

ILLINOIS SMALL BUSINESS WEEK



U.S. Small Business Administration

The Illinois SBA District Office is proud to present these **2015 Small Business Week** events. Please join us.

Monday, April 27

8:00 am – 10:00 am

Global Growth of Small and Mid-Size Companies: Export Finance

Learn how to grow your business through MCC procurements and exports to new markets in MCC partner countries

Featuring: Millennium Challenge Corporation

Where: Rotary International, 1560 Sherman Ave., Evanston, IL 60201

Contact: Dennis Foldenauer (312) 886-0704

dennis.foldenauer@sba.gov

Tuesday, April 28

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Introduction to SBA Programs and Services

Featuring: IL Small Business Development Center at the Joseph Center

Where: North Riverside Public Library, 2400 DesPlaines Ave

North Riverside, IL 60546

Contact: Phyllis Shelton (312) 353-4519
phyllis.shelton@sba.gov

Tuesday, April 28

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Encore Entrepreneurs and SBA

Featuring: SCORE Chicago

Where: Chicago Public Library – Whitney Young Branch - 7901 S King Dr, Chicago, IL 60619

Contact: Carole Harris (312) 353-4003
carole.harris@sba.gov

Tuesday, April 28

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Introduction to SBA Programs and Services

Where: Chicago Public Library – Scottsdale Branch - 4101 W 79th St Chicago, IL 60582

Contact: Mark Ferguson (312) 353-5430
mark.ferguson@sba.gov

Wednesday, April 29

9:00 am – 11:30 am

8(a) Program Workshop

Learn how your business can benefit from SBA's 8(a) Business Development and Contracting Program

Where: Prairie State College, 202 S Halsted St, Rm. 1315., Chicago Heights, IL 60411

Contact: Lolitha McKinney (312) 353-5850
lolitha.mckinney@sba.gov

Wednesday, April 29

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Encore Entrepreneurs and SBA

Featuring: SCORE Chicago

Where: Chicago Public Library – Daley, 3400 S Halsted St, Chicago, IL 60608

Contact: Carole Harris (312) 353-4003
carole.harris@sba.gov

Wednesday, April 29

5:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Rockford Area Resources for Small Business

Featuring: IL Small Business Development Center at Rock Valley College, Rockford Housing Authority

Where: Discovery Center Museum, 711 N. Main St – Kresge Room., Rockford, IL 61103

Contact: Dennis Foldenauer (312) 886-0704
dennis.foldenauer@sba.gov

Wednesday, April 29

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Introduction to SBA Programs and Services

Where: Chicago Public Library – Wrightwood/Ashburn Branch

8530 S Kedzie Ave Chicago, IL 60652

Contact: Mark Ferguson (312) 353-5430
mark.ferguson@sba.gov

Thursday, April 30

10:00 am – 11:00 am

Webinar: Taking Your Business Global

Where: (888) 858-2144 – Access Code: 7527316 - <http://tinyurl.com/ndxrrjy>

Contact: Steve Konkle (312) 886-4208
stephen.konkle@sba.gov

Thursday, April 30

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Tools for Entrepreneurship

Learn how to know your market and set up for a successful launch

Where: Chicago Public Library – Vodak-East Side Branch, 3710 E 106th Chicago, IL 60617

Contact: Carole Harris (312) 353-4003
carole.harris@sba.gov

Thursday, April 30

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Lender Forum

An opportunity for lenders to discuss SBA lending rules and guidance

Where: College of DuPage Center for Entrepreneurship, 2525 Cabot Dr., Ste. 201, Lisle, IL 60532

Contact: Bob Esquivel (312) 353-6557
robert.esquivel@sba.gov

Monday, May 4

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Webinar: Starting Your Business in Kewanee, IL

Where: (888) 858-2144 – Access Code: 7527316

<http://tinyurl.com/ndxrrjy>

Contact: Steve Konkle (312) 886-4208

stephen.konkle@sba.gov

Monday, May 4

9:00 am – 11:30 am

Stimulating Your Business Growth with Government Small Business Programs

Featuring: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Women's Business Development Center and the Chicago Construction Business Development Ctr., S. Holland Business Association

Where: Kindig Performing Arts Center, South Suburban College, 15880 State St, South Holland, IL 60473

