



Small Business Resources

Useful Web Sites

U.S Small Business Administration SBA 8(a) Business Development web site: <http://www.sba.gov/category/navigation-structure/contracting/contracting-support-small-businesses/8a-business-developme> SBA's 8(a) Business Development program is intended to help small businesses be successful for the future. Companies just starting or in a growth stage, can benefit from the wide-range of services they offer—support for government contractors, access to capital, management and technical assistance, and export assistance. The goal is accomplished by building community-based small businesses, which in turn revitalizes neighborhoods, creates jobs, and encourages economic growth. SBA uses a number of assistance intervention tools, ranging from contract support to low-interest loans for site acquisition, construction, and the purchase of new or upgraded equipment.

Travis County Clerk: <http://www.traviscountyclerk.org/eclerk/Content.do?code=R.13> to learn how to file a Doing Business As (DBA)/Assumed Name or call 512-854-9188.

Texas Secretary of State web site: www.sos.state.tx.us/ for information on corporation and business start-ups. Click on Business & Public Filings.

Small Business Development Program (SBDP) web site: <http://www.austintexas.gov/business/small-business-development> The purpose of the Small Business Development Program is to provide opportunities and resources to small businesses so they can experience productive growth in a competitive business environment.

City of Austin web site: <http://www.austintexas.gov/business> This site lists the current purchasing notices, vendor information, minority vendor reports and other resources.

Business Solutions Center: www.AustinSmallBiz.org, is a technology resource center for small businesses. Located at One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Road,

Certifications

HUBZone Program by the U.S. Small Business Administration: The Historically Underutilized Business Zone (HUBZone) program helps small businesses in urban and rural communities gain preferential access to federal procurement opportunities. For firms seeking specific application status or answers about supporting documentation, please e-mail the SBA HUBZone Business Opportunity Specialist who you worked with. <http://www.sba.gov/hubzone/>

HUB Program with the State of Texas: The Comptroller of Public Accounts (TxCPA) administers the Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Program as outlined in Texas Government Code Chapter 2161. The program is designed to promote full and equal business opportunities for HUBs in state contracting. Visit <http://www.cpa.state.tx.us/procurement/prog/hub/hub-certification/> to learn about requirements.

The South Central Texas Regional Certification Agency (SCTRCA) is a 501 (c) (3) Non-profit Corporation that represents several public entities in the South Texas area. These entities are committed to enhancing participation for disadvantaged, small, minority and woman owned businesses in public/government contracting and purchasing activities. <http://www.sctrca.org/default.asp>

Texas Unified Certification Program (TUCP) web site: <http://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/office/civil-rights/tucp.html> The TUCP purpose of certification is to ensure that only small businesses independently owned and controlled, in both substance and form, by one or more socially and economically disadvantaged persons participate in the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Certification Program. These businesses must meet all the eligibility standards set forth in 49 CFR Part 26 and other regulations and guidelines of the U. S. Department of Transportation (DOT), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).



Useful Web Sites

Austin, Texas 78704. Mon - Fri. 8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Capital Metro web site: www.capmetro.org Click on Business Center. Then click on “Doing business with Capital Metro” for information on doing business with Capital Metro, vendor registration, procurement opportunities, and Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Program.

Business Utility Zone Gateway BUZGate web site: http://www.buzgate.org/8.0/tx/state_home.html BUZGate.org is an award-winning entrepreneurial education and resource community serving small and medium-sized businesses. Content promotes awareness and access to free government and non-profit assistance programs and select business-to-business products and services tailored to driving venture startup, growth and profitability.

Texas Business web site: <http://www.texasbusiness.com> news, links, and business facts about Texas, affecting Texas, and of interest to Texas.

The State of Texas web site: <http://www.texas.gov/en/Pages/default.aspx> is intended to serve as the official compilation of Texas government electronic resources, both at the state and local levels, and as an index of Texas governmental or taxing authority web sites and services. The site is organized by subject to provide a collection of links and portals designed to allow citizens, visitors, businesses, state government, and others to quickly locate appropriate resources.

Service Core of Retired Executives (SCORE) web site: <http://austin.score.org/> The SCORE Association is a non-profit association dedicated to entrepreneurial education, and the formation, growth

Travis County makes no guarantee, nor endorses any of the information provided by any of these web sites. The HUB Program of Travis County Purchasing Office provides this information as a courtesy for persons interested in starting or increasing their business.

