



Chelsea Ellis-Hogan

CEO, Jim Reynolds Asphalt Contractor

2021 Power to Prosper MBA Graduate

As the third-generation owner of Jim Reynolds Asphalt Contractor, Chelsea Ellis-Hogan took over the family business that has been in Louisville for over 30 years. While both her father and great-uncle were familiar with running small businesses and being self-employed, Chelsea knew she would need more coaching and outside training to scale the business to new levels.

Participating in the first cohort of the Power to Prosper MBA program, Chelsea learned many detailed and big-picture business skills. She claims learning to read and understand her company's accounting and financial statements, interpret data, and learning how to secure a METCO loan through Louisville Metro Government for equipment were critical. After the program, she was also approved for a major loan through Republic Bank Community Fund for a line of credit to expand her business.

“I’ve grown in every single angle and learned new information that gives me confidence as a business owner to make decisions,” Ellis-Hogan said.

Since participating in the program, Chelsea has grown her name recognition in the community, through appearances in Louisville Business First and other local publications, and that’s helped bring in new customers and bigger contracts. Since graduating, Jim Reynolds has secured contracts with Stephen C. Gault Co. Industrial Real Estate and Yum! Brands through introductions facilitated through the program

“The MBA program gave me a community of like-minded people and accountability partners to trust and grow alongside,” Ellis-Hogan remarked.

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