June 18, 2019

Dear [First name OR Mr/Ms Last name],

Thank you for writing to SFPL’s Jail and Reentry Services. You requested information on:

- Beginner’s information on starting a small business
- An image of the group City Girls
- Groups in the Bay Area that support Prisoner Reentry
- Who is Aleister Crowley?
- Can people in California prisons have marijuana?

I have answered your questions, I used Google to locate the answers to these questions. You will find this information below.

Sincerely,

San Francisco Public Library
Maybe you’re ready for a career change.

Maybe you’re still unsure what career to pursue in the first place.

Maybe all you really know is that you want to run your own business, but are fresh out of small business ideas.

While looking at the booming industries year by year can be tempting, it’s also a good idea to look to your strengths. What is your skill set? What are you great at? This can be an excellent jumping-off point for coming up with the best business ideas. By focusing on where your skills are, and what type of thing you enjoy doing, you can come up with great business ideas that truly play to your strengths.

These suggestions should give you somewhere to start.

Did I miss your skill set? What are you great at? Share with me in the comments, or on and we’ll continue brainstorming!
If you’re Mr. or Ms. Fix-It:

Does your ideal career involve getting your hands dirty—or, at the very least, working with your hands, as opposed to sitting in an office?

There are, of course, a million possibilities here; however, I’ve researched a few to get you started.

1. Start a plumbing, electric, or “handyman” type business

If you’re a fan of tinkering and solving a problem, starting a plumbing, electrician, or general handyperson-type business might be a good fit for you.

While it’s not as simple as, hey, go start plumbing, if you’re looking for a hands-on career, you might want to consider seeking out a vocational degree in one of these fields and building a business around it. I’ve also linked our free sample plans below, including one specific to starting a plumbing business.

For more information:

- Your local community college is a great place to start when it comes to vocational training, as well as by searching local trade schools in your area
- For further reading, check out this article: How a Self-Employed Handyman Earns $3,000 a Week
- If you’re ready to get started, check out our construction and engineering sample business plans or our plumbing sample business plan
- Look into your state’s requirements for certification for plumbers, electricians, and handy-persons or general contractors.

2. Start a construction business

Similarly, a construction business could be a great fit for someone who enjoys hands-on work.

If you’ve been doing this sort of work for someone else, it can be gratifying to start your own business and be the one calling the shots. If you’re still more of an amateur, you’ll probably need to complete either an apprenticeship or a trade program to get started; however, if you already have some of the skills or have worked construction in the past (or simply have interest in seeking the education), this might be a great fit.
3. Start a mechanic business

Do you love working on cars? Would you like to do it for a living?

Maybe you’ve been working on cars in your garage for a few years. Don’t write off your interest as merely a hobby; it could make a great small business idea.

For more information:

- Check your local community college and trade schools in your area for vocational training options
- If you’re ready to get started, check out our business plan for an auto repair service business, as well as our auto repair shop business plan

4. Start a sewing and alterations business

If you enjoy sewing, you might like a business specializing in altering or repairing garments.

While you don’t need a specific degree or training, you’ll need a certain level of skill to get started with this one. However, if you’re already great at sewing, an alteration business could be a great fit. It’s a perfect home-based business opportunity, and you’ll have limited overhead—if you have a sewing machine and a good iron, you’re halfway there.

For more information:

- Check out your local community college for sewing classes; your local community center may offer classes as well
- Read our article on how to start a sewing business
- Check out our complete sewing business startup guide
- Head over the Penny Hoarder for this guide on starting an alterations business
- Check out our clothing business sample plans
If you’re a whiz with numbers:

5. Start an accounting business

Do you enjoy bookkeeping, preparing taxes, and generally managing money? Consider starting an accounting business. The field of Strategic Advising is growing, and there is more demand than ever for accountants to provide services beyond just routine tax prep.

Unlike many suggestions on this list, becoming an accountant and opening your own firm will require the right education—generally, you’ll need a bachelor’s degree, and you’ll also likely need to be licensed as a CPA.

For more information:

- The LivePlan Strategic Advisors blog contains great insight and resources for Strategic Advisors and is well worth reading if you’re interested in breaking into the field
- Make sure to read this article from Accounting Web on pitfalls to avoid when starting your own accounting business, so you can make sure you don’t make any easily avoidable mistakes
- If you have questions, the Accounting Coach blog is a great place to go for answers
- Check out our accounting business plans if you’re ready to get started

6. Start a financial planning business

Like starting an accounting business, you’ll want to look into the requirements for starting a financial planning business. However, if you have a background in finance, or would like to pursue the schooling, starting a financial planning business might be the right small business idea for you.

