

# Are you ready?

Rate yourself on each of the consideration below to see if the time is right for you to start your small business. This is not intended to be a comprehensive list of consideration; rather, it is meant to get you started in your thinking so you can see where you feel comfortable and where you may have some gaps.

	Have not Considered	Currently Investigating	Already Considered
<b>PROFESSIONAL</b>			
Do you have experience in the field in which you are considering starting your business?			
Do you have a mentor who can provide you with support and give you honest feedback?			
Do you have a support network of entrepreneurs with whom you can share your ideas and learn from?			
<b>FINANCIAL</b>			
Can you start out slowly while keeping your current job or working part time?			
Have you been saving for this day by developing thrifty habits and building a financial reserve that will see you and your family through a period even longer than your expected start-up phase?			
Have you made sure that your medical, disability and life insurance coverage is in place?			
<b>PERSONAL</b>			
Can you and your family live without the certainty of a steady income?			
Are you and your family committed to the long hours and intense focus required to start a new business?			
Starting a new business may remove you from the professional and social network of your current job. Will you be comfortable going it alone?			

Some people are natural entrepreneurs while others are drawn to entrepreneurship because of the flexibility and independence of owning your own business. It's important to understand if you have an entrepreneur mindset. Listen as your presenter discusses the differences in an employee-mindset and an entrepreneur-mindset and place a dot on the continuum to indicate your current mindset.



If you found yourself on the Employee Mindset side of the continuum, you may want to spend more time thinking about taking the leap to become an entrepreneur. Consider pursuing a side-gig while still maintaining your full-time job in order to confirm that starting a small business is the right decision for you.