Small Business Administration Programs Supplement

Loans

**SBA 7(a) Loan Guaranty Program**: Provides government-backed loans for small businesses that have the ability to repay but have limited ability to secure a conventional bank loan. The maximum loan amount available for eligible small businesses through the program is $5 million with a maximum term of 25 years.

**SBA 504 Loan Guaranty Program**: Supports approved small businesses with long-term, fixed-rate financing in order to acquire fixed assets for expansion or modernization.

**SBA Microloan Program**: Funds nonprofit intermediary lenders to provide small loans of up to $50,000 to assist small businesses and nonprofit childcare centers with funding for supplies, equipment, marketing, management, or technical assistance.

**Small Business Investment Companies (SBIC)**: SBA partners with and licenses SBICs, which seek to provide long-term financing to small businesses via the investment of private capital in the form of loans or the purchase of equity securities. Please visit SBA’s [SBIC directory](#) if you are interested in obtaining SBIC investment for your business.

**SBA Disaster Assistance Loans**: Provide low-interest loans to help businesses recover from declared natural disasters. Please see SBA’s [list of declared disasters](#) for qualifying information.

Grants

**Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)**: Provides grants to encourage small businesses to participate in federal research and development. Typically SBIR grant funds support feasibility studies for proposed projects and fund R&D. SBIR funds do not support the commercialization of the resulting technology, but other federal agencies may do so.

**Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR)**: Provides grants to small businesses working in collaboration with a research institution to research and develop commercial applications for new technologies. As with SBIR, grant funds are available to support feasibility studies and support R&D.

**State Trade and Export Promotion (STEP)**: Awarded to state governments to assist local businesses in exporting their products internationally. More information about New Mexico’s STEP program can be found at the New Mexico Economic Development Department’s [Office of International Trade](#).
Contracting

**Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses:** Small businesses owned by service-disabled veterans are required to receive not less than 3% of the total value of all prime contracts and subcontract awards given by the federal government.

**Historically Underutilized Business Zones (HUBZone):** Helps small businesses in designated rural and urban communities gain preferential access to federal contracts. Under federal law, not less than 3% of federal contract dollars can be awarded to SBA-designated HUBZone firms. Please visit the SBA’s HUBZones map and address finder for qualifying information.

**The 8(a) Business Development Program:** Offers development assistance to businesses that are primarily owned by socially-disadvantaged (i.e. those who belong to a group subject to chronic discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, or culture, among other criteria) and/or economically-disadvantaged individuals (i.e. those with a net worth less than $250,000, among other criteria). Participants can gain access to sole-source contracts of up to $4 million for goods and services and $6.5 million for manufacturing. Please see the following links for the program’s definition of socially-disadvantaged and economically-disadvantaged individuals.

**Women-Owned Small Business Federal Contracting Program:** Small businesses owned by women are required to receive at least 5% of total federal contracting dollars.

Counseling

**Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs):** Funded by grants from SBA to provide free business consulting and low-cost training services including: business plan development, manufacturing assistance, financial packaging and lending assistance, exporting and importing support, disaster recovery assistance, procurement and contracting aid, market research help, 8(a) program support, and healthcare guidance.

**SCORE:** A free business mentoring service that partners with SBA to connect small business owners with experienced mentors. Visit the SCORE website to find a mentor near you.