For more information:

- If you’re interested in becoming a certified financial planner, read this guide
- Check out our financial planning business plan
- And, before you get started, make sure you’re ready to go it alone: Going Solo—The True Costs of Starting Your Own Financial Planning Firm

If you’re great at motivating people:

7. Start a personal training business or open a gym

If you’re into some aspect of fitness, opening a gym or starting a personal training business could be a great small business idea. From general fitness coaching to becoming an instructor (think Zumba or Pilates), to personal training, to opening your own gym, there are plenty of options in the fitness sphere, depending on where your interests lie. After all, the best business ideas for you will be the ones that play to your strengths.
Bear in mind that like many options on this list, you’ll need certification. NASM, ACE, and ACSM are a few of the most common and well-respected certifications, but the path you choose will depend on your specific focus.

**For more information:**

- Check out our article on [how to start a gym or fitness center](#)
- We also have a [complete startup guide for starting a personal training, gym, or fitness business](#)
- If you’re ready to get started, check out our [gym and fitness center business plans](#)
- Check out this article from American Fitness Professionals and Associates: [17 Tips for a Successful Personal Trainer Business](#)
- If you’re interested specifically in becoming a fitness instructor, check out this series of articles: [Become a Fitness Instructor](#)

8. **Start a life coaching business**

Did you successfully navigate a difficult situation against all odds, and come out stronger on the other side? Do you see the best in people, and want to help them reach their full potential? If so, you could consider building a small business around life coaching.

**For more information:**

- Check out this article: [How to Start a Successful Life Coaching Business](#)
- [This article](#) by Coach Pony is also worth a (fun) read
- Download and read our [psychological health center business plan](#) for planning inspiration

If you’re a strong writer:

9. **Start your own freelance writing business**

Sites like Elance and Upwork are great places to get started freelance writing, and you can easily build a small business around your skills as a freelance writer, or potentially expand to include other writers (or graphic designers, web designers, and so on) down the road.

Another great thing about starting a freelance writing small business? You can tailor it to your strengths. Whether you’re interested in copywriting, technical writing, or writing for trade publications, writers are always in demand.

**For more information:**

- Our article on [launching a writing business](#) will help you determine if it’s the right path for you
- Check out this article: [How to Start a Freelance Writing Business](#)
- Our [free sample business plans](#) are a great source of inspiration if you’re ready to get started with the planning process
10. Start an editing and proofreading business
Similarly, editing and proofreading services are always needed and would make a great small business idea. You can begin by taking on freelance work and go from there (and surprise—you’re already a sole proprietor!).

For more information:

- Check out this article by professional proofreader Louise Harnby: Setting Up a Proofreading Business: 10 Things You Need to Know and 10 More You Need to Do
- If you’re ready to get started, check out our free sample business plans or our guide to Lean Planning

11. Start a resume writing and help business
If you have an eye for detail (read: don’t let mistakes go unnoticed!) your skills might be put to good use helping job-seekers perfect their resumes.

For more information:

- Check out this article on starting a freelance resume writing business
- Consider taking the advice of the pros and learn how professional resume writers think you should get started
- Our sample business plans gallery is a good source of inspiration when you’re ready to write a business plan

If you have a green thumb:

12. Start a garden center
If you love gardening, but would rather share your expertise than physically help others with their personal gardens, starting a garden center might be the right small business idea for you. You can advise and educate other enthusiasts on what it takes to make their gardens beautiful.

For more information:

- Start by reading our guide to starting a garden center
- Check out our garden nursery business plan

13. Start a landscaping business
If, on the other hand, you do love the idea of working hands-on, you might consider a landscaping or lawn care business. While you’ll certainly need the skill set to get started, some lawn care services are ultra-basic to start (think mowing) and you can learn and add on more services over time.
For more information:

- Check out this article from The Garden Continuum on starting a landscaping business
- Download and read our landscaping sample business plans

If you love to be creative:

14. Start a photography business

If you’ve got a great eye and are always the one who documents special moments, you might want to consider making a career out of your photography passion.

While the competition is pretty stiff, specializing in a specific area, such as pet photography, weddings, or portraits can help set you apart.

For more information:

- Read our article on how to start a successful photography business
- Check out our complete photography business startup guide
- If you’re ready for business plan inspiration, download and read our photography studio business plan

If you are detail-oriented:

15. Start a car-detailing business

Taking the idea of “detail-oriented” in the most literal sense, a car detailing business could be a small business idea that is not only lucrative, but that plays to your strengths.

