

USEFUL WEBSITES

Louisiana Small Business Development Center
<http://sbdc.louisiana.edu>

University of Louisiana at Lafayette
<http://www.ull.edu>

Louisiana Economic Development
<http://www.lded.state.la.us>

U.S. Small Business Administration
<http://www.sba.gov>

LEDA (Lafayette Economic Dev. Authority)
• Provides information about Lafayette Parish demographic information
• Networking luncheon information (Events)
<http://www.lafayette.org/>

Small Business Administration
• Information on Loans, Business Plans and other valuable Small Business Information
<http://www.sba.gov/>

USDA- United States Dept. of Agriculture
• Rural Development Program
• Business & Industry Guarantee Loan Program
<http://www.usda.gov>

CVE: Center for Veterans Enterprise
• Promotes business opportunities for veterans and service-disabled veterans
• Provides information to veterans for business related purposes
<http://www.vetbiz.gov/>

Internal Revenue Service
• Tax Information
• Downloadable Tax Forms
<http://www.irs.gov>

U.S. Census Bureau Economic Census Info.
• Current Industrial Reports
• Annual Survey of Manufactures
• Census of Manufactures
<http://www.census.gov/econ/census/>

Louisiana Workforce Commission
• Employer Handbook
• Labor Market Information
• Forms, etc.
<http://www.ldol.state.la.us/>

Government Sites

Info Louisiana
• Information, State of Louisiana
<http://www.state.la.us>

Departments in the State of Louisiana
• Employee Service Agencies
• Frequently Asked Questions
• Statewide Councils and Programs
• Year 2000 Coordination
http://www.state.la.us/Government/Agency_Index/

Business and Licensing Information
• Business Information
• Doing Business with the State
<http://www.sos.louisiana.gov/>

Louisiana Economic Development
• General Information
• Small Business Assistance
• Expanding and locating
• Marketing, Financing, etc.
<http://www.lded.state.la.us/>

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OSDBU

- Office of Small Disadvantaged Business Utilization (U. S. Dept. of Commerce) is responsible for promoting the use of small, minority, and women-owned small businesses in compliance with Federal laws, regulations, and policies
 - Assists in obtaining contracts and subcontracts with The U. S. Department of Commerce and its prime contractors
- <http://www.doc.gov/osdbu/>

U. S. Patent and Trademark Office

- Information on Patents and Trademarks
- <http://www.uspto.gov>

All Business

- A resource network with services pertaining to finance, sales, e-commerce etc.
- <http://www.allbusiness.com/>

Business Know-How

- Info & ideas for home & small business
- <http://www.businessknowhow.com/>

Business Talk

- An on-line small business community.
 - Post ideas and comments as well as meet other individuals interested in small business.
- <http://www.biztalk.com/>

Center for Business Planning

- Venture Capital information
 - Marketing/Competitive analysis information
 - Tax and legal issues
- <http://www.businessplans.org>

Edward Low Digital Library

- More than 5,000 documents to help start and run your own business.
 - Contributors include business publishers, government agencies, universities, and nonprofit organizations.
- <http://www.lowe.org/>

Idea Café

- Web site designed to help entrepreneurs succeed in reaching their business and personal goals.
- <http://www.ideacafe.com/>

Microsoft Small Business

- Tips for starting, marketing and managing your business.
- <http://www.microsoft.com/smallbusiness/hub.mspx>

Small Business Supersite

- Designed with the mission to be an important source of high-quality “how-to” business information.
- <http://www.smartbiz.com/>

Copyright/Trademark Information

U. S. Patent and Trademark Office

- Information on Patents and Trademarks
- <http://www.uspto.gov>

SBDC Net

- Inventor's First Steps
 - Inventor Forms
 - Inventor's Log Book
 - Inventor Assistance Source Directory
- <http://sbdcnet.org/>

Craft Business Information

The Crafts Report Online

- Review industry statistics
 - Search for the latest wholesale and retail craft shows and craft suppliers
 - Review work by craft artists
 - Receive the latest news about the craft industry
- <http://www.craftsreport.com/>

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E-Commerce Information

SBDC Net

- Web Storefronts
- Security
- Payment
- Fulfillment
- Taxes
- Customer Service

<http://sbdnet.org/>

Discover Business Services

- Allow E-merchants to accept various types of credit cards over the net
- Competitive rates

<http://www.discoverbiz.com/>

Bank of America

- Everything you need to operate a fully functioning online store
- If don't yet have an online store
- If you already have an online store but need a way for shoppers to buy online
- If you already have an online store and a shopping cart and only need Bank of America to process their customers' credit card purchases

http://www.bankofamerica.com/merchantservices/index.cfm?template=merch_ic_estores_ov.cfm

Wisconsin Innovation Service Center

- Product and invention
- Assessments and market expansion opportunities for small manufacturers technology businesses, and independent investors.

