



U.S. Small Business Administration

# North Dakota Programs and Services

The U.S. Small Business Administration and its nationwide network of resources partners provide answers, resources, and support to small businesses and entrepreneurs so they can start-up, succeed, and grow their small businesses.

## Entrepreneurial Development: Education, Information, Technical Assistance & Training

- **SCORE, Counselors to America's Small Business**

SCORE offers free and confidential business advice to help you build your business – from idea to start-up to success. Funded by a grant from the SBA, SCORE counseling and workshops are offered by volunteers who are experienced business owners or managers. Visit the national SCORE website at [www.score.org](http://www.score.org).

ND chapters are located in Bismarck, Fargo, Grand Forks and Minot.

- **Small Business Development Centers**

SBDC consultants can help entrepreneurs develop their business plans, find capital, complete loan applications, and identify growth opportunities. These sessions are at no cost to you. Administered by the SBA, the SBDC program is a cooperative effort of the private sector, the educational community, and federal, state and local governments. Visit the North Dakota SBDC website at [www.ndsbdc.org](http://www.ndsbdc.org) for a complete listing of all centers.

- **Women's Business Center**

The Center for Technology & Business is the North Dakota program for delivery of SBA's national Women's Business Center effort. The WBC provides training and resources to assist current or potential women business owners. Visit their website at [www.trainingnd.com](http://www.trainingnd.com).

## Access to Capital: Business Financing

- **7(a) Loan Guaranty Program**

SBA's most often used financing program. This program is a loan from the bank to a small business with a certain percentage guaranteed by the SBA. The application is first submitted to a bank and they in turn submit the application to the SBA. The process starts with developing a loan proposal/business plan. Visit [www.sba.gov/7a-loan-program](http://www.sba.gov/7a-loan-program) for more information regarding eligibility, loan amounts and terms.

- **504 Certified Development Company**

The CDC/504 loan program provides long term, fixed rate financing for fixed asset acquisition such as equipment, land and buildings. Maximum SBA portion is \$5 million (\$5.5 in some cases) on a 10 or 20-year term. Visit [www.sba.gov/loanprograms](http://www.sba.gov/loanprograms) and click the "Real Estate & Equipment Loans: CDC/504" link for more information.

- **Microloan Program**

Specifically designed for small loan amounts, this program offers loans up to \$50,000 directly from an SBA supported microloan intermediary with experience in lending as well as management and technical assistance. [www.sba.gov/content/microloan-program](http://www.sba.gov/content/microloan-program) or [www.lakeagassiz.com/business-lending/sba-microloan-program/](http://www.lakeagassiz.com/business-lending/sba-microloan-program/)

**North Dakota District Office:** 657 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave N, Suite 360, Fargo, ND 58102 Tel: 701.239.5131 Fax: 701.239.5645

**Grand Forks Office:** 102 N 4<sup>th</sup> St, Suite 104, Grand Forks, ND 58203 Tel: 701.746.5160

**Bismarck Office:** 1200 Memorial Hwy, Bismarck, ND 58506 Tel: 701.250.4303

**Web:** [www.sba.gov/nd](http://www.sba.gov/nd) **E-mail:** [north.dakota@sba.gov](mailto:north.dakota@sba.gov)

## Government Contracting: Federal Procurement

- **Government Contracting**

The Federal Government has strict regulations relating to the purchase of goods and services. The SBA set up its Government Contracting Program to help both contracting officials as well as small business owners who may desire to do business with the government. [www.sba.gov/contracting](http://www.sba.gov/contracting)

- **HUBZone**

The Historically Underutilized Business Zone (HUBZone) program, implemented by the SBA, helps small businesses in urban and rural communities gain preferential access to federal procurement opportunities. For the latest HUBZone guidelines and qualifications visit: [www.sba.gov/content/hubzone](http://www.sba.gov/content/hubzone)

- **8(a)**

The 8(a) Business Development Program helps small, disadvantaged businesses compete in the marketplace by gaining a foothold in government contracting. It offers a broad scope of assistance to firms that are owned and controlled at least 51% by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals. [www.sba.gov/8a](http://www.sba.gov/8a)

## Other Functions & Initiatives

- **Advocacy**

Created in 1978, this Office reviews Congressional legislation, testifies on behalf of small business and assesses the impact of the regulatory burden. Additionally, it conducts a vast array of research on American small businesses and the small business environment. [www.sba.gov/advocacy](http://www.sba.gov/advocacy)

- **Disaster Loans**

SBA provides low-interest disaster loans to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes, and most private non-profit organizations to repair or replace the following items damaged or destroyed in a declared disaster: real estate, personal property, machinery and equipment, and inventory and business assets. [www.sba.gov/disaster](http://www.sba.gov/disaster)

- **Export Assistance**

Small businesses looking to increase sales and profit are taking their businesses global. SBA provides counseling, training and financing to support small business export opportunities. [www.sba.gov/exporting](http://www.sba.gov/exporting)

- **Online Training (Small Business Learning Center)**

An online portal that hosts a variety of self-paced online training courses, quick videos, web chats and more to help small business owners explore and learn about the many aspects of business ownership. [www.sba.gov/sba-learning-center](http://www.sba.gov/sba-learning-center); to build a business plan: [www.sba.gov/tools/business-plan/1](http://www.sba.gov/tools/business-plan/1)

### **Dakota Business Newsletter**

From accounting to zoning, from Ambrose to Zeeland and all stops in-between, *Dakota Business* is dedicated to providing valuable information about starting and growing a small business in North Dakota. Subscribe today at [www.sba.gov/nd](http://www.sba.gov/nd) by clicking the Get Email Updates button.

### **Small Business Resource Guide**

A guide with information on the various aspects of starting and operating a business in North Dakota. To access online visit: [http://www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/files/resourceguide\\_3128.pdf](http://www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/files/resourceguide_3128.pdf)

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