

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND INNOVATION

Business Resource Guide 2019



raleighnc.gov



Business Resource Guide

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Introduction

Thank you for considering Raleigh for your new business. We understand that starting a business is one of the most challenging yet rewarding endeavors in life. That is why we have created the Business Resource Guide to help you better find the support beneficial for starting your business.

Thanks to people like you there is a Raleigh for everyone.

START YOUR BUSINESS

Starting a new business requires a great deal of preparation, from creating your business plan, to selecting your business site and everything in between. Business owners face challenges that include: navigating the city permitting process, securing financing, deciding how and where to locate or expand, and addressing issues related to attracting and retaining quality employees. The Business Resource Guide is designed to inform and empower new business owners to access the resources they need to be successful.

U.S. SMALL BUSINESS

ADMINISTRATION

sba.gov | 800-827-5722

Since its founding on July 30, 1953, the U.S. Small Business Administration has delivered millions of loans, loan guarantees, contracts, counseling sessions and other forms of assistance to small businesses.

SBA helps primarily through its four programmatic functions:

Access to Capital (Business Financing)

SBA provides small businesses with an array of financing from the smallest needs in microlending - to substantial debt and equity investment capital (venture capital).

Entrepreneurial Development (Education, Information, Technical Assistance & Training)

SBA provides free individual face-to-face and internet counseling for small businesses, and low-cost training to nascent entrepreneurs and established small businesses in over 1,800 locations throughout the United States and U.S. territories.

Government Contracting (Federal Procurement)

In keeping with the mandate of Section 15(g) of the Small Business Act, SBA's Office of Government Contracting sets goals with other federal departments and agencies to reach the statutory goal of 23 percent in prime contract dollars to small businesses. This office also provides small businesses with subcontracting procurement opportunities, outreach programs and training.

Advocacy (Voice for Small Business)

Created in 1978, the Advocacy Office reviews Congressional legislation and testifies on behalf of small businesses. It also assesses the impact of the regulatory burden on behalf of small businesses. Additionally, it conducts a vast array of research on American small businesses and the small business environment. The Chief Counsel of this office is appointed by the President of the United States.

“Build Your Business Plan”

sba.gov Search: Business Plan | 800-827-5722

Are you interested in starting a business? Creating a business plan is one of the most important steps you will take because the plan serves as your road map for the early years of your business. The business plan generally projects 3-5 years ahead and outlines the route a company intends to take to reach its yearly milestones, including revenue projections. A well thought out plan also helps you to step-back and think objectively about the key elements of your business venture and informs your decision-making on a regular basis.

SBA's Business Plan Tool provides you with a step-by-step guide to help you get started. Your information is entered into this tool is 100% secure and can only be viewed by accessing your account using the password you have specified. Not only can you save your plan as a PDF file, you can also update it at any time, making this a living plan to which you can often refer. You can also use your completed business plan to discuss next steps with a mentor or counselor from an SBA resource partner such as SCORE, a Small Business Development Center (SBDC) or a Women's Business Center (WBC).

SMALL BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CENTER (SBTDC)

sbtdc.org | 919-715-7272

The SBTDC is North Carolina's leading resource for growing and developing businesses. Our highly skilled professionals, our position as a program of The University of North Carolina System, and partnership with the U.S. Small Business Administration make us a unique and valued asset in the economic development of our State.

"Business Start-Up & Resource Guide"

sbtdc.org Search: Start-Up Guide

This free downloadable publication has it all. Assess yourself to see if you have what it takes to be a business owner. Learn how to write a business plan people will read cover to cover. Find the legal structure best suited for you. Check out our list of state and federal resources, including local and state licenses/permits.

"How to Fund Your Business"

sbtdc.org Search: Capital Opportunities

Did you know most businesses are started primarily with owner financing? If that is not enough money to get your business going, our Capital Opportunities for Small Business guide is the most comprehensive financing resource describing all the funding options available to North Carolina companies and startups. This continuously updated 135-page guide also has contact information to learn more about each funding opportunity.

WAKE TECH SMALL BUSINESS CENTER

waketech.edu Search: Start & Grow a Business | 919-335-1019

The Wake Tech Small Business Center (SBC) is a state-funded organization which is part of the Small Business Center Network of North Carolina (SBCN). The SBC provides small business owners with information they need for starting or expanding a small business through confidential, one-on-one counseling along with various seminars, workshops, classes, and access to a resource library at zero cost to the participant.

BUSINESS LINK NORTH CAROLINA

edpnc.com Search: Start a Business | 919-447-7777

Business Link North Carolina (BLNC) offers a central source for consultations, information and referrals and is just the help you need to tap into all the State has to offer.

BLNC counselors provide:

- One-on-one client consultations at no cost
- Customized licensing information
- Employer and business structure forms
- Referrals to State Agencies and State Occupational Licensing Boards, Local Governments & Federal Agencies
- Contacts for Local, State & Federal business services, programs & resources
- A Small Business Ombudsman to work on your behalf to resolve issues with State Government Agencies

City of Raleigh LICENSES / PERMITS / ZONING

The City of Raleigh does not require a business license to operate a business within Raleigh City limits. Depending on the nature of your new business, federal, state, and local licenses and permits may be required. In most areas, there are zoning restrictions that may prevent you from operating a business from a particular location, including your home. Finally, there are state and federal income taxes, sales taxes and withholding taxes to consider. Depending on the size of your business, it may be best to consult with an attorney before getting started.

- To find out what is required, contact the town(s) that you plan to operate in to see what their licensing requirements are. If you plan to conduct business within the Raleigh City Limits, contact Revenue Services at 919-996-3200 for more information.
- For information concerning Wake County's requirements related to your business, contact the Wake County Revenue Department at 919-856-5400.
- To find out what state licenses and permits are required, contact Business Link North Carolina (BLNC), an extension of the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina at 919-447-7828 or toll free in North Carolina 800-228-8443.
- Businesses operated from the home must obtain approval from the Development Services Department by applying for a Home Occupation Use Permit. To learn more about Home Occupation Guidelines, visit raleighnc.gov Search: Home Occupation Guidelines or call 919-996-2495
- To apply for a Home Occupation Use Permit, complete and submit the following application to the Development Services Customer Service Center: raleighnc.gov Search: Home Occupation Use Permit

Any business that sells Beer or Wine within the Raleigh City limits must obtain a Beer/Wine License before selling any alcoholic beverages.