<http://academics.uww.edu/business/innovate/>

Financing Information

Bankrate.com

- Website to research various rates and news and information about rates

CFDA (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assist.)

- A government-wide compendium of Federal programs, projects, services, and activities which provide assistance or benefits to the American public. It contains financial and non-financial assistance programs administered by departments and establishments of the Federal government.

<http://www.cfda.gov/>

FinanceHub.Com

- Compilation of venture capital firms.
- A dictionary of topics related to banks, commerce, and law

<http://www.financehub.com/>

Hickory Venture Group

- A Venture Capital firm website

<http://www.hvcc.com>

SBDC Net

- Buying & Selling a Business
- Business Valuation Funding
- Preparedness
- Financial Tools

<http://sbdnet.org/>

Small Business Grants and Loans

- Information on grant programs and links to other grant and government websites.

<http://usgovinfo.about.com/library/weekly/blsba.htm?once=true&>

U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission

- Investor Assistance and Complaints
- DGAR Database
- Current SEC rulemaking

<http://www.sec.gov/>

Entrepreneur

- Information on the top 100 venture capital firms

USEFUL WEBSITES

<http://www.bankrate.com/brm/default.asp>

http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m0DTI/is_/ai_79826899

Franchise Information

Bison.com

- Information on various franchises
- Links to websites for franchises

<http://www.bison.com>

Franchise Handbook On-Line

- Directory of industry trade show events, article excerpts, and evaluation check lists for franchise offerings.

<http://www.franchise1.com/>

SBDC Net

- Franchise Opportunities
- Franchise Articles
- Franchise Directories

<http://sbdnet.org/>

General Research Assistance

Rutgers U. Library Resources

http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/rul/rr_gateway/research_guides/busi/business.shtml

Industry Research

- Agriculture
- Food
- Retail
- Sports
- Pets
- Health Care
- Manufacturing

<http://sbdnet.org/>

Grant Scam Information

Better Business Bureau

- Information on Business Scams
- Business Fraud Schemes

<http://us.bbb.org/WWWRoot/SitePage.aspx?site=113&id=1869d6a9-82aa-49a1-8419-40a8251fa916&art=533>

Wealth Building Scams

- Consumer protection information related to Grant Scams
- Information on how to protect yourself from being a victim of Grand Fraud

<http://www.ftc.gov/>

Home Based Business Info.

SBDC Net Home Business Info.

- Home Business Associations
- Home Business Publications

<http://sbdnet.utsa.edu/SBIC/home.htm>

SBDC Net

- Legal Forms of Business
- Permits
- Regulations

<http://sbdnet.org/>

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Legal Information

Bitlaw

- A comprehensive Internet resource on technology law
 - Containing over 1,800 pages on patent, copyright, trademark, and I-net legal issues
- <http://www.bitlaw.com>

Find Law for Business

- Self Help Legal Guide
 - Resources
 - Free Services
- <http://smallbiz.biz.findlaw.com/index.html>

NOLO

- Links to several law sites
 - Answers to frequently asked questions
 - Legal tools
- <http://www.nolo.com>

Non-Profit Information

Foundation Center

- If you are developing a non-profit, information about private foundations can be found at the Foundation Center.
- <http://lnp.fdncenter.org/finder>

Resources for Your Business

American Express Small Business Division

- Starting/Running a Business
 - Business plan information
- http://www.americanexpress.com/homepage/smallbusiness.shtml?aexp_nav=smbustab

SBDC Net

- Demographic
 - Characteristics
 - Economic/Business Data
- <http://sbdcnet.org/>

SmartBiz.com

- Information on various business resources
 - "How to" run your business/department smarter
- <http://www.smartbiz.com/>

Smart Online.Com

- Free trial version of Bus. Plan & Marketing Plan Software (w/ membership to full access available)
 - Free Marketing Research Information
 - Articles and business information resources
- <http://www.smartonline.com/>

Thomasregister.com

- Manufacturing information for your business
 - Search for manufacturers of products
- <http://www.thomasnet.com/>

Zapdata

- Info on competitors, suppliers & distributors
 - Marketing information
- <http://www.zapdata.com>

