

Small Business Resource Sheet

Call (586) 574-4529 for assistance in navigating these resources

1. Michigan Economic Development Cooperation (MEDC):

The Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) is a highly regarded organization offering a wealth of resources for local businesses. Their knowledgeable staff is ready to assist you—contacting them directly to discuss your specific needs is often the most effective way to find support tailored to your business. This website serves as an overview of MEDC's initiatives, and we encourage you to explore further to locate the specific assistance you require. It's an excellent starting point for your business journey

Link: Home | Michigan Business

2. MEDC Small Business Assistance Program:

The State Government, in collaboration with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), has created a dedicated portal that offers a variety of resources for emerging businesses. This portal features links to numerous programs designed to support you during the initial stages of business development. We invite you to explore these valuable tools to help your business thrive.

Link: <u>Small Business Resources | MEDC Services | Michigan Business</u> (portal) Small Business Support Hub | MEDC | Michigan Business (overview)

3. Southeast Michigan Chamber of Commerce (Warren Chamber):

Our local Chamber of Commerce is part of the Southeast Michigan Chamber of Commerce, it was established by merging several local chambers, including the Warren-Centerline Chamber of Commerce. It offers a community-focused approach to networking and business advocacy. Members benefit from opportunities to connect with other local businesses, participate in educational workshops, and access discounts on various services. Consider joining to strengthen your business connections and enhance your growth potential in the region.

Link: Southeast Michigan Chamber of Commerce (semchamber.org)

4. Macomb County Chamber of Commerce:

The Macomb County Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to promoting and safeguarding the interests of local businesses. They offer valuable support in areas such as marketing, networking, and community engagement. Becoming a member provides an excellent platform to advocate for your business needs at the county level. Consider joining to make your voice heard and connect with resources that can help your business thrive.

Link: Macomb County Chamber of Commerce

5. MI Velocity in Sterling Heights:

Velocity is a dynamic organization which has partnered with the city to foster the growth of new businesses in the region. Velocity focuses on supporting startups in the technology, manufacturing, and defense sectors, but has recently expanded their scope to many other sectors. The organization provides a collaborative environment where entrepreneurs can make valuable networking connections, access mentorship, and discover essential resources tailored to their industries. They have rentable office space for a low cost and also have many opportunities to secure grants or funding. With a range of programs designed to accelerate business development, MI Velocity is an ideal hub for innovation and growth.

Link: Velocity | Sterling Heights, MI (mivelocity.com)

6. SCORE Southeast Michigan:

SCORE Southeast Michigan is a valuable resource primarily aimed at non-profit organizations, but it also offers tools and support for business owners. The mentor program provides personalized guidance and expertise, making it an excellent avenue for entrepreneurs seeking direct assistance. As a non-profit organization, SCORE offers its services for free and maintains a commitment to confidentiality. Their extensive network includes numerous links and resources to help you start and grow your non-profit or business effectively. Take advantage of their wealth of knowledge and support to navigate your entrepreneurial journey.

Links:

Education & webinar trainings:

<u>candid.org</u> <u>https://learning.candid.org/training/is-starting-a-nonprofit-right-for-you/</u>
IRS 501C3 considerations:

https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/charitable-organizations/exemption-requirements-501c3-organizations

Non-profit Board resources:

https://boardsource.org/fundamental-topics-of-nonprofit-board-service/

SCORE non-profit resources:

https://www.score.org/nonprofit-public-professional-organizations

Free online course- Startup Roadmap for NP business planning:

https://www.score.org/startup-roadmap

Mentor profiles with NP expertise:

https://www.score.org/search-

mentors?f%5B0%5D=advanced mentor search industry%3A1022



7. Michigan Small Business Development Center:

The Michigan Small Business Development Center (SBDC) offers comprehensive training and support to help you navigate the technical aspects of running a business. From growth strategies and market research to cybersecurity, SBDC provides a wealth of free resources designed to foster your business's success. Their team of experts is available to assist you in exploring the website and identifying the resources that best meet your needs. Take advantage of these valuable opportunities to learn, grow, and enhance your business operations.

Link: https://michigansbdc.org/

8. Michigan Community Resources Small Business Support:

The Michigan Community Resources Small Business Support program was established as a pilot initiative to assist small business owners during the challenges of the pandemic in 2020. This program offers guidance on navigating legal challenges, including support for situations related to bankruptcy or foreclosure. By providing essential resources and expert advice, they aim to help small businesses overcome difficult circumstances and build a path to recovery. If you are facing challenges, this program is here to support you during these trying times.

Link: Small Business Support – Michigan Community Resources (mi-community.org)

9. Yelp- free sign up:

Yelp offers a platform that can help market your business to potential customers through its extensive user base. By signing up for a free account, you can enhance your visibility and attract new clientele. However, it's important to be aware of potential challenges, such as the possibility of receiving unfair reviews or encountering issues reported by other vendors. We recommend carefully considering the pros and cons of making your business reputation accessible online before registering. Take the time to evaluate how Yelp fits into your overall marketing strategy.

Link: Plan, start, grow, and advertise your small business | Yelp for Business

