

Contacts for Entrepreneurs

Getting Started

[Forsyth County Central Library](#)

Information Services, Central Library, 660 W. Fifth St., Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101 | 336-703-3020

The library provides free access to a wide variety of resources, services and programs useful to entrepreneurs, small business owners and nonprofit organizations. Visit Information Services on the third floor of Central Library or call 336-703-3020 and talk to a librarian to get started.

Business Start-Up Guides

[Business Start-Up Guide - Small Business and Technology Development Center](#)

[Doing Business in North Carolina - NC.gov](#)

[Start or Grow a Business - Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina](#)

[Business Guide - Small Business Administration](#)

[Business Planning & Financial Statements Template Gallery - SCORE](#)

[Business Plans Handbook](#) (Sample business plans available with your Forsyth County Public Library card)

Business Counseling & Mentoring

[Small Business Center \(SBC\) of Forsyth Technical Community College](#)

525 Vine St., Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101 | 336-757-3804

SBC offers mentoring and counseling services, workshops, seminars, and networking opportunities for new and expanding businesses.

[Small Business and Technology Development Center \(SBTDC\) at Winston-Salem State University](#)

114 R.J. Reynolds Center, 601 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr., Winston-Salem, N.C. 27110 | 336-750-8340

SBTDC offers counseling and group instruction on starting and growing a business. The [Government Contracting Assistance Program](#) provides assistance to procurement-ready businesses.

[SCORE \(Service Corps of Retired Executives\)](#)

1165 Herndon Pkwy, Suite 100, Herndon V.A. 20170 | 336-333-5399

Services include mentors, workshops and resources for starting and growing a business.

Business Registration, Licenses, Regulations and Legal Assistance

[Forsyth County Register of Deeds](#)

Forsyth County Government Center, 201 N. Chestnut St., Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101 | 336-703-2700

File the Certificate of Assumed Business Name form with the Register of Deeds office in the county or counties where the business plans to operate.

[N.C. Secretary of State](#)

2 South Salisbury St., Raleigh, N.C. 27601 | 919-814-5400

Register a business as a Corporation, Limited Liability Partnership (LLP), Limited Liability Corporations (LLC) or

Nonprofit. The website includes forms, fee schedules and a database of business names.

[City of Winston-Salem Business Services](#)

100 E. First St., Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101 | 336-727-8000 | 336-747-7474 ([Small Business Liaison](#))

Contact the Small Business Liaison for help with business licenses, home business requirements, and navigating through governmental processes and services needed to operate a business in Winston-Salem. Consult the [Starting a Business](#) checklist to get started.

[Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina \(EDPNC\)](#)

150 Fayetteville St., Suite 1200, Raleigh, N.C. 27601 | 919-447-7777 | 800-228-8443 ([Business Advisors](#))

EDPNC is an extension of the N.C. Department of Commerce. Connect with a Small Business Advisor for assistance with business licenses, state permits, legal requirements, tax forms and export assistance. Search the [N.C. Business and Occupational License Database](#) (NCBOLD).

[Wake Forest University School of Law - Community Law & Business Clinic \(CLBC\)](#)

Worrell Professional Center, Suite 2302, Wake Forest University | 336-758-4950

Free assistance by Wake Forest University Law and Business students is provided during the academic year to small businesses and nonprofit organizations who are accepted as clients.

Taxes

[U.S. Internal Revenue Service \(IRS\) Tax Information for Businesses](#)

251 N. Main Street, Suite 800, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101 | 336-659-2740 (Local) | 800-829-4933 (Business)

Find tax information on starting, operating and closing a business. Apply for an [Employer ID Number \(EIN\)](#).

[N.C. Department of Revenue \(NCDOR\)](#)

1500 Pinemcove Road, Asheville Building, Suite 300, Greensboro, N.C. 27407

336-487-0200 (Local Office) | 877-252-3052 (NCDOR Help Line)

Includes specific tax and licensing requirements. The [Business Registration](#) page provides links to get started.

[Forsyth County Tax Administration](#)

201 N. Chestnut St., Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101 | 336-703-2300

Contact the office to determine specific requirements for your business.

Patent, Trademark and Copyright

[N.C. Secretary of State Trademarks Division](#)

P.O. Box 29622, Raleigh, N.C. 27626-0622 | 919-814-5360

Find information on registering a trademark in North Carolina and search the trademark database.

[U.S. Patent and Trademark Office \(USPTO\)](#)

USPTO Madison Building, 600 Dulany St., Alexandria, V.A. 22314 | 800-786-9199

The website includes a wealth of information about patents and trademarks.

