

**Small and Emerging Business** 

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## From: Mario Rubio, JSEB Administrator

Since the inception of the JSEB program one of our main goals was to provide certified vendors with meaningful and productive educational and training opportunities.

As you may be aware there have been some positive changes made to the JSEB program as a result of the passage of bill 2017-288 effective May 9, 2017. The changes made are as follows:

The net worth requirement was increased from \$605,000 to \$1,325,000.

The averaged gross revenue over the past three years increased from \$6,000,000 to \$12,000,000.

Upon your next re-certification (after May 9, 2017) your eligibility will start over and you will have a maximum of 9 years to participate in the program or until you exceed one of the financial requirements noted above.

One of the major changes that your will see in the near future is the redesign of our training programs. We have been working with Florida State College at Jacksonville, the Small Business Development Center at UNF, Edwards Waters College and the Northeast Florida Safety Council and other entities to provide you with meaningful education and training opportunities.

Throughout the year courses offered will include business courses aimed at enhancing your business skills and supplemental technical courses. The supplemental technical courses will include OSHA classes, First Aid and CPR and QuickBooks. These courses are being provided at no cost to you.

As a result of these changes beginning October 1<sup>st</sup> there will be a new process for meeting your continuing education requirements for renewal of your JSEB certification. We will work with those companies who renew for the remaining months of 2017 by accepting any points you have earned for renewal. Beginning in January of 2018 all renewing JSEB vendors will be required to attend one of the free business skills continuing education opportunities provided by the JSEB office. This two night course must be attended by the qualifying owner. If qualifying owner does not attend it will not be counted toward your renewal requirement. Please bring photo id to sign in. In addition anyone arriving more than 15 minutes late to either the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> night of the required course will not receive credit for attending and will have to take another course.

The technical courses such as OSHA and First Aid and CPR can be attended by the owner and verified employees of the company.

As of January 1, 2018 only JSEB provided business education training courses will be accepted for renewal of your JSEB certification.