Resources for Small Businesses

There are many resources to help you start and grow your small business. Please refer to this list for guidance and contact the Tacony CDC for assistance with any of these programs or organizations.

Getting Started: Making a Dream a Reality

Assistance

SCORE Philadelphia- Part of national nonprofit dedicated to helping America’s small businesses, SCORE offers free mentoring, advice, materials, and classes to small business owners. We highly suggest any new small business owner schedule a time to speak with a SCORE representative to discuss starting a business.

Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce Resource Directory – This comprehensive database provides you with the contact information for multiple small business oriented institutions, agencies, and organizations throughout the region. Click here to view the directory

Small Business Development Centers- There are multiple small business development centers throughout the region that help with all phases of business development. Please consult the list at the back of this packet for more information.

Education

Pennsylvania Small Business Development Center Webinars- This free hour long webinar series takes you through the basics of business, all you need to do is register at this site to view.

Women’s Business Development Center- Offers an incredible amount of online classes covering multiple topics all pertaining to small business. Classes cost under $100 and last several weeks, financial aid is available to those who qualify. This organization’s programs are open to all individuals.

Philadelphia Community College Goldman Sachs Partnership- Part of Goldman Sachs national small business development campaign this partnership provides small business owners with education, support, and a capital network to get your business off the ground. For existing businesses only, application and interview is required for acceptance to the program.

Startup Programs to Open Shop

Loans

Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation (PIDC) Partner Bank Guarantee - A loan for small businesses from the Philadelphia Development Corporation that guarantees 50% of the loan. Loans range from $50,000 to $250,000 with eligibility determined by the lending bank. This program is for businesses looking to set up shop in Philadelphia.
Finata PreCap Program- A small loan program that allows a group of businesses to work with a new small business to infuse them with capital and improve their credit score. Loan amounts are $1200 or $3600 with an interest rate of 9%

Greater Philadelphia Urban Affairs Coalition Builder Loan Program- A loan program for businesses with higher credit risks to obtain financing. Preference is given to business located in low income and minority communities in Philadelphia

Kiva Zip- A program that provides small business owners with crowd sourced loans from a national network of supporters at 0% interest, usually for businesses that are meeting a community need.

Women’s Opportunity Resource Center Economic Opportunities Fund Loans- Five different types of loans, available to men and women, designed to help new or existing businesses:

- Credit Builder Loans, range from $500 to $1000 with 8% interest and term maximum of 1 year
- Direct Loans, range from $500 to $2500 with 8% interest and term maximum of 2 years
- Credit Lines, up to $2000 with 8% interest and term maximum of 2 years
- Small Business Loans, up to $10,000 with 3-5% interest rate and term maximum of 3 years, only for existing businesses
- Near Equity Loan Product, up to $35,000 with a 6-8% interest rate and term of 5 to 7 years

Entrepreneur Works Small Business Loans - Loans from $500 to $15,000 for new businesses.

Finata Small Micro Loans - Loans up to $15,000 for new businesses, term is 12 months per $10,000 borrowed with an interest rate of 9%.

The Enterprise Center-Startup Loan- Up to $10,000 available for startups over 6 months old with an additional outside source of income.

**Tax Credit**

Jump Start Philly- A program from the city’s Office of Business Services that exempts qualified businesses from certain taxes and fees for their first two years of operation.

Pennsylvania Job Creation Tax Credit- A $1,000 tax credit for every new job created in the state within three years. The business must expand its workforce by 20% or hire at least 25 new employees to qualify for the credit. Contact the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for more detail.

City of Philadelphia Job Creation Tax Credit- With similar requirements to the state job creation tax credit listed above the city of Philadelphia offers a tax credit of up to $5,000 for each qualified new job created in the city. Contact the Revenue Department for more details.
**Grants**

The Merchants Fund Business Stabilization Grant- A grant of up to $10,000 for businesses facing economic challenges, available for businesses that have been open three or more years.

**Other**

Kickstarter and Indie Go-Go- Are two crowdsourcing sites that individuals and business use to get the capital to start businesses and projects. Rules and stipulations apply please consult each site for more detail.

**Capital Improvements to Grow your Business**

**Loans**

Philadelphia Commerce Department InStore Program- A forgivable loan program where a business can have the interior of their store improved, amount ranges from $15,000-$50,000. If the business stays open for five years after the project is complete and expands its services the business does not have to pay back the loan. Business must be on an eligible commercial corridor.

PIDC Working Capital and Equipment Loan- A loan ranging from $50,000 to $750,000 with an approximate interest rate of 6.25% with a 5 year term, the loan can be used to finance capital, equipment, or leasehold improvements.

PIDC Capital Project Loan- A loan ranging from $50,000 to $750,000 with a 2.75% interest rate and varying term lengths. The loan can be used for property acquisition, construction, equipment, and soft costs.

The Enterprise Center Business Loan- A $50,000 loan with flexible terms, to be considered for the loan the business much be established for 12 months.

**Tax Credits**

City of Philadelphia’s Green Roofs Tax Credit- Businesses can apply 25% of all green roof construction cost against their business income and receipt tax, maximum amount is $100,000

**Grants**

Philadelphia Commerce Department Store Front Improvement Program – A program that will reimburse a business for 75% of the cost for storefront improvements. Maximum storefront program reimbursement ranges from $10,000 to $20,000 depending on storefront width. See commerce department for details

Philadelphia Commerce Department Safe Cam Program - A program that will reimburse a business for 50% of the cost for exterior security camera improvements. Maximum reimbursement is $3,000 for the program.
PA Small Business Energy Efficiency Grant- A program that will reimburse a small business 25%, up to $25,000, for improvements in equipment and other practices that promote energy efficiency.

