

# **Resources for Self-Employment/Small Business**

## **Online Research Tools for Self-Employment**



### **Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development**

<https://mn.gov/deed/business/startng-business/>

MDEED's *Guide to Starting a Business in Minnesota* answers the most common questions about starting a business including:

- Before You Start
- Organizing a Business
- Business Plans
- Accounting
- Business Finance Basics
- Licenses and Permits
- Insurance
- Business Taxes
- Basics for Employers
- Intellectual Property
- Management Basics

Additional resources include

- Business Guidebooks: In depth guidebooks on topics such as employment law, Internet commerce, securities offerings, franchising, debt financing, loan documentation and intellectual property protection.
- Small Business Assistance Office offers individual consultation services.
- Small Business Development Centers: A statewide network of Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) provide the professional expertise and guidance that every small business owner needs.
- Additional Resources: A list of organizations that receive state funding through DEED to provide technical assistance to Minnesota based small businesses and entrepreneurs.



### **US Small Business Administration**

330 Second Avenue South Suite 430

Minneapolis, MN

Phone: 612-370-2324

<https://www.sba.gov/offices/district/mn/minneapolis>

### **Services available:**

- Financial assistance for new or existing businesses through guaranteed loans made by area lenders. The local
- Free counseling, advice and information on starting, better operating or expanding a small business through SCORE Counselors to America's Small Business.
- Assistance to businesses owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals through the Minority Enterprise Development Program.
- Women's Business Ownership Representatives are available to advise women business owners.
- Special loan programs are available for businesses involved in international trade.

## Organizations that help entrepreneurs



### African Development Center (ADC)

1931 South 5th Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55454  
Phone: 612-333-4772  
<http://adcminnesota.org/>

ADC provides culturally competent services to Minnesota's African community through workshops and consultations on financial literacy, business development, and home ownership. ADC offers an Entrepreneurial Training Program and financing/small business loans.

Business Plans are Included as part of the Entrepreneurship Training Program which costs \$600, with a \$75 scholarship opportunity based on income.



### Latino Economic Development Center (LEDC)

1501 East Lake Street, Lower Level  
Minneapolis MN 55407  
Phone: 651-395-4030  
<https://ledc-mn.org>

The LEDC is a statewide membership-based nonprofit organization that strives to transform the Latino community by creating economic opportunity for Latinos. An individual membership is \$50 a year.

LEDC offers orientations, classes, development consulting, technical assistance, and access to capital for new and existing entrepreneurs.



### **LegalCORPS**

Multiple locations  
Phone: 612-206-0780  
<http://legalcorps.org/>

LegalCORPS helps low-income owners of small businesses and small nonprofit organizations by connecting them with free, high-quality legal services from volunteer lawyers. There is a \$50 administrative fee.



### **MEDA – Metropolitan Economic Development Association**

1256 Penn Ave. No. Suite 4800  
Minneapolis, MN 55411  
Phone: 612-332-6332  
<http://meda.net/>

MEDA helps minority entrepreneurs succeed. MEDA can help with loan packaging, business plan evaluation, answering questions about start-ups and acquisitions, networking, mentor relationships financial planning and more.



MN-SBIR  
400 South 4th Street Suite 416  
Minneapolis, MN 55415  
Phone: 952-230-4555  
<https://www.mhta.org/mnsbir/>

Minnesota High Tech Association helps technology-based entrepreneurs and innovators access federal funding through the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Programs.



Neighborhood Development Center (NDC)  
663 University Avenue West Suite 200  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55104  
Phone: 651 291 2480  
<http://www.ndc-mn.org/>

NDC provides eligible businesses assistance in the following areas:

- Entrepreneur training costs \$150-\$600 based on household income.
- Second Stage Entrepreneur Training is \$500 for cohort training.
- Consultation for developing a business plan after training is completed.
- Small business loans: NDC has loans for those who do not qualify for traditional financing.
- Business services: The Business Lab provides business assistance in areas from accounting to web design.
- Incubators and Real Estate: NDC creates spaces for small businesses to grow.
- Many free workshops are available monthly.



**NEON – Northside Economic Opportunity Network**  
1007 West Broadway Avenue North,  
Minneapolis, MN 55411  
Phone: 612-302-1505  
<https://www.neon-mn.org/>

NEON works with individuals at various stages of entrepreneurship, from information seekers to existing business entities.

NEON:

- Helps entrepreneurs in north Minneapolis and surrounding communities.
- Works with entrepreneurs who are thinking about starting a business and existing businesses owners.
- Offers spaces to work, expert guidance from business advisors, mentorship, business incubation and development, training, workshops and more.
- Thinking about Business is a free 4-hour session offered every third Saturday.
- Additional training and workshops are available at no cost.



## SCORE

8700 West 36th Street, Suite 125A  
Minneapolis, MN, 55426  
Phone: 952-938-4570  
<https://minneapolis.score.org/>

SCORE is a volunteer, non-profit organization and a resource partner of the U.S. Small Business Administration. SCORE provides free business counseling designed for pre-venture and early stage businesses.

SCORE offers these free services:

- Workshops for both startup entrepreneurs and small business owners.
- On-line webinars covering a range of topics.
- Mentors to individuals to offer business advice.
- Resource library
- Business Plan Center to help create business plans.



**University of St. Thomas/Small Business Development Center**  
2115 Summit Avenue St. Paul, Minnesota 55105  
1000 LaSalle Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55403  
Phone: 651-962-4500  
<http://www.stthomas.edu/sbdc/>

The Small Business Development Center provides business consulting services to help businesses develop strategies to attract customers, increase sales and improve profitability.

The Small Business Development Center offers:

- Smart Start for Business Workshop, which costs \$50.
- Business plan advising where a consultant will guide you through completing a business plan. This service is free, however you must complete *Smart Start for Business* workshop first.



**Women Venture**  
2021 E Hennepin Ave, Suite 200  
Minneapolis, MN 55413  
Phone: 612 224-9540  
<http://www.womenventure.org/>

WomenVenture helps women start and grow profitable and sustainable businesses. WomenVenture trains entrepreneurs, advises businesses, provides loans, and creates jobs.

WomenVenture offers:

- Classes and workshops in entrepreneurial readiness, business plan development and refinement and more.
- Free workshops.
- Loans up to \$50,000 for qualified borrowers.
- Business Resources including consulting and online resources.
- Getting Ready: a 3-part series to determine if small business is right for you, which costs \$150.
- Small Business Essentials cohort training, including business plan, which costs \$600.