- Businesses must FIRST obtain Temporary Permits from the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission.
- Beer/Wine Licenses must be renewed prior to April 30 each year.
- Be sure to contact the Development Services Department at 919-996-2495 to assure that the sale of alcoholic beverages is allowed at your business location.
- To apply for a Beer/Wine License, complete the following application and submit to City of Raleigh Finance Department, Revenue Services Division: raleighnc.gov Search: Business License

Regulatory Licenses and Permits

The City of Raleigh also requires regulatory licenses or permits for some business activities. These include:

- **Amplified Entertainment Permit:** All establishments located in Raleigh that provide amplified music or other amplified entertainment are required to obtain an Amplified Entertainment Permit. raleighnc.gov Search: Entertainment Center
- **Massage Business License:** Any individual, corporation, or partnership that operates an establishment or business where massage is performed must obtain a Massage Business License. raleighnc.gov Search: Massage Business License
- **Massagist License:** Any person who practices in the business or profession of massage within the city limits must obtain a Massagist License. raleighnc.gov Search: Massagist Packet
- **Pawn Brokers License:** Any person, firm, or corporation that is engaged in the business of lending money on the security of pledged goods and who may also purchase merchandise for resale from dealers and traders must obtain a Pawn Brokers License. raleighnc.gov Search: Pawnbrokers License
- **Pushcart Vending Permit:** Any business selling food products from a pushcart in the downtown district must obtain a Pushcart Vending Permit. raleighnc.gov Search: Pushcart Vendor

Zoning regulates land use and development, and all properties in Raleigh are mapped with one or more zoning categories. If you are starting a business, you need to verify that the zoning permits you to operate your business legally on the property. If you operate in a zoning district where your type of business is not permitted, you will be in violation of the City of Raleigh Code of Ordinances and may be fined and required to cease operation.

It is recommended that you do your due diligence by contacting zoning staff on the front end to discuss any requirements. Persons wishing to open a business on a property that is not zoned for the proposed use have the option of petitioning the City for a rezoning. Questions regarding zoning and rezoning can be directed to City Planning at 919-996-2633. Additional information about the rezoning process and associated cost are available online at: raleighnc.gov Search: Rezoning

Permitted Business Uses by Zoning District

Businesses in Residential Zones

You are permitted to have a limited home business if you live in the single-family house in which you run the business. A limited home business must meet regulations as outlined in the City Code. Home Occupations may be approved by City staff as accessory uses, while Limited Home Business and Live Work occupations require approval from the Board of Adjustment.

Businesses in Mixed-Use and Non-Residential Zones

raleighnc.gov Search: Zoning and Rezoning | 919-996-2626

There are several different zoning districts which permit businesses. These include Legacy Zoning Districts, Overlay Districts and UDO Zoning Districts.

SIGNAGE

raleighnc.gov Search: Signs | 919-996-2495

Permits are required for all outdoor signs except directional signs, such as exit and entrance signs, and informational signs, such as signs designating restrooms and phones. A Sign Permit is required any time a business wants to display signage or hold an event that includes advertising visible from the public right-of-way.

Sign Permits are required for:

- Permanent signs
- Ground and tract identification signs
- Signs erected on parapet walls
- Awning signs
- Signs in shopping centers or at multi-tenant buildings
- Internally illuminated signs
- Special events signs

Site & Building Selection

The following resources are provided to help you with site and building selection for your business.

City of Raleigh Office of Economic Development

One Exchange Plaza
Suite 727
Raleigh, N.C. 27601
919-996-2596

raleigheconomicdevelopment.com

Wake County Department of Planning, Land Use, and Zoning

336 Fayetteville St.
Raleigh, N.C. 27601
919-856-6310

wakegov.com Search: Planning

Wake County Economic Development

800 South Salisbury St.
Raleigh, N.C. 27602
919-664-7000

raleigh-wake.org

Incubators & Co-working Spaces

The Locality

emsexton.com Search: The Locality | 984-202-5035

- 307 W Martin St. | Downtown Raleigh
- 3,500 square feet
- em@theflourishmarket.com

The Locality is hub for triangle based female entrepreneurs to connect and collaborate with like-minded women courageously going after their goals

BLDG Co.

thebldgco.com | info@bldg-co.com

- 706 Mountford Ave. | Downtown Raleigh
- 5,600 square feet

BLDG Co is a shared workspace for community-minded people and business ventures

HQ Raleigh

hqraleigh.com | 919-300-6917

- HQ Raleigh Main | 310 S. Harrington St | Downtown Raleigh
 - 20,000 square feet
- HQ Raleigh Capital Club | 16 W. Martin St | Downtown Raleigh
 - 15,000 square feet
- HQ Glenwood | 509 W. North St | Downtown Raleigh
 - 31,000 square feet
- HQ Centennial | 1017 Main Campus Dr, Suite 2300 | Centennial Campus
 - 20,000 square feet
- HQ Gateway | 2409 Crabtree Blvd, Suite 107 | Southeast Raleigh
 - 20,000 square feet

HQ Raleigh is a physical, co-working space with several locations in Raleigh that is designed to provide an environment that empowers, fosters, and cultivates companies that produce long-term job growth and positive social impact. HQ addresses two challenges that entrepreneurs face: building a trusted support community and gaining access to flexible, affordable office space. Currently, the start-up hub features over 100,000 square feet of space.

IMURJ

imurj.com | 919 825-1515

- 300 S. McDowell St. | Downtown Raleigh
- 6,000 square feet

Imurj focuses on developing and promoting amateur and professional artists and musicians.

Industrious Raleigh

industriousoffice.com | 919-390-3000

- 555 Fayetteville St, 3rd Floor | Downtown Raleigh
- 32,000 square feet

Industrious is a physical space with a blend of rentable, open and collaborative co-working space with private office suites of variable sizes. Industrious is open to all industries.