For more information:

- Start by reading this article: Five Tips for Starting a Mobile Auto Detailing Business
- If you’re ready to start planning, check out our car wash business plan

16. Start a house cleaning business

If you’re naturally tidy and enjoy keeping places clean, consider starting a house cleaning business. It’s fairly easy to start, requires no training or certification, and if you’re detail-oriented, it could really play to your strengths.
If you excel at making people feel relaxed and beautiful:

17. Start a massage therapy business

While it does take licensing to become a massage therapist, starting a massage therapy business can be a great career for someone who enjoys working with people, and making them feel relaxed and peaceful, or helping them manage pain or injury.

For more information:
- Most cities will have a massage therapy school where you can become an LMT—find one here!
- Our massage business plans will give you inspiration and show you how to get started on your business plan
- If you're interested in starting a day spa, check out our beauty salon and day spa sample business plans

18. Start a beauty salon or spa

Like a massage therapist, you will need a license to be a hairstylist, esthetician, or nail technician. However, if the training sounds enjoyable, consider looking into starting a salon or spa business.

For more information:
- Find your local cosmetology school to get started on the path to becoming a licensed hairstylist, esthetician, or nail technician
- Second, read our article on how to open a successful hair salon
- Check out our salon business startup guide
- If you're ready to get started, download and read our hair and beauty salon business plan

If you enjoy helping people:

19. Start a nonprofit

There are endless ways that you can help others by starting a nonprofit business. What problem are you passionate about fixing? Starting a nonprofit business can be a rewarding life path, as it can enable you to both make money and make a difference.
For more information:

- First, read our step-by-step guide on how to start a nonprofit
- For more specifics on writing your business plan, check out: How to Write a Nonprofit Business Plan
- If you’re ready to plan your nonprofit, download and read our free nonprofit sample business plans

If you are a natural teacher:

20. Start a tutoring business

If you know multiple languages, excelled at a certain subject in school, or are good at explaining concepts in a way that is easy to understand, consider starting a tutoring business. You can specialize in a particular area, depending on your skill set, such as paper writing, languages, math, or test preparation—the list goes on.

For more information:

- Start with this article from Side Hustle Nation: How to Start a Tutoring Business
- Check out our education and training sample business plans, specifically our tutoring business plan

21. Start a business teaching your skill set

So, you love to teach—but the idea of rehashing high school chemistry doesn’t really do it for you? Consider starting a business based on teaching what you do love.

Maybe you’re a skilled potter or a trained dancer? Love to practice yoga, and are interested in becoming an instructor? Whatever your skill, there are likely people who’d love a teacher.

For more information:

- To get started, try listing your skills on sites like Craigslist or Thumbtack
- If you’re especially interested in teaching online, this article is a good starting point
- Check out our education and training sample business plans for inspiration, or if you’re ready to get started

If you are a born problem-solver:

22. Build a much-needed app

Do you have the solution to a common problem or pain point that you feel is experienced by many? Consider building an app—it’s easier than you’d think.
• Image of the group City Girls
Groups in the Bay Area that support Prisoner Reentry

We distribute these guides inside and out:

**REENTRY RESOURCE LIST**
List of the reentry resources from the PRN website in a concise printable pdf.

**DIRECTIONS HOME**
PRN produces guides for getting from CA's prisons to its major cities using public transportation.

**IDENTIFICATION**
When individuals leave prison, they may have only prison-issued identification. While this serves as state-issued identification and will get access to a bus or train, it won't get you a social security card or driver's license. This document outlines the steps required for obtaining legal identification in preparation for release, a process that can begin any time following arrest. All necessary application forms are included.

**GUIDE TO TECHNOLOGY**
There is no internet inside California's prisons, and cell phones are prohibited. When people come home, it's a drastically different world (as our video demonstrates). The guide explains cell phones, how to obtain a cell phone for free upon release, the Internet, e-mail, and security online. It features screenshots of websites, e-mail, a guide to the internet, and other resources proven to be useful to people inside through our work behind the wall.

**POST-RELEASE CELL PHONES**

**BANKING**
"Roadmap to Reentry" CA Legal Guide

The Roadmap to Reentry: A California Legal Guide is an encyclopedic ‘know-your-rights’ legal guide that people can turn to about issues along the path of reentry. It is comprehensive, covering 11 areas of law and life: Housing, Employment, Parole & Probation, Education, Record-Cleaning, Getting ID, Voting, Family & Children, Public Benefits, Court-ordered Debt, Tribal Issues, Immigration & more.
### Who is Aleister Crowley?