[U.S. Copyright Office](#)

101 Independence Ave. S.E., Washington, D.C. 20559 | 877-476-0778 | 202-707-3000

Find comprehensive information on copyright registration, research, law and forms.

Small Business Assistance and Financing Resources

[ACCESS Center for Equity & Success](#)

Innovation Quarter, Virtual Campus

Includes financing and contract opportunities for minority and women-owned business enterprises (MWBES).

[City of Winston-Salem Minority and Women's Business Enterprise \(M/WBE\) Division](#)

101 N. Main St., City Hall - Suite 232, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101 | 336-727-8000 (City Link) | 336-734-1238

The office certifies qualified minority- and women-owned businesses to participate in city contracting and purchasing programs.

[City of Winston-Salem Small Business Loan Program](#)

100 E. First St., Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101 | 336-727-8000 | 336-747-7474 (Small Business Liaison)

The Business Development Division provides financial assistance to businesses located in the Winston-Salem Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area (NRSA).

[Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina \(EDPNC\) - Financing Resources](#)

150 Fayetteville St., Suite 1200, Raleigh, N.C. 27601 | 919-447-7777 | 800-228-8443 (Business Advisor)

The web page includes links to loans, grants, private equity initiatives, government contracting and crowdfunding, as well as a guide to business financing in North Carolina.

[Forsyth County Community and Economic Development](#)

201 North Chestnut Street, Fifth Floor, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101 | 336-703-2684

The department administers a Microenterprise Individual Development Account (IDA) program.

[Greater Winston Salem Inc.](#)

525 Vine Street, Suite 240, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101 | 336-728-9200

Find information on the [Minority Business Enterprise \(MBE\) Grant Program](#) and search the [Winston-Salem Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Tool](#) to access a variety of funding resources.

[International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce - Greensboro Office](#)

336-333-5345 | 336-333-5346 | 919-695-6366

Contact a U.S. Commercial Service International Trade Specialist in Greensboro for assistance in exporting and expanding into global markets.

Micro Enterprise Loan Program of Winston-Salem Forsyth County Inc.

301 N. Main St., Suite 2221, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101 | 336-722-9600 | melp@bellsouth.net

Small loans are available to qualified businesses in Forsyth County for start-up, materials, supplies, operating expenses and training.

[N.C. Department of Commerce Grants and Incentives](#)

301 N. Wilmington St., Raleigh, N.C. 27601 | 919-814-4600

The website has links to competitive incentives, public infrastructure funds, building or site funds, technology funds, workforce grants, downtown development funds and film industry grants.

[N.C. Grant Opportunities](#)

NC.gov includes links to grant programs across North Carolina government agencies.

[NC IDEA](#)

411 W. Chapel Hill Street, Suite C2, Durham, N.C. 27701 | 919-941-5600

NC IDEA awards competitive grants for entrepreneurs in North Carolina.

[N.C. Office for Historically Underutilized Businesses \(NC HUB\)](#)

1336 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699 | 984-236-0130

NC HUB offers opportunities for historically underutilized businesses to participate in state government contracting and procurement. The office also provides outreach, training, and networking opportunities.

[N.C. Rural Center Lending Programs](#)

4021 Carya Dr., Raleigh, N.C. 27610 | 919-250-4314

The website lists lending programs in rural counties across North Carolina.

[Piedmont Triad Regional Council Business Investment Fund](#)

1398 Carrollton Crossing Dr., Kernersville, N.C. 27284 | 336-904-0300

The fund provides business loans to help start-ups and expanding businesses in the Piedmont Triad.

[U.S. Small Business Administration \(SBA\)](#)

N.C. District Office, 6302 Fairview Rd., Suite 300, Charlotte, N.C. 28210 | 704-344-6563 | 800-827-5722

The [SBA Funding Programs web page](#) includes information on loans, grants and investment capital. The website also provides information on [federal contracting](#).

[Winston-Salem Black Chamber of Commerce \(WSBCC\) Resources](#)

1922 S. Martin Luther King Dr. Suite 25, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27107 | 336-745-1684

The webpage includes funding opportunities, contracts and employment leads, training and mentoring.

[Winston Salem Partners Roundtable Fund](#)

500 W. Fifth St., Suite 400, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101

The Fund provides investment capital for promising early stage businesses.

[Winston-Salem Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Tool](#)

Use this search tool on the Greater Winston Salem Inc. website to access the growing network of resources for entrepreneurs. Find business accelerators, incubators, co-working spaces, makerspaces and financing sources.

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