Loading Dock Raleigh

loadingdockraleigh.com | 919-999-0252

- LDR – Whitaker Mill | 1053 E. Whitaker Mill Rd, Suite 115 | Five Points
 - 10,000 square feet
- LDR - Boylan | 410 N Boylan Ave. | Glenwood South
 - 18,000 square feet
- LDR - Prince Hall | 216 E Lenoir St. | Downtown
 - 3,000 square feet
- LDR - Beryl | 3915 Beryl Rd. | NC State
 - 25,000 square feet
 - Coming 2020

Loading Dock serves as a co-working community for people of all walks of professions and in every stage of development – creative, start up, established, freelance -- seeking a feasible and inspiring place to build, gather, network, and share resources and knowledge.

Nest Raleigh

nestraleigh.com | 919-617-6378

- 414 Fayetteville St, Floors 2-4 | Downtown Raleigh
- 12,600 square feet

Nest Raleigh is a co-working space that offers communal workspace, dedicated desks and private suites for startups across all industries.

Pinkubator

thepinkubator.com | 844-746-5267

- 4350 Lassiter at North Hills Ave, Suite 260 | Midtown Raleigh
- 4,000 square feet

The Pinkubator, a physical co-working space and virtual support community, serves women at various stages of business development, ranging from a basic idea to a need for millions of dollars in funding.

Spaces

spacesworks.com Search: The Dillon | 984-789-3700

- 223 S. West Street, Suite 900 & 1000 | Downtown Raleigh
- 34,000 square feet

Spaces is a co-working office provider open to all industries, featuring nearly 40,000 square feet of office space, a business club, 269 dedicated co-working desks and meeting rooms.

WeWork

[wework.com](https://www.wework.com) | 646-491-9060

- 1 Glenwood Ave | Downtown Raleigh
- 81,000 square feet

WeWork, a global provider of co-working space, has opened a new location in Downtown Raleigh. The company occupies 81,032 square feet in the One Glenwood building. The new WeWork space can accommodate 1,380 members and offers workspace options for single entrepreneurs and up.

Office Evolution

[officeevolution.com](https://www.officeevolution.com) | 919-296-3758

- 4801 Glenwood Avenue Suite 200 | Glenwood South
- 6,500 square feet

Office Evolution provides virtual office solutions and shared co-working space to a business community with amenities where you'll meet other professionals at networking happy hours, purposeful business advisory events and wellness educational sessions.

Intelligent Office

[intelligentoffice.com](https://www.intelligentoffice.com) | 919-719-3900

- 555 Fayetteville Street Suite 201 Raleigh, NC 27601
- 4,500 square feet

Intelligent Office helps businesses solve issues they face every day by providing the office space, technology, and staff to help your business reach its full potential.

Venture /Seed /Angel Funding

ACCELERATORS

LaunchRALEIGH

launchraleigh.org | 919-335-1004

LaunchRALEIGH strives to develop successful entrepreneurs who have limited access to financial and business resources. Its network of local partners in Raleigh provides a broad network of support and resources for entrepreneurs.

NC State Acceleration Fund |

entrepreneurshipclinic.ncsu.edu Search: Accelerator | 919-515-2011

The NC State Acceleration Fund is designed to accelerate economic development by increasing the propensity of new ventures to survive and grow through equity-free grants. Acceleration grants provide up to \$50,000 and pro bono support services to entrepreneurs who complete the Andrews Launch Accelerator.

RIoT Labs

ncriot.org Search: Riot Labs

RIoT Labs is a hardware, wireless and software prototyping lab with all the tools for full-stack IoT prototyping. In addition, RIoT Labs also connects entrepreneurs to our industry, government and university network through regular Lunch and Learns, Educational programming and co-located office space.

Bunker Labs

bunkerlabs.org

Bunker Labs – a 501(c)(3) non-profit – is a national network of veteran entrepreneurs dedicated to helping new veteran entrepreneurs start their own business.

ANGEL INVESTOR ORGANIZATIONS

Acorn Innovestments |

acorninnovestments.com

Acorn Investments is focused on innovative business concepts/products where our past experiences and networks can serve to help nurture and grow startup organizations. Acorn is well positioned to use its network and expertise in the manufacturing of advanced materials to nurture and grow new innovations and new companies that are solving current and future environmental problems.

Bootstrap Advisors

bootstrapadvisors.com | 919-251-9549

Bootstrap Advisors is comprised of three primary business partners focused on transforming need-driven ideas and solutions to everyday problems into products, brands and businesses. As such, Bootstrap focuses primarily on very early stage, pre-revenue companies. Bootstrap has considerable expertise in working with tangible, differentiated and low-tech products, and with startups that allow for branding opportunities.

Cofounders Capital

cofounderscapital.com

Cofounders Capital is an early-stage seed fund focused on software ventures in the Triangle. The company helps with prototyping, vetting, and lining up beta customers. The most promising of these ventures are then funded through Cofounders Capital's \$12M seed fund. Cofounders Capital is managed by serially-successful entrepreneur, David Gardner with a team of over seventy advisers and volunteer mentors who are all investors in the fund, eager to support entrepreneurship in the Triangle and to help its portfolio companies and entrepreneurs succeed.

Inception Micro Angel Fund (IMAF) |

imaf-rtp.com | 919-467-3533

IMAF is a member-managed, seed-stage angel capital fund model designed to capitalize on the growth in entrepreneurial activity and venture financing. The Fund contains a mixture of new and successful investors from various industries in the Research Triangle Park area.

NC IDEA

ncidea.org | 919-941-5600

NC IDEA is a private foundation with a mission to maximize the economic potential of the people of North Carolina by supporting the formation and fruition of high-growth entrepreneurial endeavors in the state. NC IDEA's mission is best achieved by working to foster a diverse, generative and collaborative community, Identify and impact promising companies, facilitate the formation and multiplication of capital, nurture and attract world-class talent, and optimize internal (statewide) and external (U.S.) connectivity.

Piedmont Angel Network (PAN)

piedmontangelnetwork.com | 336-235-0941

The Piedmont Angel Network (PAN) is a committed capital angel fund that focuses on investment opportunities in early stage companies that present high growth opportunities. PAN has invested in 23 companies since 2002 with a primary focus on the life science, technology, software, and advanced materials fields. While the Fund has a preference to invest in the Piedmont Triad region of North Carolina, PAN has made investments across North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia.