Contact: Lolitha McKinney (312) 353-5830

lolitha.mckinney@sba.gov

Tuesday, May 5

9:00 am – 10:00 am

Webinar: Starting Your Business in Paxton and Watseka, IL

Where: (888) 858-2144 – Access Code: 7956246

<http://tinyurl.com/mvov2ng>

Contact: Carole Harris (312) 353-4003
carole.harris@sba.gov

Tuesday, May 5

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Lender Forum

An opportunity for lenders to discuss SBA lending rules and guidance

Where: Harper Professional Center, 650 E Higgins Rd, Ste 18N, Schaumburg, IL 60173

Contact: Bob Esquivel (312) 353-6557
robert.esquivel@sba.gov

Tuesday, May 5

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Webinar: Starting Your Business in Oregon, Byron and Rochelle, IL

Where: (888) 858-2144 – Access Code: 7527316

<http://tinyurl.com/ndxrrjy>

Contact: Steve Konkle (312) 886-4208
stephen.konkle@sba.gov

SBA Illinois District – Small Businessperson of the Year 2015: John Griffin – AGB Investigative Services, Inc.

John Griffin, owner of AGB Investigative Services of Chicago, selected the name AGB as an acronym for, "always giving back." As the only black-owned ISO-certified security services firm in the country, Mr. Griffin and his team are committed to customer service, employee empowerment and community involvement. Through SBA's 8(a) Business Development Program, AGB has found new customers and demonstrated the firm's value to federal agencies while serving existing clients, which include a number of Chicago's Special Service Areas. To provide professional high-quality customer service, John and his leadership developed a full curriculum of employee training courses designed to develop professionals who have the skills that help them jumpstart their careers. With well-trained employees and Mr. Griffin's leadership, AGB has gone from two employees to 200 and revenues exceeding \$5 million in a 12-year period. For his business's success and his commitment to employee and community development, John Griffin is the 2015 SBA Illinois District Small Business Person of the Year.

Tuesday, May 5

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Webinar: Export Business Planning and Market Research

Tools are available to help you target the right export markets.

Where: (888) 844-9904 – Access Code: 8183112

<http://tinyurl.com/qbl6wc2>

Contact: Dennis Foldenauer (312) 886-0704

dennis.foldenauer@sba.gov

Tuesday, May 5

4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce: The Technology of Lending

Featuring: Bolstr, Chicagoland Business Opportunity Fund, The PrivateBank, City of Chicago Treasurer, Kurt Summers, Jr.

Where: Bolstr Offices, 1046 W Kinzie, Chicago, IL 60642

Contact: Stacy Efsthathiou (312) 494-6716

sefsthathiou@chicagolandchamber.org

ILLINOIS SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

SPONSORED BY:

DREAM BIG – START SMALL



U.S. Small Business Administration



IN COLLABORATION WITH:



Stephanie Hickman – Trice Construction Company

SBA Illinois District – Family-Owned Business of the Year 2015

After nearly five decades of serving Chicago with quality construction and concrete services, Stephanie Hickman, Trice Construction's current owner, notes that her firm has poured concrete in nearly every block of Chicago's South Side. In 2007, after a successful career as an attorney and executive at ComEd, Ms. Hickman purchased Trice Construction from her uncles and started growing the business's sales and customer base. Along the way, she sought assistance from the Women's Business Development Center and participated in the SBA-funded nextONE program at the Chicago Urban League. These resources helped Ms. Hickman hone her business skills and plan for future success. As the recipient of numerous service awards and leadership in several community organizations, Ms. Hickman and Trice Construction exemplify the value that family-owned businesses bring to communities across America.

Wednesday, May 6

8:30 am – 9:30 am

Webinar: Starting Your Business in Galena

Where: (888) 844-9904 – Access Code: 8183112

<http://tinyurl.com/mxdg6to>

Contact: Phyllis Shelton

(312) 353-4519

phyllis.shelton@sba.gov

Wednesday, May 6

9:00 am – 10:00 am

Webinar: Starting Your Business in Pontiac, IL

Where: (888) 858-2144 – Access Code: 7956246

<http://tinyurl.com/mvoe2nq>

Contact: Carole Harris (312) 353-4003

carole.harris@sba.gov

Wednesday, May 6

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Introduction to SBA Certification Programs

Where: SBA Illinois District Office, 500 W Madison St, Ste 1150, Chicago, IL 60661
Contact: Rosalyn Putman (312) 353-5037
rosalyn.putman@sba.gov

Wednesday, May 6

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Pay Yourself First – Introduction to Entrepreneurship

Featuring: SCORE Chicago

Where: SBA Illinois District Office, 500 W Madison St, Chicago, IL 60661

Contact: Steve Konkle

(312) 886-4208

stephen.konkle@sba.gov

Wednesday, May 6

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Webinar: Indirect or Direct Exporting?

