SCORE

SCORE, Counselors to America's Small Business, is a volunteer organization of successful, retired business persons who volunteer their time to provide free small business counseling and training under special funding from the SBA. Visit www.score.org for more information.

North Carolina SCORE Chapters:

Asheboro	(336) 626-2626
Asheville	(828) 271-4786
Chapel Hill	(919) 967-7075
Charlotte	(704) 344-6576
Greensboro	(336) 333-5399
High Point	(336) 882-8625
Morehead City	(252) 222-6126
New Bern	(252) 633-6688
Outer Banks	(252) 441-8144
Raleigh	(919) 856-4739
Rocky Mount	(252) 442-1173
Sandhills Area	(910) 692-3926
Washington	(252) 974-1848
Western NC	(828) 693-8702
Wilmington	(910) 452-5395

Women's Business Centers

The three Women's Business Centers in NC assist women in starting and growing their own businesses.

NCIMED
Durham, NC (919) 956-8889
CEED
Fayetteville, NC (910) 323-3377
Mountain BizWorks
Asheville, NC (828) 253-2834

Government Contracting

The **8(a) Program** offers business development training for socially and economically disadvantaged businesses. The program also offers access to a variety of development services with the opportunity to receive federal contracts on a sole-source or limited competition basis.

HUBZone Contracting provides federal contracting to qualified small businesses in designated locations. This creates jobs, empowers communities and attracts private investors to small urban and rural locations.

The Women-Owned Small Business Federal Contract Program provides equal access to federal contracting opportunities for women-owned small businesses. The program allows contracting officers to set aside specific federal contracts for certified WOSBs in 83 underrepresented NAICS codes.

The Surety Bond Guarantee Program guarantees a construction contract bond in the event the issuing business suffers a loss. The contract guarantees up to $2 million, covering bid, performance and payment bonds for small and emerging contractors.

For information about these and other programs visit and www.sba.gov and click on Contracting.

Veterans Assistance

Veterans' Business Outreach Center helps military veterans start and grow small businesses. The VBOC provides training, counseling, and technical assistance for Veterans, Service-Disabled Veterans, Reservists, National Guard Members, and Active Duty business owners and start-ups in North Carolina.

VBOC (910) 672-1107
Fayetteville State University

www.sba.gov

SBA's website has information on all of SBA's programs.

U.S. Small Business Administration

Programs & Services

North Carolina District
6302 Fairview Road
Charlotte, NC 28210
www.sba.gov/nc
(704) 344-6563

Asheville (828) 225-1844
Raleigh (919) 335-1004
Wilmington (910) 815-3188

7(a) Loans

The 7(a) Loan Guaranty Program serves as SBA's primary business loan program to help qualified small businesses obtain financing when it is not available elsewhere.

Loan proceeds can be used for most business purposes including working capital, equipment, furniture, land and building. Loan maturities are up to 10 years for working capital and up to 25 years for real estate.

SBA's 7(a) Loan Guaranty Program has a maximum loan amount of $5 million, with a maximum exposure of $3.75 million. Thus, if a business receives an SBA guaranteed loan for $2 million, the maximum SBA guaranty to the lender will be $1.5 million or 75%.

Interest rates on business loans are usually variable. Rates are negotiated between the lender and the borrower but are subject to SBA maximums. Depending on the size and term of the loan, the SBA maximum interest rate can range from prime +2 ¼ % to prime + 6 ½ %. In North Carolina the interest rates have typically been less than the maximum allowed.

To be eligible for a 7(a) loan, a business must:

- Operate for profit
- Not exceed SBA size standards
- Not be involved in lending, real estate development, investment or speculation.
- Not be involved in pyramid schemes, gambling, and illegal operations.

Visit www.sba.gov and click on Loans tab for more details involving size, eligibility, use of proceeds, guaranty percentage and other questions.

504 Loans

The 504 Program provides small businesses long-term, fixed-rate financing for fixed assets: land, building, and equipment. The 504 finance package consists of two loans: one from a bank and the other from an SBA licensed Certified Development Company. Maximum loan size is $5 million ($5.5 million for manufacturing).

Example Loan Structure for $2 Million Project

Bank Loan (1st Lien)	$1,000,000	(50%)
SBA/CDC (2nd Lien)	$ 800,000	(40%)
Borrower	$ 200,000	(10%)
Total Project	$2,000,000	(100%)

For more information visit www.sba.gov and click on Loans tab or call one of the 10 CDC's in North Carolina.

Avista Business Development Corporation
(828) 645-0439

Centralina Development Corporation
(704) 373-1233

Business Expansion Funding Corporation
(704) 442-8145 (919) 366-6441

Neuse River Development
(252) 638-6724

Northwest Piedmont Development Corporation
(336) 761-2111 x3158

Region D Development Corporation
(828) 265-5437 x121

Region E Development Corporation
(828) 485-4215

Self-Help Ventures Fund (919) 956-4473
- Asheville (800) 229-7428
- Charlotte (800) 394-7428
- Durham (800) 476-7428
- Greenville (800) 893-9669
- Leland (910) 371-2034

Smoky Mountain Development Corporation
(828) 452-1967

Wilmington Industrial Development, Inc.
(910) 763-8414

SBTDC

The Small Business & Technology Development Center is a business development service administered by NC State University on behalf of the UNC system. It is partially funded by the SBA and provides free counseling and training in these areas:

- Management Education
- Business Counseling
- Government Procurement
- International Business
- Marine Trades
- Research Services
- Technology Commercialization
- Incubator Services

There are 15 SBTDC offices across the state on or near UNC campuses. More information can be found at www.sbtdc.org.

Asheville	(828) 251-6025
Boone	(828) 262-2492
Chapel Hill	(919) 962-0389
Charlotte	(704) 548-1090
Cullowhee	(828) 227-3504
Durham	(919) 530-7386
Elizabeth City	(252) 335-3247
Fayetteville	(910) 672-1727
Greenville	(252) 737-1385
Greensboro	(336) 334-7005
Hickory	(828) 345-1110
Pembroke	(910) 775-4000
Raleigh	(919) 600-5999
Wilmington	(910) 962-3744
Winston-Salem	(336) 750-2030