# As part of Women's Business Month in October, Illinois Entrepreneurs are invited to Join Milestone Circles!

## What is Milestone Circles?

A free, virtual mentoring community with opportunities to learn alongside like-minded business owners across America who share your passion for building something greater than themselves. This is a first of its kind collaboration between the Nasdaq Entrepreneurial Center (through the support of the Wells Fargo Foundation) and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity's Office of Economic Equity & Empowerment (through its Illinois Women's Business Collective). Since its inception, thousands of entrepreneurs across the U.S. have been part of Milestone Circles.



# Who Should Apply?

Milestone Circles is open to all U.S.-based business owners who have been in business for 1-5 years, which includes part-time entrepreneurs and those with side hustles. Businesses at all different business stage levels and industries are encouraged to apply.

### **Time Commitment**

Milestone Circles meets for 12-weeks (3-months) and begins with a 2-day, virtual on-boarding session (back-to-back days) for three hours/day. Following the on-boarding business owners meet virtually, once a week for 1-hour over a 12-week period.

# **How Do I Apply?**

Visit the <u>Milestone Circles website</u> and click on the Apply section; be sure to select the Illinois Women's Business Collective (ILWBC) at the end of the application process. You don't need to be a member of the ILWBC to apply. After applying, you'll receive confirmation from the Nasdaq Entrepreneurial Center in about one week. We encourage Illinois business owners to select a virtual on-boarding session the **week of October 14** to ensure you are on-boarding with other Illinois entrepreneurs. However, additional on-boarding sessions are available to fit your schedule.

### **Additional Benefits**

In addition to accelerating your leadership and achieving significant strategic company growth in 12- weeks, Milestone Circles alumni with measurable results will be featured on Nasdaq MarketSite in Times Square, NYC following graduation!

### **Questions? Contact either:**

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Visit Illinois' Women's Business Month's webpage for additional resources to help grow HER Illinois business