



Initial Session Process

Before counseling session:

- ☐ Confirm appointment at least one working day in advance.
- ☐ Prepare for appointment by reviewing Ecenter registration.
- ☐ Review IBISWorld Industry Report and/or any demographic report run for the client's business specific industry.

During counseling session:

- ☐ Intro and warm-up
 - Establish rapport, share common ground, create and build trust
 - Discuss briefly "why they came in today" and how they heard about us
- ☐ Share our Story (Storybook) "let me share a little bit about SBDC, who we are, what we do, and how we may be able to help you with what you are trying to do."
- ☐ Assess the client's business need by asking diagnostic questions on Initial Session Guide.
- ☐ Recap the summary of their confirmed needs.
- ☐ Develop Action Plan
- ☐ Provide insights and recommendations for goals accomplishment through professional and business development training and ongoing counseling sessions
- ☐ Gauge whether or not there is potential for Economic Impact.
- ☐ Provide Deliverables
- ☐ Issue homework assignment if needed.
- ☐ Schedule a 'firm' follow up appointment

After counseling session:

- ☐ Capture the notes in Neoserra