Résumés

Ten Minute Résumé

- Use simple-to-use online forms to create an expertly designed resume, receive advice on keywords and tips on what to write by occupation. You will also be able to select a resume layout for any situation.
 - Track your resumes, cover letters and webpage visits
- <http://www.10minuteresume.com/>

Résumé Tutor (University of Minnesota)

- ResumeTutor is an interactive workbook designed to make resume writing less of a pain, and hopefully a bit more fun
 - ResumeTutor won't actually write a resume for you, it will teach a lot about how to write a resume
 - Frequently asked questions
- <http://www1.umn.edu/ohr/careerdev/resources/resume/>

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Rockport Institute

- This on-line guide presents the basic principles of writing powerful and effective resumes
- Have written and produced resumes for several Fortune 500 C.E.O.s, senior members of the last few presidential administrations, and leaders in nearly every field of endeavor. Also written resumes for young people

<http://www.rockportinstitute.com/resumes.html>

Sample Business Plans

SBA Library

<http://www.sba.gov/starting/indexbusplans.html>

SBDC Network

- Templates
- Specific Business Plans

<http://sbdnet.org/>

Bplans.com

<http://www.bplans.com/>

Small Business Associations

American Small Business Association

- Quarterly magazine for members, filled with news, features and tips for small business success
- A partnership of many small business owners across the country with the shared goal of running a profitable business

<http://www.asbaonline.org/>

National Business Association

- A non-profit association dedicated to helping America's businesses grow
- Partnership with the SBA

<http://www.nationalbusiness.org/>

Tax & Accounting

SBDC Network

- Tax Information for Small Business
- Accounting Software
- Help for Small Business

<http://sbdnet.utsa.edu/SBIC/tax.htm>

Internal Revenue Service

- Tax Information
- Downloadable Tax Forms

<http://www.irs.gov>

Additional Tax Info Sites

- Direct links to multiple tax info sites

<http://www.taxsites.com/>

Tourism Industry

Grouptour.com

- Find upcoming tours, group friendly suppliers including restaurants, shows, STRAC, attractions, museums, bus companies, lodging facilities, tour planning tools
- Tour Wizard, educational resources, calendar of group events with NTA and ABA shows, classifieds and forums

<http://www.grouptourmedia.com/>

Travel Industry Association Of America

- Washington D.C.-based national, non-profit association that serves as the unifying organization for all components of the U.S. travel industry, the third largest retail industry and one of the largest employers in the nation

- The recognized leader in promoting and facilitating increased travel to and within the United States in order to make America the world's number one tourism destination

<http://www.tia.org/home.asp>

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Veterans Information

Homeless Veteran Grant Per-Diem Program

- Promotes the development and provision of supportive housing and/or supportive services with the goal of helping homeless veterans achieve residential stability, increase their skill levels and/or income, and obtain greater self-determination

<http://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/page.cfm?pg=3>

Veterans' Business Outreach Center

(Clearinghouse of business/technical assistance for veterans in SBA Region 6, serving AR, LA, NM & TX)

- Provides business training, counseling, technical assistance and mentoring to veteran business owners & start-up candidates

<http://www.coserve.org/vboc/>

CVE: Center for Veterans Enterprise

- Promotes business opportunities for veterans and service-disabled veterans
- Provides information to veterans for business related purposes

<http://www.vetbiz.gov>

Women Owned Businesses

Bizwomen

- On-line interactive community for business women to communicate, network, and exchange ideas

<http://www.bizwomen.com/>

National Association for Female Executives

- Organization that provides resources & services – through education, networking, & public advocacy-to empower its members to achieve career success and financial security

<http://www.nafe.com/>

National Association of Commissions for Women

- Part of a national effort to promote business opportunities for women across all sectors of national economy.
- Offer strategies on how to access government opportunities including federal, state, and local Women Business Enterprise (WBE) program.

<http://www.nacw.org/>

National Foundation of Women Business Owners

- Get information on women business owners and their enterprises worldwide, from surveys to publications.

<http://www.nfwbo.org/>

Womanowned.com

- For women considering starting a business
- For women in business
- For loan/grant information

<http://www.womanowned.com/>

Women Biz

- Official Web site for women businesses selling to the government

<http://www.womenbiz.gov/>

Women's Work

- Website targeted to women, offering information on moving from big corporations to smaller firms or to open their own business.

<http://www.wwork.com/>

Women's Business Enterprise National Council

- Access to a national standard of certification & info. On certified women's businesses to purchasing managers through an internet database
- Leading advocate of women-owned businesses as suppliers to America's corporations
- Largest 3rd party certifier of women owned and

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operated businesses in the United States
<http://www.wbenc.org/>