

Starting a Small Business

Education & Employment Information Center
Office of Financial and Academic Affairs for Higher Education

800/842-0229
www.ctohe.org

Starting your own business is an exciting venture. Connecticut's colleges and universities offer many courses in small business development. For more information on these programs, contact the Education & Employment Information Center, a statewide clearinghouse for free information about learning and career opportunities operated by the Office of Financial and Academic Affairs for Higher Education.

State Resources

The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) provides free one-on-one counseling and free or low-cost workshops for entrepreneurs and small business owners. Workshop topics range from the basics of starting and running a business to growing a small business. SBDC is a statewide provider of management and technical assistance with locations at each of the Connecticut State University campuses and the Department of Economic and Community Development.

Office of the State Director
185 Main Street
New Britain 06051
860/832-0650
csbdc@ccsu.edu
www.ctsbdc.org

Connecticut's Business Response Center (BRC) is a free information service on doing business in Connecticut. The BRC specialists address questions about government and private resources, make referrals and explain state and local requirements. The BRC also provides information about Connecticut's most comprehensive database of commercial real estate, CERC SiteFinder (www.CTSiteFinder.com).

BRC
805 Brook Street
Rocky Hill 06067
800/392-2122
www.cerc.com

The **Connecticut Licensing Info Center (CT-CLIC)** helps businesses on full compliance with Connecticut law. CT-CLIC offers a free self-service approach and business registry program via www.CT-CLIC.com.

CT-CLIC
805 Brook Street
Rocky Hill 06067
800/392-2122
info@ct-clic.com
www.CT-CLIC.com

The **Connecticut Development Authority** gives Connecticut companies access to capital. Through URBANK, banks provide funding to small business for startup, growth and expansion.

Connecticut Development Authority
999 West Street
Rocky Hill 06067
860/258-7800
www.ctcda.com

The **Entrepreneurial Center** can help you evaluate your self-employment potential during a 2-day workshop, and provide more comprehensive training through a 4-month program. Both the SBA Women's Business Center at the University of Hartford and the SBA Women's Business Development Center (WBDC) in Stamford offer counseling, training, technical assistance, financial resources and support to aspiring, emerging and established entrepreneurs.

Entrepreneurial Center/SBA Women's Business Center
University of Hartford
50 Elizabeth Street
Hartford 06105
860/768-5681
www.hartford.edu/ec

WBDC
Government Center
184 Bedford Street, Suite 201
Stamford 06901
203/353-1750
www.ctwbdc.org

WBDC Naugatuck Valley CT
Naugatuck Valley Community College
Founders Hall, F309A
750 Chase Parkway
Waterbury 06708
203/910-4663

The **Department of Economic and Community Development** offers a wide range of programs and services such as financing, tax credits and incentives to address short-term and long-term business needs.

Department of Economic and Community Development
Office of Business and Industry Development
505 Hudson Street
Hartford 06106-7106
860/270-8205
www.ct.gov/ecd

The **Office of the Secretary of the State** offers applications for starting a small business. The Commercial Recording Division answers business questions at 860/509-6002.

Secretary of the State
30 Trinity Street
Hartford 06106
860/509-6200
www.sots.ct.gov

Chambers of Commerce Service Centers represent and promote the local businesses and promote investment.

Greater Bristol Chamber of Commerce
200 Main Street
Bristol 06010-6582
860/584-4718
www.centralctchambers.org

Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce
393 Main Street
Middletown 06457
860/347-6924
(Appointments available for business counseling)
www.middlesexchamber.com

Waterbury Regional Chamber of Commerce
83 Bank Street
PO Box 1469
Waterbury 06721
203/757-0701
www.waterburychamber.com

Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce
900 Chapel Street, 10th Floor
New Haven 06510
203/787-6735
www.gnhcc.com

The Business Council of Fairfield County
One Landmark Square, Suite 300
Stamford 06901-2679
203/359-3220
www.businessfairfield.com

Greater Danbury Chamber of Commerce
39 West Street
Danbury 06810
203/743-5565
(Appointments available 1st & 3rd Tuesday)
www.danburychamber.com

Bridgeport Regional Business Council
10 Middle Street, 14th Floor
PO Box 999
Bridgeport 06604
203/335-3800
www.brbc.org

Metro Hartford Alliance
31 Pratt Street, 5th Floor
Hartford 06103
860/525-4451
(Appointments available 2nd & 4th Thursday)
www.metrohartford.com

Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut
914 Hartford Turnpike
Waterford 06385
860/701-9113
www.chamberect.com

Chamber of Commerce of Northwest Connecticut
333 Kennedy Drive, Suite R101
PO Box 59
Torrington 06790
860/482-6586
www.nwctchamberofcommerce.org

National Resources

The **U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)** provides free start-up kits and information on loans and other financing options. Personal counseling and professional management assistance are available at no charge through the SBA's statewide Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE).

SBA Small Business Information Center
330 Main Street, 2nd floor
Hartford 06106
860/240-4700
www.sba.gov/ct

Other Small Business Resources

Business Networks for Women – www.womanowned.com – Learn how to research new markets, write or redefine business plans, hire and manage employees and start-up funding.

Business Resources – www.allbusiness.com – This website offers answers to many business questions, the ability to research industry-specific information, download legal agreements and obtain advice from business, marketing and advertising bloggers.

The Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities (EVB) – www.whitman.syr.edu/ebv – This website offers small business management and entrepreneurial education to post-9/11 veterans with service-connected disabilities. The free training is available at the University of Connecticut.

Internal Revenue Service – www.irs.gov/businesses/small – This small business and one-stop resource contains small business forms and publications, the basics on self-employment publications and the basics of self-employment, including filing requirements and tax-related news.

Resources for Entrepreneurs – www.inc.com – This resource center provides helpful information on women in business, starting your business, marketing, finance and capital and law and taxation.

SCORE: Counselors to America's Small Business – www.score.org – A source of free and confidential small business advice.

The Women's Business Development Center, CT – www.ctwbdc.org – A broad array of programs and services for small business entrepreneurs interested in personal and professional development.



State of Connecticut

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for Higher Education
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