Triangle Angel Partners (TAP)

triangleangelpartners.com | 919-904-4565

Triangle Angel Partners (TAP) is an experienced group of angel investors who invest their time, analysis and money into early life cycle companies in the high tech and life sciences industries. Our members are executives, PhDs, successful entrepreneurs and professional investors. With TAP's exclusive network, we get the first look at the best new ideas coming out of the Raleigh, Durham, Chapel Hill and the Research Triangle Park areas.

Wolfpack Investor Network

wolfpackinvestornetwork.com

The Wolfpack Investor Network (WIN) brings together the NC State entrepreneurial community, NC State alumni network, and innovative private companies to empower the businesses that drive our future. WIN's mission is to support the global NC State entrepreneurial community with an angel investing platform and co-investment fund (the Seed Capital Endowment Fund) that engages and leverages the power of the NC State alumni network. WIN actively engages and matches NC State alumni network expertise with portfolio companies to support growth and success. The NC State community offers a uniquely powerful opportunity for networking and guidance from industry experts and successful entrepreneurial leaders. WIN members work actively to connect WIN portfolio companies with the Wolfpack Investor Network to foster collaboration and further success.

Carolina Angel Network

carolinaangelnetwork.com

They screen early stage companies with early revenue or customers, perform due diligence for the members through dedicated resources and allow members to make their own choice of investment.

Duke Angel Network

dukeangelnetwork.duke.edu

The Duke Angel Network is uniquely dedicated to connecting, supporting, and cultivating the Duke entrepreneurial community.

Social Venture Circle

svcimpact.org

Social Venture Circle (SVC) is a membership network that equips entrepreneurs, impact investors, and capacity-builders with connections, money, and expertise in order to build businesses that drive the NEXT economy: one that is regenerative, equitable and prosperous for all.

Triangle Venture Alliance

triangleventurealliance.org

Triangle Venture Alliance, a partnership between Duke University, the University of North Carolina, NC State University and North Carolina Central University, is a network of alumni angel groups created to fund start-ups founded by alumni, students, staff, faculty and families.

VENTURE CAPITAL / VENTURE BANKS

The Aurora Funds, Inc.

aurorafunds.com | 919-484-0400

The Aurora Funds is a family of venture capital funds committed to providing resources to help early stage healthcare and information technology companies reach their full potential. Aurora's investment team has the experience, strategic relationships and capital to help companies accelerate their growth and gain a strong competitive advantage in their market space. Since its founding in 1994, Aurora has invested in over 60 portfolio companies, resulting in five IPOs and eight M&A transactions.

Bull City Venture Partners

bcvp.com

BCVP is a venture capital firm investing \$250K to \$2 million in Software and Internet Companies.

Cato BioVentures

catoventures.com | 919-361-2286

Cato BioVentures is the venture capital affiliate of Cato Research, Ltd., a global contract research and development organization (CRO). For over 20 years, Cato BioVentures and Cato Research have partnered with entrepreneurs, academic institutions and a broad base of biotech and pharmaceutical companies to advance a robust portfolio of successful product development programs. Cato BioVentures focuses on early to mid-stage investment opportunities in private companies and undervalued public companies.

Excelerate Health Ventures

exceleratehealth.com

Excelerate Health was founded by experienced entrepreneurs with extensive startup and investment experience. The venture capital company works exclusively with healthcare startups to fund, incubate and accelerate their ventures.

Golden Pine Ventures

goldenpineventures.com | 919-473-9296

Golden Pine Ventures, LLC is a venture capital company that seeks biotechnology and biomedical opportunities developed by leading researchers and grow them into valuable businesses. While many of today's life science technologies provide enabling or incremental value, only a few possess the potential around which to build a successful business. Golden Pine Ventures specializes in identifying the revolutionary technologies among the many evolutionary technologies—finding the “golden pines” in the evergreen forest of the technology world.

Hatteras Venture Partners

hatterasvp.com

Hatteras Venture Partners is a venture capital firm formed to invest primarily in early stage companies with a focus on biopharmaceuticals, medical devices, diagnostics, healthcare IT, and related opportunities in human medicine. The firm will typically invest in companies located in the research-driven regions of North Carolina and the Southeastern United States, which are undercapitalized in comparison to New England and California.

IDEA Fund Partners

ideafundpartners.com | 919-808-4000

IDEA Fund Partners, an active seed and early stage venture investment firm in NC, is focused on high-growth sectors, such as software, technology with IP protection and medical devices. IDEA Fund Partners typically provides the first institutional money for the companies in which it invests, making small initial investments and setting aside plenty of follow-on capital for future rounds. IDEA Fund has invested as little as \$100,000 and as much as \$750,000 in a round and can invest up to \$1.5M over the life of a company.

Pappas Capital

pappas-capital.com | 919-998-3300

Pappas Capital is a venture capital firm that invests exclusively in the life sciences – biotechnology, specialty pharmaceuticals, drug delivery, diagnostics, medical devices and related ventures. Pappas invests the largest share of its capital in companies whose lead products are at the Phase 1 or Phase 2 stage of development. Founded in 1994, Pappas Ventures has more than \$350 million in capital under management. Pappas has guided the launch and/or development of over 55 life sciences companies, and to date, a quarter of them has completed initial public offerings or successfully merged with corporate partners.

Rex Health Ventures

rexhealth.com Search: Health Ventures | 919-784-3100

REX Health Ventures (RHV) is an innovation platform being created by UNC REX Healthcare to foster and nurture innovative technologies and companies in the healthcare sector. The RHV mission is to enable access to healthcare products and services that will allow for improved patient care. RHV's focus includes early stage ideas to mid-stage companies that will benefit from a strategic partnership with Rex's resources and network, as well as an industry focus on healthcare services, Healthcare IT, Medical devices and Biopharma technologies. REX Health Ventures supports the discovery and development of new treatments, tools, products and services that foster innovation and positively impacts the provision of healthcare.

River Cities Capital Funds

rccf.com | 919-374-5600

Founded in 1994, River Cities Capital Funds is one of the most active and experienced growth equity funds in healthcare and information technology (IT). With nearly \$500 million under management and more than 100 investments made, River Cities has established itself as a preferred partner among the entrepreneurial and private equity communities. River Cities has an office in Raleigh, NC.

