

Business Start-Up Guide - Vermont Secretary of State

Links a variety of resources and provides information necessary to start a business in Vermont.

<https://www.vtsosonline.com/online/Home/BusinessStart>

Organizations providing small business training and technical assistance (not lenders):

Vermont Small Business Development Center

www.vtsbdc.org

Center for Women and Enterprise – Vermont Women’s Business Center

<https://www.cweonline.org/About-CWE/CWE-Vermont>

Mercy Connections - Women’s Small Business Program

<https://mercyconnections.org/womens-small-business-program/>

City of Burlington – CEDO - Micro Business Development Program

<https://www.burlingtonvt.gov/CEDO/Microbusiness-in-Burlington>

Small Business Capital/Alternative Lenders (also provide T/TA):

Northern Community Investment Corporation (NCIC)

Serves the Northeast Kingdom through small business lending, financing of innovative entrepreneurs to develop a more diverse set of occupations for the region, and assisting in strategic investment mechanisms to keep businesses competitive. Call 802-748-1888 or visit www.ncic.org.

www.ncic.org

Community Capital of Vermont

Offers flexible business financing and advisory services to entrepreneurs in Vermont who may not meet the requirements for traditional bank financing.

802-479-0167 www.communitycapitalvt.org

Vermont Community Loan Fund

Offers financing for real estate, fixed assets, operating capital, line of credit, purchase order financing, and debt restructuring.

802-223-1448 www.investinvermont.org

Vermont Economic Development Authority (VEDA)

Statewide economic development finance lender. Partners with Vermont banks and other lenders to provide low-interest loans to both large and small Vermont businesses and farms.

802-828-5627 www.veda.org

USDA Business & Industry Guaranteed Loan Program

A federal guarantee of up to 80% of a bank loan. Open to for-profits, nonprofits, coops, and individuals. Not limited to food and agriculture businesses. Eligible uses include purchase and development of real estate or equipment, business expansion, debt refinancing, working capital, and business acquisitions. Applicants work directly with their preferred bank to complete an application.

www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-industry-loan-guarantees

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

Provides federally guaranteed loans made by area banks and credit unions. Focus on startups and smaller loans up to \$50,000.

802-828-4422 www.sba.gov/vt

Opportunities Credit Union (OCU)

Provides innovative and affordable loan and deposit programs for credit building and repair, business and homeownership, consumer needs, adaptive equipment, and energy improvements along with financial education and counseling solutions.

802-660-4751 <https://www.oppsvt.org/>

Federal SBIR/STTR Program – Enables small businesses to develop new technologies and facilitate the commercialization of innovation. (not a loan)

Other Business Development Resources:

SCORE

A nonprofit association dedicated to educating entrepreneurs and helping small businesses start, grow, and succeed nationwide. Call 800-634-0245 or visit www.score.org.

Vermont Procurement Technical Assistance Center (VT PTAC):

Aims to increase the percentage of federal contracts awarded to Vermont businesses. <http://accd.vermont.gov/economic-development/programs/ptac>

Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center (VMEC):

Helps companies innovate, plan, perform and grow in ways that increase profitability and drive increasing enterprise value. <https://www.vmec.org/>

Vermont Global Trade Partnership (VGTP):

Vermont's center for international business assistance, providing educational seminars, trade show participation, technical assistance, and consulting services.

<http://accd.vermont.gov/economic-development/programs/international-trade>

LaunchVT:

Powered by the Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce, LaunchVT provides education, exposure, mentoring, and an annual competition for cash prizes and resources to benefit local entrepreneurs.

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

Women's Business Owners Network

Fostering, celebrating and advancing women's business ownership in Vermont.

<https://wbon.org/>

Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund

Business assistance, value chain facilitation, network development, strategic planning services, business management coaching.

<http://vsjf.wpengine.com/about-vsjf-vermont/vermont-sustainable-jobs-clients/>

Vermont Center for Emerging Technologies

*Simply put, we offer unfair advantages to Vermont's entrepreneurs through **people** (the ones you need to know), **places** (the communities that will support you), and **capital** (the dollars that will help you scale). Through active coaching, mentorship, coworking spaces, community events, investment, and smart introductions, VCET serves entrepreneurs and companies from start to scale.*

<https://vcet.co>

Veterans Business Outreach Center - New England

<https://www.cweonline.org/>

Regional Development Corporations

<http://accd.vermont.gov/economic-development/resources/rdc>