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Want to sell to the Federal Government?

Want to sell to the government? Visit Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) www.aptac-us.org click on Texas; then click on center closest to you.

Register with System for Award Management (SAM) by accessing the web site <https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM/> or call customer service at 1-866-606-8220.

The United Nations Standard Products and Services Code (UNSPSC) is a taxonomy of products and services for use in eCommerce. It is a five-level hierarchy coded as an 8-digit number. Visit the web site <http://www.unspsc.org/>

The Size Standard web site is <http://www.sba.gov/category/navigation-structure/contracting/contracting-officials/eligibility-size-standards> Small Business Administration (SBA) size standards define whether a business entity is small and, thus, eligible for Government programs and preferences reserved for “small business” concerns.

DUNS number from Dun & Bradstreet. A D&B® D-U-N-S® Number is a unique nine-digit sequence recognized as the universal standard for identifying and keeping track of over 80 million businesses worldwide. Why should you have a D-U-N-S® Number? It enhances the credibility of your business in the marketplace. It enables potential customers, suppliers and lenders to easily identify and learn about your company. The U.S. Government and many major corporations require their suppliers and contractors to have a D-U-N-S® Number. Visit their web site at <http://www.dnb.com/get-a-duns-number.html> or phone 1-866-969-6541.

One Stop Access to all online U.S. Federal Government Resources visit www.usa.gov

Tax Identification Number (TIN) Call the IRS (Internal Revenue Service) at 1-800-772-1213 or visit the web site at <http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/International-Taxpayers/Taxpayer-Identification-Numbers-%28TIN%29>

Useful Web Sites



and success of small businesses nationwide. Our public service mission is to provide face-to-face and e-mail business counseling to help small businesses evaluate plans, stabilize, grow, innovate and succeed.

Bexar County web site: <http://www.bexar.org/smwbe> Bexar County is committed to increasing the involvement of small, minority and women-owned businesses (SMWBE) in the procurement process. It is the intent of the County to afford a fair opportunity to compete for all Bexar County contracts.

Legal Assistance: Assistance with finding an attorney Lawyer Referral Service of Central Texas,

www.Austin.rs.com

512-472-8303

866-303-8303

Funding, Macro and Business Loans

PeopleFund creates economic opportunity and financial stability for underserved people by providing access to capital, education and resources to build healthy small businesses.

Our goal is to give people the opportunity to turn their talents into a sustainable livelihood and achieve financial stability for themselves and their families.

For more information: <http://peoplefund.org/>

LiftFund For more than 21 years, LiftFund, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, has helped individuals achieve the American Dream by providing small business loans to those who do not have access to capital from typical lending sources, such as traditional banks. Along with vital small business loans, LiftFund provides educational services at no cost to borrowers, which are essential to foster self-sufficiency. For more information: <http://www.liftfund.com/>

Want to sell to the Federal Government?

U.S. Government Online Bookstore web site at bookstore.gpo.gov/ The official online bookstore for U.S. Government publications available for purchase from the U.S. Government Printing Office.

Important: Before bidding and/or accepting a federal contract, learn about the Federal Acquisition regulation (FAR) on <http://www.acquisition.gov/far/>. The FAR is a regulation that controls the use of terms and conditions for most federal solicitations and contracts.

Learn about federal contracting opportunities:

Commerce Business Daily

<http://www.cbd-net.com/>

Federal Business Opportunities

<https://www.fbo.gov/>

Small Business Administration

<http://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/TX/local-resources>

Funding, Macro and Business Loans

BiGAUSTIN helps small business owners gain access to markets, financial literacy, entrepreneurial and management skill development, as well as greater access to funding.

BiGAUSTIN provides small businesses with “Smart Loans™.” With BiG loans you get capital, support, and expertise to help your business grow. New businesses or businesses in operation less than a year may obtain up to \$15,000. Established or growing businesses may qualify for up to \$50,000 (Maximum of \$35,000 if SBA Micro-Loan).

For more information: <http://bigaustin.org/>

Travis County <https://www.traviscountytexas.gov/purchasing> Contact HUB Staff at 512-854-9700 for more information about doing business with Travis County.