



Regional Small Business Incentives Guide

Prepared by the
West Central Texas Council of Governments
and the
West Central Texas Economic Development
District



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West Central Texas Regional Resources & Incentives

Serving Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Mitchell, Scurry, Runnels, Nolan, Shackelford, Stephens, Taylor and Throckmorton Counties.

West Central Texas Council of Governments

Website: <http://www.wctcog.org/>

<http://www.wctcog.org/wctcog/programs.php>

Phone Number: 325-672-8544

Description: to encourage and assist local units of governments to join and cooperate with one another to improve the health, safety, and general welfare of their citizens and regional planning for the future development of the area embraced by the communities within the area; to assist member units in solving current problems, capacity building, and completing capital improvements; and to establish regional coordination and communication to help eliminate monetary waste from duplication and misapplication.

Keywords: grant, non-profit, technical assistance, training

West Central Texas Economic Development District

Website: <http://www.wctceds.com/>

http://www.wctcog.org/wctcog/edd_index.php

Phone Number: 325-672-8544

Description: The West Central Texas Economic Development District serves as a catalyst for economic expansion and prosperity while preserving the integrity and character of the Big Country region. Strategic development occurs through creation of sustainable wage jobs, establishment of innovative projects and businesses, strong alliance with local economic development efforts, provision of technical assistance, collection and interpretation of economic data, and vigorous evaluation and procurement of services and resources.

Keywords: grant, planning services, small business loans, technical assistance, training

Dodge Jones Foundation

Website: [Dodge Jones Foundation](http://www.dodgejonesfoundation.org)

https://fconline.foundationcenter.org/grantmaker-profile/?key=DODG003&view_format=compact

Phone Number: 325-673-6429

Description: Support for education, the arts, health, community funds, and youth programs.

Keywords: grant, non-profit



Texas State Small Business Development Center

Website: [Texas Small Business Development Centers](#)

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

Phone Number: 325-670-0300 (Abilene) 325-646-7299 (Brownwood)

Descriptions: The Texas State Small Business Development Center (SBDC) works with existing and startup small business to help them grow and compete in today's global economy.

Keywords: technical assistance, business consulting, workshops

Texas City Chamber of Commerce

Website: [Chamber of Commerce Listing](#)

<http://www.lone-star.net/mall/main-areas/chamber/chambers.htm>

Description: City Chambers work on the local level to bring the business community together to develop strong local networks, which can result in a business-to-business exchange. In most cases, city Chambers work with their local government, such as their mayor, their city council and local representatives to develop pro-business initiatives

Keywords: business networking

Abilene Industrial Foundation

Website: [Develop Abilene](#)

<http://developabilene.com/>

Phone Number: 1-800-299-0005

Description: Renders aid to manufacturing, industrial, scientific, educational, and business enterprises situated in the City, and to induce the location within the City of other manufacturing, industrial, scientific, educational, and business establishments; to purchase, subdivide, sell, and lease real property in the City or its suburbs and to erect or repair any building or improvement for the use of any manufacturing, industrial, scientific, educational, or business enterprise within the City or vicinity, and to accumulate and lend money for said purposes.

Keywords: loans, manufacturing, industrial, real estate, equipment



Regional Economic Development Corporations

Description: Support for local development and expansion of business, commerce, industry, higher education, and job training to promote economic growth to the full employment, welfare and prosperity of residents.

Keywords: manufacturing, industrial, local economy

Abilene EDC	325-676-6390	http://www.abilenedcoa.com/
Aspermont EDC	940-989-3197	
Breckenridge EDC	254-559-6228	http://breckenridgetexas.com/edc/
Brownwood EDC	325-646-9600	http://brownwoodbusiness.com/
Comanche EDC	325-356-2032	http://www.cityofcomanchetexas.net/CTEDC.html
Cross Plains EDC		http://www.crossplains.tx.com/content/cross-plains-economic-development-corporation
Baird EDC	325-854-1165	http://www.bairdchamber.com/economic-development
Early EDC	325-649-9317	http://earlyecondev.com/
Eastland EDC	254-629-8321	http://www.eastlanddevelopment.com/location.php
Hamlin EDC	325-576-2822	
Haskell EDC	940-864-3424	http://haskelltexasusa.com/edc/
Merkel EDC	325-928-5722	https://merkeltexas.com/economic-development/
Mitchell County EDC	325-728-2298	http://www.mitchellcountyed.org/community.html
Ranger EDC	254-647-3910	
Santa Anna EDC	325-348-3403	http://www.santaannaedc.org/aboutus.html
Snyder EDC	325-573-1544	http://www.growsnyder.com/
Stamford EDC	325-773-2495	
Sweetwater EDC	325-235-0555	http://www.sweetwatertexas.net/
High Ground of Texas	806-291-3211	http://highground.org/
Tye EDC	325-695-8253	
Winters EDC	325-754-4542	http://www.winters-texas.us/wabicindex.htm

