

California Small Business

Resources to help with Start-ups, Expansions, and International Trade

California Business Portal (*Online Resource*)

The California Business Portal is an online computer platform where individuals can search and find custom information related to their businesses. There is a Service Desk with answers to common questions and search tools to help you identify local, regional, state, and federal license and permitting requirements. The California Business Portal was developed and is maintained by the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz).

<http://businessportal.ca.gov/>

Office of Small Business Advocate

The Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) provides information and assistance to small businesses to help them succeed in the California marketplace. The Office hosts a variety of summits, forums, and interagency meetings. It also maintains a comprehensive list of resources for small business technical assistance, financing, and state procurement. Website for a list of resources offered by the OSBA, as well as their contact information:

<http://www.business.ca.gov/Programs/Small-Business-Assistance/Office-of-Small-Business-Advocate>

Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz)

GO-Biz serves as a one-stop resource for information on business development and services. Working through a network of local and regional economic development entities, GO-Biz can assist businesses with a range of issues including starting a business, identifying permit requirements, and reaching potential customers in foreign markets.

www.business.ca.gov

Financial Development Corporations

The Small Business Financial Development Corporations (FDCs), designated by the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank, offer a range of financial products from loan guarantees to direct loans. Many FDCs are also certified to offer financial services from federal programs, as well. Website for a complete list of FDCs, including their contact information:

<http://gov-ibank-elb-412252090.us-west-1.elb.amazonaws.com/small-business-finance-center/>

Small Business Administration District Offices

SBA's District Offices are responsible for the delivery of a range of federal programs and services, including marketing information, customized referral to other business resources, and accessing capital.

General website: <https://www.sba.gov/>
Website for a complete list of SBA District Offices, including their contact information: <https://www.sba.gov/tools/local-assistance/map/state/CA>

Small Business Development Centers

The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) management and technical assistance network offers free one-on-one expert business advice and low-cost training by qualified small business professionals to existing and future entrepreneurs. In addition to its core services, the SBDC program offers special focus areas such as *green business technology, disaster recovery and preparedness, international trade assistance, veteran's assistance, technology transfer, and regulatory compliance*. SBDCs can also offer assistance in applying for federal Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) grants.

Website for a complete list of SBDCs, including their contact information:

<https://www.sba.gov/tools/local-assistance/map/state/CA>

Procurement Technical Assistance Centers

The Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTACs), designated by the U.S. Department of Defense, offer training on how to contract with federal, state, and local governments.

Website for a complete list of PTACs, including their contact information:

<http://www.ptac-us.org/contracting-assistance/>

Minority Business Development Centers

The Minority Business Development Centers (MBDAs), designated by the U.S. Department of Commerce, offer one-on-one financial counseling and other technical assistance, including referrals to other resources.

Website for a complete list of MBDAs, including contact information:

<https://www.mbda.gov/businesscenters#4/34.05/-111.95>

Office of Native American Affairs, Small Business Administration

The Office of Native American Affairs provides on-line and on-site training and counseling services to assist Native Americans in starting and growing businesses. The Office also engages in numerous outreach activities, such as tribal consultations, development and distribution of educational materials, and attendance of and participation in economic development events. Website for a list of resources offered by the Office of Native American Affairs, as well as their contact information:

<https://www.sba.gov/offices/headquarters/naa>

SCORE – Business Mentoring

SCORE is a national network of over 14,000 entrepreneurs, business leaders, and executives who volunteer as mentors to America's small businesses.

Website for a complete list of SCORE locations, including their contact information:

<https://www.score.org/find-location>

**Request a mentor:

<https://www.score.org/find-mentor>

Veteran Business Outreach Center

The Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC) delivers entrepreneurial development services to eligible veterans owning or considering starting a small business. There are two VBOCs in California, each providing a range of programs, including online workshops and materials. It may be useful to check both VBOCs for services.

Website for a complete list of VBOCs, including their contact information:

<https://www.sba.gov/offices/headquarters/ovb/resources/1548576>

Women's Business Centers

The Women's Business Center program delivers business training, coaching, mentoring, and other assistance geared toward women, particularly those who are socially and economically disadvantaged.

Website for a complete list of Women's Business Centers, including their contact information: <https://www.sba.gov/tools/local-assistance/map/state/CA>

Workforce Development Boards

The local workforce development boards receive 85% of federal funding provided to the state under the federal Work Opportunity Investment Act. The statewide workforce development system is comprised of 49 Local Workforce Development Areas, each with its own business-led Local Workforce Development Board. Services provided through the local boards vary and are intended to deliver workforce services relevant to their local residents and businesses.

Website for a complete list of local workforce boards, including contact information: https://cwdb.ca.gov/local_boards/local_workforce_investment_associations/

Employment Training Panel

The Employment Training Panel (ETP) reimburses businesses who provide approved training to incumbent workers. These grants allow businesses to customize training to meet the unique needs of the business, while empowering workers be more successful and marketable within their careers. Website with additional information on how to apply:

<https://etp.ca.gov/>

California Centers for International Trade Development

The California Centers for International Trade Development (CITD) have offices across the state and provide a full range of trade assistance services to companies and individuals in the state of California. They invest in California's economic growth and global competitiveness through industry-specific education, training, and services that contribute to a highly skilled and productive workforce.

Website for a complete list of CITDs, including their contact information: <https://citd.org/>

U.S. Export Assistance Centers

Each U.S. Export Assistance Center is staffed by trade specialists from the SBA, Department of Commerce, Export-Import Bank, and other public and private organizations. Their mission is to provide technical assistance to help small and medium-size businesses compete in today's global marketplace.

Website for a complete list of U.S. Export Assistance Centers, including their contact information: <http://www.sba.gov/content/us-export-assistance-centers>

“Small businesses serve as important economic drivers within the California economy.”

*Sabrina Cervantes, Assemblymember
Chair of the Assembly Committee on Jobs,
Economic Development, and the Economy*

*Please contact the Assembly Committee on Jobs,
Economic Development, and the Economy if we
can be of assistance at
(916) 319-2090 or jede@asm.ca.gov.*