



**BANK  
OF THE  
SIERRA**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Sierra Grant Supports  
Small Business Development Center**

**Porterville, CA** —Bank of the Sierra is pleased to announce a Sierra Grant in the amount of \$2,000 has been awarded to the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) hosted by California State University Bakersfield (CSUB). This public-private partnership provides one-on-one consulting services and workshops to aid in job creation and creates sustainable companies for the Central Valley, while incorporating student participation. The grant funds will provide individuals, including minority and women entrepreneurs, specialized counseling and workshops to educate them on the business and financial practices needed to start or expand small businesses.

**About The Sierra Grant Program**

The Sierra Grant Program is designed to improve the quality of life for the families, especially the children, who reflect the diversity within Bank of the Sierra branch communities. The Sierra Grant Program is focused on three areas: community services, park preservation, and education. Anyone involved in a non-profit program that is interested in a Sierra Grant can pick up an instructional brochure at any Bank of the Sierra branch, or visit the bank web site at [www.bankofthesierra.com](http://www.bankofthesierra.com).

**About Bank of the Sierra**

With over \$1.3 billion in assets and strong performance ratios, Bank of the Sierra is the largest independently owned community bank headquartered in Southern San Joaquin Valley's Heartland. The bank serves 15 different communities with 25 branches, two Ag Centers and one SBA Center. For more information visit the web site at [www.bankofthesierra.com](http://www.bankofthesierra.com) or call (888) 454-BANK.

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