SJF Ventures

sjfventures.com | 919-530-1177

SJF Ventures is comprised of experienced venture capitalists that invest in high-growth companies creating a healthier, smarter and cleaner future. Its mission is to catalyze the development of highly successful businesses driving lasting, positive changes. The SJF team has invested in over 50 ventures since 1999.

Silicon Valley Bank

svb.com | 800-774-7390

Banking the world's most innovative companies and exclusive wineries, SVB's diverse financial services, knowledge, global network, and world class service increases its clients' probability of success. With \$23 billion in assets and more than 1,600 employees, SVB provides commercial, international and private banking through 34 locations worldwide.

Solidarity Capital Group

solidaritycap.com

Solidarity Capital Group is an impact investment firm that finances economically sustainable social justice enterprises addressing works where public and private sector funds are retrenching.

Carolina Seed Investors

carolinaseedinvestors.com

Carolina Seed Investors is examining new strategies for investing in pre-revenue start-ups that reduce risk early on in a venture's life cycle while also cutting costs associated with due diligence and monitoring.

Pilot Mountain Ventures

pilotmtventures.com

Pilot Mountain Ventures is a seed stage venture capital firm, based out of New York City but investing globally. Their team is comprised of successful investors, consultants, corporate officers, and entrepreneurs with over fifty years combined experience.

Madison River Ventures

madisonriverventures.com | 919-123-4567

Madison River Ventures (MRV) is an active investor in early stage companies. They invest in extraordinary entrepreneurs who have the vision, ability and drive to build great teams and even greater companies.

BioInnovation Capital

bio-innovation.com | 617-812-3350

With a focus on founders and open innovation, their transformative venture capital model helps biotech innovators find success, more quickly.

Cherokee Investment Partners

cherokeefund.com | 919-743-2500

Cherokee is an investment company that blends capital with creativity, experience and resolve to provide superior financial, environmental and social returns for investors, partners and communities.

Fulcrum Equity Partners

fulcrumep.com | 770-551-6300

Their business is based on execution and growth, which means combining their operating experience with innovative entrepreneurs driven to build valuable companies. They invest in people and possibilities.

Intel Capital intel.com Search: Overview | 408-765-8080

Since 1991, Intel Capital has helped entrepreneurs turn great ideas into successful businesses, through the power of partnership.

True Bridge Capital Partners

truebridgecapital.com | 919-442-5201

Established in 2007, TrueBridge Capital Partners is an alternative asset management firm focused on generating superior returns in the venture capital industry.

8 Rivers

8rivers.com | 919-667-1800

8 Rivers is developing the sustainable infrastructure of tomorrow by inventing and commercializing large-scale innovations in future-critical areas.

Bluedoor

bluedoor.us Search: Start-ups | 919-902-5837

Bluedoor partners with entrepreneurs and start-ups to take their product from design and development, piloting and validation, through to successful market launch.

Bootstrap Advisors

bootstrapadvisors.com | 919-345-7086

Develop companies from pre-revenue ideas into profitable businesses.

Disruptive Enterprises

disruptive-enterprises.com

Disruptive Enterprises, LLC is committed to making innovative new foods, beverages, dietary supplements, and medical foods accessible to help more people realize the benefits of a ketogenic (low-carb/high-fat) diet.

Echo Health Ventures

echohealthventures.com | 206-259-2584

Echo Health Ventures invests to build and grow great health care companies.

One Better Ventures

1bv.co

One Better Ventures nurtures and develops consumer brands that have a positive impact on the world.

Pinkubator

thepinkceiling.com | 844-746-5267

Pinkubator puts their creativity, contacts and cash to work for cutting edge concepts and founders.

The Launch Place

thelaunchplace.org | 919-990-8558

The Launch Place strives to foster an environment for new and serial entrepreneurs to raise capital and garner the support system needed to take their products and/or solutions into the market place.

Mainstream

mainstreamgroup.com | 212-802-7980

Mainstream Group Holdings Limited is a specialist fund administrator for the financial services industry. Our clients are typically fund managers, superannuation trustees, listed companies, family offices and dealer groups.

NEW VENTURE COMPETITIONS

The Lulu eGames

entrepreneurship.ncsu.edu Search: eGames | 919-513-3676

N.C. State's Entrepreneurship Initiative, in partnership with Lulu, hosts this annual event for students from all disciplines to collaborate to develop solutions to real world challenges. The Lulu eGames are open to all full-time and part-time N.C. State undergraduate and graduate students. Students working individually or in teams will compete for cash prizes totaling up to \$30,000. Team and individual competition opportunities are available in areas that include but are not limited to web/IT development, B2B and retail products and services, biotech and energy, as well as social, nonprofit, and education development.

Invent Now Collegiate Inventors Competition

invent.org Search: Collegiate Inventors | 800-968-4332

The Collegiate Inventors Competition recognizes and honors student inventors whose innovations could one day make significant contributions to society. More than \$75,000 is awarded to winning undergraduate and graduate students and their advisors. All inventions submitted must be the original idea and work product of the student or student team with his or her faculty advisor.

NC Open Pass

ncopenpass.com Search: Datapalooza

NC Datapalooza is an open data competition which connects local experts, innovators, and entrepreneurs to relevant, clean data drawn from federal, state, and local resources. This open data is used to develop applications and solutions that catalyze positive community and economic impact. The event focuses on using open data to spark innovation in the fields of health, education, and energy.

City of Raleigh Financial Programs

Building Up-fit Grant

The City of Raleigh sponsors the Building Up-fit Grant to help property owners and businesses in the improvements, renovations and/or additions to their interior spaces.

City of Raleigh - Office of Economic Development and Innovation

One Exchange Plaza
Suite 727
Raleigh, NC 27601
919-996-2596
raleigh4u@raleighnc.gov

Business Investment Grant

The City of Raleigh considers discretionary incentives on a case by case basis. The City Council decides on incentives for a project based on job creation, taxable capital investment and the merits of the individual project.

