*“Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results." --****Andrew Carnegie***

*"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is SUCCESS." --****Henry Ford***

The Minority Entrepreneurial Connection (THE MEC) was established in August 2016 by Paula A. Bell. The **mission** of The MEC is to promote and advance the entrepreneurship of minority businesses. The **vision** is to provide an exclusive networking experience to help minorities reach their business goals through the sharing of knowledge, accountability, expertise, skill sets, and finances. “Iron sharpens iron”, and we agree to stop talking about our dreams and start doing them. In the first two years of the organization, we saw some great movement and advancement from members of The MEC. We decided in 2018 to elevate this organization to where it provides immense value to its members.

In 2018, the MEC became a **Mastermind Group**. A Mastermind group offers a combination of masterminding, peer brainstorming, accountability, and support in a group setting to create the success the members desire to achieve. The name itself speaks greatness, and with greatness comes much responsibility. Hence, the implementation of this Commitment Contract to uphold the integrity and accountability of the group was also created.

The MEC meets on the 2nd Wednesday from 6:15 pm – 7:15 pm CST / 7:15 pm – 8:15 pm EST and the 4th Wednesday of every month from 6:15 pm CST – 7:15 pm CST / 7:15 pm EST – 8:15 pm EST unless rescheduled.

To be a part of this Mastermind Group:

* **APPLICATION**: You must submit this application for review and consideration.
* **MEMBERSHIP FEE**: There is a $25/month membership fee, or you can pay an annual fee of $280 to join. 80% of the fee goes to the MEC Mastermind group to provide special guest speakers, potential conference attendance for development, and training opportunities. 20% of the fee will go to the execution of the administrative processes to run The MEC Mastermind Group.
* **COMMITMENT CONTRACT**: Commit, and adhere to the code of conduct, by signing a Commitment Contract. Non-adherence to this document will result in loss of membership of The MEC Mastermind Group.
* **NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT**: The signed Non-Disclosure Agreement protects all members’ intellectual property.

This group is for members who are serious and committed, to achieving their entrepreneurial goals, while also committing to be accountable to each other in all aspects of the group.

Once you have completed this application please return and the core board will meet to review your application and make a decision on acceptance to the MEC.

**Application**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Date |  |
| City & State of Residence |  |
| Name of Business |  |
| Your Title in Business |  |
| Years in Business |  |

1. **How did you hear about The MEC Mastermind Group?**
2. **Briefly explain your business or entrepreneurial desire.**
3. **Why do you want to join The MEC Mastermind Group?**
4. **What strengths will you bring to the table of The MEC Mastermind Group?**

**Commitment Questionnaire**

1. Are you committed to meeting 2 times a month consistently?  Yes  No
2. If you are not able to make a meeting, are you committed to listening to the

recording before the next meeting?  Yes  No

1. Are you committed to updating the goal-tracking spreadsheet, especially if you are

not able to make the meetings?  Yes  No

1. Are you willing to sign a Commitment Contract & Non-Disclosure Agreement?  Yes  No
2. Are you willing to actively engage and participate in the sharing of knowledge?  Yes  No
3. Do you have an open mind to new perspectives?  Yes  No
4. Do you embrace diversity of thought, skill, people, etc.?  Yes  No
5. Will you be paying the monthly (M), or annual (A) membership fee once

The application is accepted?  M  A

**Note**: Once the application is accepted, you will receive the Commitment Contract & Non-Disclosure Agreement for signature. Also at that time, the membership fee will be due and you will receive a link to submit payment.

**Next Steps**: Please send the completed Application to [themec7@gmail.com](mailto:themec7@gmail.com).