**Aleister Crowley**

*From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia*

- **Aleister Crowley**, c. 1912

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Born</strong></th>
<th>Edward Alexander Crowley</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12 October 1875</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Royal Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, England</em></td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Died</strong></th>
<th>1 December 1947 (aged 72)</th>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Hastings, East Sussex, England</em></td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Education</strong></th>
<th><strong>Alma mater</strong></th>
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<td><em>Malvern College</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Tonbridge School</em></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Eastbourne College</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Occupation</td>
<td>Occultist, poet, novelist, mountaineer</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spouse(s)</td>
<td>Rose Edith Kelly</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(m. 1903; div. 1909)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Maria Teresa Sanchez</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(m. 1929)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children</td>
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**Signature**

Aleister Crowley (ˈæleɪstər ˈkroʊli; born Edward Alexander Crowley: 12 October 1875 – 1 December 1947) was an English occultist, ceremonial magician, poet, painter, novelist, and mountaineer. He founded the religion of Thelema, identifying himself as the prophet entrusted with guiding humanity into the Æon of Horus in the early 20th century. A prolific writer, he published widely over the course of his life.

Born to a wealthy family in Royal Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, Crowley rejected his parent's fundamentalist Christian Plymouth Brethren faith to pursue an interest in Western esotericism. He was educated at Trinity College at the University of Cambridge, where he focused his attentions on mountaineering and poetry, resulting in several publications. Some biographers allege that here he was recruited into a British intelligence agency, further suggesting that he remained a spy throughout his life. In 1898 he joined the esoteric Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn, where he was trained in ceremonial magic by Samuel Liddell MacGregor Mathers and Allan Bennett. Moving to Boleskine House by Loch Ness in Scotland, he went mountaineering in Mexico with Oscar Eckenstein, before studying Hindu and Buddhist practices in India. He married Rose Edith Kelly and in 1904 they honeymooned in Cairo, Egypt, where Crowley claimed to have been contacted by a supernatural entity named Aiwass, who provided him with The Book of the Law, a sacred text that served as the basis for Thelema. Announcing the start of the Æon of Horus, The Book declared that its followers should "Do what thou wilt" and seek to align themselves with their True Will through the practice of magick.

After an unsuccessful attempt to climb Kanchenjunga and a visit to India and China, Crowley returned to Britain, where he attracted attention as a prolific author of poetry, novels, and occult literature. In 1907, he and George Cecil Jones co-founded an esoteric order, the A.:A.:, through which they propagated Thelema. After spending time in Algeria, in 1912 he was initiated into another esoteric order, the German-based Ordo Templi Orientis (O.T.O.), rising to become the leader of its British branch, which he reformulated in accordance with his Thelemite beliefs. Through the O.T.O., Thelemite groups were established in Britain, Australia, and North America. Crowley spent the First World War in the United States, where he took up painting and campaigned for the German war effort against Britain, later revealing that he had infiltrated the pro-German movement to assist the British intelligence services. In 1920 he established the Abbey of Thelema, a religious commune in Cefalu, Sicily where he lived with various followers. His libertinist lifestyle led to denunciations in the British press, and the Italian government evicted him in 1923. He divided the following two decades between France, Germany, and England, and continued to promote Thelema until his death.

Crowley gained widespread notoriety during his lifetime, being a recreational drug experimenter, bisexual and an individualist social critic. He was denounced in the popular press as "the wickedest man in the world" and a Satanist. Crowley has remained a highly influential figure over Western esotericism and the counterculture, and continues to be considered a prophet in Thelema. He is the subject of various biographies and academic studies.
California court: Inmates can possess weed in prison but can't use it

by Zachary Halaschak

| June 13, 2019 06:04 PM
A court in California has ruled that inmates can legally possess marijuana while in the joint — they just can’t consume it.

Voters in the Golden State passed a proposition in 2016 that allowed for recreational use of the drug, but authors of the law failed to include language that bans possession for incarcerated people, California’s 3rd District Court of Appeal ruled.

Despite the determination that prisoners can possess pot while in jail, the court ruled that using the drug would be a violation of the state penal code. Possession could still be punished as a violation of prison rules.
Admiral Stockdale: Master of his fate

“It may be legal, but you can still ban it. Cellphones are legal. Pornographic images are legal. You can’t have either one in prison,” Lafayette attorney Dan Horowitz told The Mercury News.

“I have a client who’s facing life in prison for allegedly shipping marijuana to Missouri, yet California inmates can have it in their prison cells. It’s insane,” he said.

Smuggling pot into California prisons is still illegal, and because the drug is still against the law federally, inmates could be prosecuted in U.S. court for possessing it.
Democrat in North Carolina tries to nab final outstanding district of 2018
Kellyanne Conway in Hatch firing line but Obama officials were ignored

O.J. Simpson’s Twitter account appears to threaten man with knife emojis