City of Raleigh - Office of Economic Development and Innovation

One Exchange Plaza
Suite 727
Raleigh, NC 27601
919-996-2596
raleigh4u@raleighnc.gov

Façade Grant Program

The City of Raleigh's Façade Grant Program helps businesses and property owners in older commercial areas upgrade and improve their building's exterior appearance. Since the program's inception in the early 1980s, it has assisted in the rehabilitation of more than 100 buildings, increasing their attractiveness to new customers and contributing a positive influence toward revitalization of their respective areas.

City of Raleigh - Urban Design Center

One Exchange Plaza
Suite 100
Raleigh, NC 27601
919-996-4640
udc@raleighnc.gov

jobsRaleigh Grant

The jobsRaleigh Grant program was adopted by the City of Raleigh in 2017 to assist small businesses start, grow and stay within the city. The program provides grants to companies based upon the creation of new jobs or retention of jobs within the City of Raleigh.

City of Raleigh - Office of Economic Development and Innovation

One Exchange Plaza
Suite 727
Raleigh, N.C. 27601
919-996-2596
raleigh4u@raleighnc.gov

Impact Partner Grant

The City of Raleigh has placed a priority on helping innovators, entrepreneurs, and small businesses to start, stay, and grow in Raleigh, with an added emphasis on underrepresented entrepreneurs. As such, the City adopted the Impact Partner Grant program to partner with local organizations to create a more equitable and sustainable impact throughout the entire business community in Raleigh.

City of Raleigh - Office of Economic Development and Innovation

One Exchange Plaza
Suite 727
Raleigh, N.C. 27601
919-996-2596
raleigh4u@raleighnc.gov

Downtown Raleigh Alliance

Retail Up-fit Grant

The goal of this program is to create an incentive to attract new retail businesses and aid in the expansion of existing retail businesses in downtown Raleigh.

Downtown Raleigh Alliance

333 Fayetteville Street, Suite 1150
Raleigh, NC 27601
919-832-1231
info@downtownraleigh.org

Financial Programs (State of North Carolina)

Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG)

The Job Development Investment Grant (JDIG) is a performance-based, discretionary incentive program that provides cash grants directly to new and expanding companies to help offset the cost of locating or expanding a facility in the state of North Carolina. The amount of the grant is based on a percentage of the personal income tax withholdings associated with the new jobs. This grant applies for companies that have a hundred or more employees.

NC Commerce Finance Center

15000 Weston Pkwy, Cary, NC 27513

cfc@nccommerce.com

One NC Fund

The One North Carolina Fund (OneNC) is a discretionary cash-grant program that allows the Governor to respond quickly to competitive job-creation projects. Awards are based on the number of jobs created, level of investment, location of the project, economic impact of the project and the importance of the project to the state and region. This grant applies for companies that have a hundred or more employees.

NC Commerce Finance Center

15000 Weston Pkwy, Cary, NC 27513

cfc@nccommerce.com

SBIR/STTR Small Business Technology Funding

The NIH SBIR program funds early stage small businesses that are seeking to commercialize innovative biomedical technologies. This competitive program helps small businesses participate in federal research and development, develop life-saving technologies, and create jobs.

NC Commerce Finance Center

15000 Weston Pkwy, Cary, NC 27513

cfc@nccommerce.com

Financial Programs (Wake County)

Business Investment Grant

Wake County's Business Development Grant offers a series of five tiers with investment and job thresholds. Special consideration may be provided for corporate, regional, or Fortune 500 companies' divisional headquarters projects and large international companies.

Wake County Economic Development

800 S Salisbury St, Raleigh, NC 27601

919.664.7000

hello@raleigh-wake.org

Resource Organizations

Association for Corporate Growth

acg.org Search: Raleigh Durham | 919-453-2997

The Association for Corporate Growth (ACG) focuses on strategies for increasing sustainable stakeholder value.

Carolina Small Business

Development Fund

carolinasmallbusiness.org | 919-803-1437

Carolina Small Business Fund offers services including one-on-one business coaching, small business loans and financial training for startups.

Capital Area

Workforce Development Board

capitalareancworks.com | 919-856-6040

Capital Area Workforce Development focuses on economic development by ensuring the local workforce has the skills, training and education to meet the needs of local employers. The organization oversees workforce solutions in Wake and Johnston counties designed to serve businesses, individuals and youth.

City of Raleigh Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprises

raleighnc.gov Search: Business Assistance Program | 919-996-4330

The City of Raleigh's Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise program is designed specifically to facilitate business growth and provided opportunities for historically underutilized businesses.

Council for Entrepreneurial Development

cednc.org | 919-549-7500

The Council for Entrepreneurial Development provides programs and services in four major areas: education, capital formation, mentoring, and communications.

Downtown Raleigh Alliance

godowntownraleigh.com | 919-996-3000

The Downtown Raleigh Alliance focuses on enhancing the life of downtown Raleigh with an emphasis on Safety and Hospitality Ambassadors; Strategic Branding & Community Communications; Special Events Production; Retail Attraction & Merchant Promotions; Strategic Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagement; Strategic Planning and Conflict Resolution.

Economic Development

Partnership of North Carolina

edpnc.com | 919-447-7777

EDPNC manages the state of North Carolina's economic development efforts by marketing the state as a leading center for business, working to recruit new businesses while retaining and fostering growth for existing NC companies.

EntreDot

entredot.org | 919-522-0722

EntreDot provides professional mentoring and business education programs that maximize the opportunity for success, resulting in incremental economic growth in revenue and jobs.

Environmental Stewardship Initiative

deq.nc.gov Search: Environmental Stewardship Initiative | 919-707-8126

The NC Department of Environment and Natural Resource's Environmental Stewardship Initiative provides technical assistance and networking opportunities to stimulate the development and implementation of programs that use pollution prevention and innovative approaches to meet and go beyond regulatory requirements.

Green Restaurant Association

dinegreen.com Search: Restaurant Standards | 617-737-4422

Green Restaurant® 4.0 provides a comprehensive and user-friendly method of rewarding existing restaurants and foodservice operations, new builds, and events with points in each of the GRA's seven environmental categories. Non-foodservice businesses can also benefit from the self-assessments and resources.

Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center

shawu.edu Search: InnovationCenter | 800-214-6683

The Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center (IEC) was created through Shaw University's partnership with the Carolina Small Business Development Fund. IEC focuses on three programming areas: entrepreneurial training, business incubation and financial resources.

