson, D.B.A., director of the [USFSP Entrepreneurship Program](#).

The Entrepreneurship Program was named the [Outstanding Emerging Entrepreneurship Program in the United States](#) in January by the U.S. Association for Small Business and

Entrepreneurship, the world's largest independent organization dedicated to advancing entrepreneurship.

Members of the USF St. Petersburg Entrepreneurship Club, meanwhile, [recently won](#) the prestigious Collegiate Entrepreneurs' Organization (CEO) Startup Simulation Challenge for the second year in a row. The national competition requires a team of students to take a new business and make the right decisions to out-perform teams from across the country.

[At the last Startup Weekend in Tampa in November, a team of USFSP students won the People's Choice Award and third place overall.](#)

"We are pleased that Startup Tampa Bay will be held at USF St. Petersburg, where the spirit of entrepreneurship is alive and well," said Jackson "It's always exciting to feel the energy created when young entrepreneurs get together."

Reuben Pressman, the first graduate of the USFSP Entrepreneurship Program, is one of the organizers of Startup Weekend Tampa Bay.

"As a graduate of program I am super-excited to help bring the next Startup Weekend to the new Student Center at USFSP," said Pressman, founder and CEO of his own startup, called Check I'm Here. "The people, knowledge, experience, and opportunities are invaluable – and you get them all in just one weekend."

[Registration](#) is \$99, with discounts for students. More information [here](#).

Startup Weekend Tampa Bay is part of the national Startup Weekend organization, which supports the development and expansion of entrepreneurship through events worldwide that educate aspiring entrepreneurs by immersing them in the process of moving an idea to market. It has built a network of more than 55,000 alumni, thousands of volunteer organizers and 100 trained facilitators in more than 300 and 100 countries.

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