Choosing how to export can make all the difference. Learn how to make the right choice.

Where: (888) 844-9904 – Access Code: 8183112

<http://tinyurl.com/qbl6wc2>

Contact: Dennis Foldenauer

(312) 886-0704

dennis.foldenauer@sba.gov

Thursday, May 7

7:45 am – 9:00 am

Danville Area Community College Business Awards Breakfast

Featuring: IL SBDC at Danville Community College

Fee: \$15.00

Where: Danville Country Club, 2718 Denmark Rd., Danville, IL 61834

Registration Email: sbdc@dacc.edu

Contact: Val Ross (217) 793-5020

x108

valerie.ross@sba.gov

Thursday, May 7

8:30 am – 9:30 am

Webinar: Starting Your Business in Savanna and Mt. Carroll, IL

Where: (888) 844-9904 – Access Code: 8183112

<http://tinyurl.com/mxdg6to>

Contact: Phyllis Shelton

(312) 353-4519

phyllis.shelton@sba.gov

Thursday, May 7

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Tools for Entrepreneurship

Where: Chicago Public Library – Kelly Library Branch, 6151 S

Normal Ave

Chicago, IL 60621

Contact: Carole Harris

carole.harris@sba.gov

Thursday, May 7

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

IL SBDC at Southeastern IL College Success Story Event

Honoring IL SBDC at Southeastern IL College client, Gypsy Moon Boutique.

Where: IL SBDC at Southeastern IL

College, 2 E Locust St, Ste 200,

Harrisburg, IL 62946

Contact: Small Business

Development Center – (618) 252-

5001

Thursday, May 7

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Webinar: Export Finance

How can I grow my business with export sales and financing and make sure I get paid for my exports.

Where: (888) 844-9904 – Access Code: 8183112

<http://tinyurl.com/qbl6wc2>

Contact: Dennis Foldenauer

dennis.foldenauer@sba.gov

Friday, May 8

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

SBA Day at IL SBDC at Southeastern IL College

Learn more about SBA counseling, access to capital and contracting resources.

Where: IL SBDC at Southeastern IL

College, 2 E Locust St, Ste 200,

Harrisburg, IL 62946

Contact: Small Business Development

Center – (618) 252-5001,

wsbdc@sic.edu

Friday, May 8

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Webinar: Export Pricing Accounting and Tax Issues

How do I take advantage of opportunities to minimize my burden and maximize my sales

Where: (888) 844-9904 – Access Code: 8183112

<http://tinyurl.com/qbl6wc2>

Contact: Dennis Foldenauer

(312) 886-0704

dennis.foldenauer@sba.gov

Friday, May 8

7:30 am – 9:30 am

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Business Expo

A SBA Lender Relations expert will discuss SBA's loan programs

Where: Aurora Regional Hispanic

Chamber of Commerce

Contact: Bob Esquivel (312) 353-6557

robert.esquivel@sba.gov

David Rambhajan – Industria Construction Services, Inc.

SBA Illinois District – 8(a) Graduate of the Year 2015

With more than 20 years' experience in the construction industry, David Rambhajan and his company, Industria Construction Services, stand out as the Illinois 8(a) Graduate of the Year. Their success can be attributed to their commitment to customer service and professionalism. Industria demonstrates that a small, service-disabled veteran-owned small business can realize incredible benefits and elevate their business by leveraging SBA programs. David's expertise can be seen in his excellence as a contractor to numerous Federal agencies through awards he won in the 8a Business Development Program. In addition, he is a graduate of the first cohort of SBA's Emerging Leaders Streetwise MBA program. David's participation in these programs helped jumpstart his business and grow his capacity. With more contracts on the way, David has Industria poised for continued growth and represents the best in how SBA's programs can assist small business.