Leadership exCHANGE

leadershipexchange.co | 919-935-8374

An educational organization dedicated to providing young people with the skills and opportunities they need to become active and responsible citizens in this global community. Programs run throughout the year in Panama, Prague, Rome and Raleigh.

Manufactured in North Carolina

manufacturednc.com

A resource available through N.C. State's Industrial Extension Service, ManufacturedNC helps companies find world class manufacturers and suppliers in North Carolina.

MCNC

mcnc.org | 919-248-1900

MCNC, a nonprofit organization, is committed to building partnerships among academic, research, government, and business communities. These partnerships enable and advance education, innovation, and economic development throughout North Carolina by delivering the world's foremost information technology services through the North Carolina Research and Education Network.

Natural Resources Defense Council

nrdc.org Search: Thriving Communities | 212-727-2700

NRDC's Center for Market Innovation offers a host of resources from articles highlighting cutting-edge technologies to the basics of energy audits, targeted at helping both existing and new businesses reduce their environmental impact.

NC Biotechnology Center

ncbiotech.org | 919-541-9366

The North Carolina Biotechnology Center is a private, nonprofit corporation focused on strengthening the biotechnology research capabilities of the state's universities; assisting biotechnology business development; educating the public about the science, issues, and application of biotechnology; encouraging collaborations among the state's universities, industry, and government; and strengthening North Carolina's national and international leadership in biotechnology.

NC Center of Innovation Network

nccoin.org | 518-506-4092

The North Carolina Center of Innovation Network (NC COIN) fosters economic growth through support for an array of scientific disciplines and sectors. COIN serves businesses, researchers, entrepreneurs, students and institutions via its Virtual Center of Innovation and is a leading source of networking opportunities, information and tailored innovation services for members.

NC Clean Energy Technology Center

nccleantech.ncsu.edu | 919-515-3480

The North Carolina Clean Energy Technology Center advances a sustainable energy economy by educating, demonstrating and providing support for clean energy technologies, practices, and policies.

NC GreenTravel

deq.nc.gov Search: NC Green Travel Program | 919-707-8140

The NC GreenTravel Initiative is a free program to help promote robust economic growth and environmental stewardship in the travel and hospitality sectors through the recognition of “green” travel-oriented businesses. Actions encouraged by NC GreenTravel help businesses reduce operation costs, increase profits and extend their brand to a growing consumer market making travel decisions based upon green practices.

NC IDEA

ncidea.org | 919-941-5600

NC IDEA is a nonprofit organization created to assist young technology companies with high-growth potential in securing resources necessary for commercial success.

NC Restaurant and Lodging Association

ncrla.org | 919-844-0098

NCRLA is the uniting force of the North Carolina hospitality industry. We bring together restaurant and lodging establishments and partners who support our community. We impact legislation and policies, cultivate relationships and provide valuable resources to help members run their business.

NC State Industry Expansion Solutions

ies.ncsu.edu | 919-515-2358

IES offers a broad portfolio of solutions and industry expertise to help organizations grow, innovate and prosper. Our unique partnerships provide access to expertise, research and technology.

NC Tech Association

nctech.org | 919-856-0393

The North Carolina Technology Association is the premier statewide leadership organization that represents the technology industry. NCTA helps its members grow regionally and compete globally by actively connecting business decision-makers, educating government officials on issues relevant to the technology industry, and providing invaluable educational and executive networking events.

NC Textile Connect

nctextileconnect.com

NC Textile Connect is a website designed to connect textile complex companies, events, resources, and product and market information, from various government, industry, and academic sources to the North Carolina textile complex.

NSF ASSIST

assist.ncsu.edu | 919-515-9590

The NSF Nanosystems Engineering Research Center (NERC) for Advanced Self-Powered Systems of Integrated Sensors and Technologies (ASSIST) creates a culture that links scientific discovery to technological innovation through transformational engineered systems research and education.

Office of Information

Technology Services

its.nc.gov | 800-722-3946

The Office of Information Technology Services provides much of the information technology used by state agencies, local governments, and educational institutions across North Carolina.

Operation HOPE

operationhope.org

Operation HOPE serves adults, youth, disaster survivors, and employees with financial dignity programming and coaching to equip them with the financial knowledge and tools to create a secure future. Programs and services are offered at no cost to the client.

Raleigh Area Development Authority

rada-nc.org | 919-807-8400

RADA offers small business loans for existing small businesses within the city.

Raleigh Chamber of Commerce

raleighchamber.org | 919-664-7000

The Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce represents the interests of the local business community.

Research Triangle Cleantech Cluster

researchtrianglecleantech.org | 919-334-4076

The Research Triangle Cleantech Cluster (RTCC) is an initiative of business, government, academic and nonprofit leaders focused on accelerating the growth of the Research Triangle Region's cleantech economy.

Research Triangle Institute

rti.org | 919-541-6000

The Research Triangle provides contract research to federal, state, and local government agencies, as well as to private industry and foundations.

SCORE

(Service Corps of Retired Executives)

raleigh.score.org | 919-869-4151

Raleigh SCORE is dedicated to educating entrepreneurs and encouraging the formation, growth, and success of small business by providing free counseling and low-cost educational workshops to start-ups and small businesses.

Shop Local Raleigh - Greater Raleigh

Merchants Association

shoplocalraleigh.org | 919-256-3640

Shop Local Raleigh promotes and supports locally-owned, independent businesses.

Soar | ncidea.org Search: Soar | 919-941-5600

Soar addresses the funding gap facing promising female entrepreneurs starting scalable businesses in the Triangle by connecting them to advisors, colleagues, ideas and access to capital resources.

Tech Talent South

techtalentsouth.com | 888-909-1542

Tech Talent South offers part-time evening classes and a full-time immersion program on the foundation of web development.

The Entrepreneur's Source

entrepreneursource.com | 203-405-2129

The Entrepreneur's Source is a network of consultants using discovery and education-based methods to assist their clients with their business needs.

The Institute NC

theinstitutenc.org | 919-956-8889

The Institute NC is a statewide nonprofit organization representing the interest of underdeveloped and underutilized sectors of the state's economic base, including minority- and women-owned businesses.