**Other Incentives**

**Loans**

The Merchant Fund Loan Matching Grant- A modest grant for existing businesses ranging from $1,000 to $20,000. The loan comes from accredited government programs and banks.

**Tax Credit**

Philadelphia Sustainable Business Tax credit- The City of Philadelphia offers a $4,000 tax credit to businesses that qualify as “B” corporations.

Welfare to Work Tax Credit- This state program offers credit of up $8,500 dollars per hire for businesses that hire individuals with barriers to employment targeting those coming off long term welfare.

**Train Your Workers**

Philadelphia Works on the Job Training Program- Employers can train new employees at their place of business while being reimbursed 50 percent of gross wages during training.

**Legal Advice**

Philly VIP Law Works Program- This program is also available to small business and pairs you up with a legal professional that will consult you on your legal concerns for free.

Penn Law Entrepreneurship Legal Clinic- Provides a wide array of free legal services to entrepreneurs, including employee management, commercial real estate development, strategizing, negotiating, drafting, and many more.

**Beyond Small Business: Expanding Your Business**

**Loans**

Finata Small Micro Loans - Loans from up $50,000 for existing businesses, term is 12 months per $10,000 borrowed maximum 6 years at 9% interest.

Finata Small Business Loans- Ranging from $50,000 to $100,000 and are on an 8 year term at 9%. Typically this is for business expansion, acquisition, or construction.

Entrepreneur Works Small Business Loans- Loans from $500 to $25,000 for existing businesses.

Entrepreneur Works Peer Loans- Allows an entrepreneur to apply for a loan through their peer group without a credit check, collateral and without approval of a loan committee. If accepted by the peer group, the peer group makes the loan to the member.
The Enterprise Center Relocation Loan - A $30,000 loan with flexible terms. To be considered for the loan a business must be established for at least 12 months.

*This list is current as of January 2015. The Tacony CDC cannot guarantee that when you contact these resources the programs or organizations will be operational, fully funded, or that you will be accepted.

**Small Business Development Centers**

**Community College of Philadelphia Corporate Solutions Office**  
Center for Business and Industry  
1751 Callowhill St (18th and Callowhill)  
Philadelphia PA, 19130  
Phone: 215.496.6170

**The Enterprise Center Minority Business Development Agency**  
4548 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19139  
Phone: 215.895.4032  
Fax: 215.895.4094

**LaSalle Non-profit Leadership Center (also assists small business)**  
1900 W. Olney Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19141  
Phone: 215.951.1701  
Fax: 215.991.2967

**Temple Small Business Development Center**  
1510 Cecil B. Moore Avenue  
Beech Building, Suite 200  
Philadelphia, PA 19121  
Phone: 215.204.7282  
Fax: 215.204.4554

**Wharton Business Development Center**  
Vance Hall, Suite 112  
3733 Spruce Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19104  
Phone: 215.898.4861  
Fax: 215.898.1063
Contact Sheet

SCORE Philadelphia
105 N. 22nd Street, 1st Floor Philadelphia, PA 19103
Phone: 215.231.9880
Fax: 215.231.9881
Email: scorephila@yahoo.com

Women’s Business Development Center
1315 Walnut Street, Suite 1116, Philadelphia, PA 19107
Phone: 215.790.9232

Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation
1500 Market Street Suite 2600 West Philadelphia, PA 19102
Phone: 215.496.8020
Fax: 215.977.9618

Greater Philadelphia Urban Affairs Coalition
1207 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19107
Phone: 215.851.0110
Fax: 215.851.0514

KIVA Zip
For in-depth information about KIVA Zip visit their website at https://zip.kiva.org/faq

Women’s Opportunity Resource Center
2010 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19103
Phone: 215.564.5500
Fax: 215.564.0933
Email: info@worc-pa.com

Entrepreneur Works
111 S. Independence Mall East, Suite 528
The Bourse Building, Philadelphia, PA 19106
Phone: 215.545.3100
Fax: 215.925.2485

The Enterprise Center
4548 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19139
Phone: 215.895.4000
Email: info@theenterprisecenter.com

The Merchant Fund
1528 Walnut Street #1004, Philadelphia, PA 19102
Phone: 215.399.1339
Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce
The Bellevue, 200 South Broad Street #700, Philadelphia, PA 19102
Phone: 215.545.1234

Start Up PHL
To contact please visit their contact page and submit an online request

Kickstarter Indie Go-Go
To learn more about these services please visit kickstarter.com and indiegogo.com and explore their “FAQ” and “about” pages.

Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development
Commonwealth Keystone Building 400 North Street, 4th Floor Harrisburg, PA 17120-0225
Phone: 1.866.466.3972

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (South Eastern PA office)
2 E. Main Street Norristown, PA 19401-4915.
Phone: 484.250.5900

Philly VIP
1500 Walnut Street, Suite 400 Philadelphia PA 19102
Phone: 215.523.9565

City of Philadelphia Commerce Department
1515 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102 12th Floor
Phone: 215.683.2100

City of Philadelphia Revenue Department:
Municipal Services Building 1401 John F. Kennedy Boulevard
Concourse Level Philadelphia, PA 19102

Real Estate
Phone: 215.686.6442
Email: revenue@phila.gov

Taxes
Phone: 215.686.6600
Email: revenue@phila.gov

Penn Law Entrepreneurship Legal Clinic
3400 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104
Phone: 215.898.8044

Philadelphia Works
One Penn Center at Suburban Station 1617 JFK Boulevard, 13th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19103
Phone: 215.963.2100
www.philaworks.org

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