TiE Carolinas

carolinas.tie.org | 408-567-0700

TiE Carolinas is a not-for-profit organization with a mission to foster and support entrepreneurship in the Carolinas. This organization is chartered by entrepreneurs, corporate executives, and senior professionals with the explicit goal to benefit entrepreneurs.

U.S. Small Business Administration

sba.gov | 800-827-5722

The Small Business Administration provides support to entrepreneurs and small businesses.

Wake Tech-Wells Fargo Center for Entrepreneurship

entrepreneurship.waketech.edu | 919-866-5420

The Wake Tech-Wells Fargo Center for Entrepreneurship seeks to make a significant contribution to economic and workforce growth in the area served by increasing the number and success rate of new and existing small businesses and entrepreneurs.

Waste Reduction Partners

wastereductionpartners.org Search: Services | 828-251-6622

Waste Reduction Partners helps organizations improve environmental and energy management through efficiency techniques that save money. Highly experienced volunteer engineers, scientists and staff perform on-site assessments, presenting clients with innovative cost-saving strategies and resources to meet their goals.

Wireless Research Center of N.C.

wirelesscenter-nc.org | 919-435-1051

The Wireless Center of N.C. provides companies, researchers, and entrepreneurs with specialized facilities, engineering resources and business support services to support the commercialization of wireless products from initial concept through high-volume production.

Women in BIO

womeninbio.org | 240-204-0719

Women in BIO seeks to help women within life sciences industries attain career and leadership goals, as well as to further entrepreneurial endeavors in the field. The organization conducts professional development programs, workshops, and seminars and organizes networking opportunities with other industry professionals.

Women Presidents' Organization

womenpresidentsorg.com | 212-688-4114

The Women Presidents' Organization provides structured and confidential peer advisory for women who own and operate their own multi-million-dollar companies. Members take part in professionally facilitated advisory groups to share best practices and accelerate the growth of their businesses.

Minority & Women Business Resources

Carolina Small Business Development Fund

carolinasmallbusiness.org | 919-803-1437

Carolina Small Business Fund offers services including one-on-one business coaching, small business loans and financial training for startups.

Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE)

raleighnc.gov Search: Business Assistance Program | 919-996-4330

The City of Raleigh's Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise program is designed specifically to facilitate business growth and provided opportunities for historically underutilized businesses.

Pinkubator

thepinkceiling.com | 844-746-5267

They put their creativity, contacts and cash to work for cutting edge concepts and founders.

The Locality

emsexton.com Search: The Locality | 984-202-5035

Our new gorgeously designed co-working space will be a spot where absolute magic happens as we surround ourselves with like-minded women courageously going after their goals.

Women in BIO

womeninbio.org | 240-204-0719

Women in Bio is an organization of professionals committed to promoting careers, leadership and entrepreneurship for women in the life sciences.

Women Presidents' Organization

womenpresidentsorg.com | 212-688-4114

The WPO is a non-profit membership organization for women presidents, CEOs, and managing directors of privately held, multimillion-dollar companies.

Education & Training

Capital Area

Workforce Development Board

capitalareancworks.com | 919-856-6040

The mission of the Capital Area Workforce Development Board is to create a highly effective workforce system. This system will provide employers with productive, skilled workers and offer citizens training and employment opportunities that promote job satisfaction and economic stability.

Wake County Public School System – Career and Technical Education |

wcpss.net Search: Career and Technical Education | 919-413-7400

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) program aims to prepare students for employment opportunities, advanced education and productive lives. CTE promotes best practices that enhance teachers' efforts to improve student achievement and encourage responsible career choices. Middle school students are offered exploratory courses in business and information technologies, life skills, technology systems and career decisions. In high schools, introductory courses are available at grades 9 and 10, with advanced and specialized instruction in 11 and 12. We have agriculture, business and information technology, career development, health occupations, family and consumer sciences, marketing, technology, and trade and industry. Each middle school has a Career Development Coordinator to support the school-to-career connection and facilitate business alliance activities. Each high school has a Career Development Coordinator to support students and find internships and job-shadowing opportunities.

Wake Technical Community College – Workforce Continuing Education

waketech.edu Search: Workforce Continuing Education | 919 866-5000

Wake Tech plays an active role in workforce training and lifelong learning for citizens of the Capital area. The College's Workforce Continuing Education programs provide courses for those who need to train, retrain, and upgrade skills in a vocational or professional area. Programs include customized training for corporations and businesses, small business counseling and support, public safety officer training, information technology, vocational training, as well as barbering and cosmetology instruction. We also work with those who need to learn English as a second language and those individuals whose education stopped short of high school graduation.

Incumbent Worker Training

nccommerce.com Search: Incumbent Worker Training | 919-814-4600

The Incumbent Worker Training Program is designed to make a difference in your bottom line, whether your organization is creating jobs, investing in new machinery and equipment, or streamlining processes for efficiency. Incumbent Worker Training Program resources may support training needs assessment, instructional design, development and delivery.

Career Preparation - Wake County Public School System wcpss.net Search:

Career Preparation | 919-431-7400

Our goal is for every student to graduate globally competitive for work and postsecondary education and well prepared for life.

NC Community Colleges Customized Training

nccommunitycolleges.edu Search: Customized Training | 919-807-7100

The Customized Training Program provides education, training and support services for new, expanding and existing business and industry in North Carolina through their network of 58 community colleges, serving all 100 counties of the state.

Wake Tech's Customized Training Program

waketech.edu Search: Customized Training | 919-866-5000

Wake Tech's Customized Training Program provides training assistance that supports full-time production and direct customer service positions created in North Carolina. Via this program, the growth potential of eligible NC companies is enhanced while simultaneously preparing North Carolina's workforce with skills essential for successful employment in emerging industries.

College and University Career Planning and Placement Offices:

Meredith College | meredith.edu Search: Career Planning | 919-760-8600

North Carolina State University | ncsu.edu Search: Career Services | 919-515-2011

Saint Augustine's University | st-aug.edu Search: Professional Development | 919-516-4000

Shaw University | shawu.edu Search: Career Development | 919-546-8200

William Peace University | peace.edu Search: Career Services | 919- 508-2000

Campbell University – Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law | law.campbell.edu Search: Career Center | 800-334-4111

Wake Tech Community College | waketech.edu | 919-866-5000

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND INNOVATION