High Ground of Texas

Website: [High Ground of Texas](http://highground.org/)

<http://highground.org/>

Phone Number: 806-291-3211

Description: The High Ground of Texas is a marketing coalition made up of over 75 members with economic development interests in the region. Developed in 1988, the High Ground represents cities, counties and organizations in the West Texas region. The main purpose of the High Ground is to create jobs and increase the tax base of the region.

Keywords: economic development, job creation



State of Texas Resources and Incentives

Agricultural Loan Guarantee Program

Website: [Texas Department of Agriculture](https://texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/TexasAgriculturalFinanceAuthority/AgriculturalLoanGuaranteeProgram.aspx)

<https://texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/TexasAgriculturalFinanceAuthority/AgriculturalLoanGuaranteeProgram.aspx>

Phone Number: 512-463-9932

Description: Provides loan guarantees and interest rebates for agriculture-related businesses and ranching operations. This program aids in the form of guarantees based on a tiered structure, not to exceed \$750,000 or 70% of the loan amount, whichever is less.

Keywords: agricultural, working capital, lease, equipment, real estate

Cancer Prevention & Research General Obligation Bonds

Website: Cancer [Prevention & Research Institute of Texas](http://www.cprit.state.tx.us/about-cprit/contact-us/)

<http://www.cprit.state.tx.us/about-cprit/contact-us/>

Phone Number: 512-463-3190

Description: Cancer Prevention & Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT) offers several funding opportunities for promising cancer research, product development, and prevention programs. All funding opportunities are announced through formal Requests for Applications (RFAs) and applications must be submitted through the online application receipt system.

Keywords: medical, research, product development, prevention program, cancer, grant, loan

Capital for Texas (C4T) Small Business Loan Program

Website: Texas [C4T Program](https://texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/GrantsandServices/CapitalforTexasC4T.aspx)

<https://texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/GrantsandServices/CapitalforTexasC4T.aspx>

Phone Number: 512-463-4406

Description: C4T is designed to increase rural communities small businesses' access to capital and enable private entrepreneurs to make market-driven decisions to grow jobs, assist their growth potential and employment capabilities through partnering community development financial institutions. TDA anticipates the actual range of loans for the C4T program will be in the range of \$5,000 to \$350,000, with an average investment less than \$100,000.

Keywords: rural, loan, minority owned business, jobs, business expansion



Chapter 380 Grants and Loans

Website: Texas [State Comptroller's Office](#)

<https://www.comptroller.texas.gov/economy/local/ch380-381/>

Phone Number: 512-463-4679

Description: The Local Government Code authorizes both municipalities and counties to offer incentives that will promote economic development on items such as commercial and retail projects. Before proceeding, cities must review their city charters or local policies that may restrict a city's ability provide a loan or grant.

Keywords: municipality, county, economic development

Data Centers Tax Exemptions

Website: [State Comptroller's Office](#)

<https://www.comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/data-centers/>

Phone Number: 512-463-4600

Description: A new law provides a temporary exemption from state sales and use tax on certain items necessary and essential to the operation of a qualified data center. The exemption is for state sales tax only. Local sales taxes are due on purchases of these qualifying items.

Keywords: tax incentives, real estate, job creation, manufacturing

Downtown Revitalization Program

Website: Texas [Department of Agriculture](#)

<http://texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant%28CDBG%29/CDBGResources/Applications/DRPMS.aspx>

Phone Number: 512-463-9932

Description: Awards matching grant funds for public infrastructure to foster and stimulate economic development in rural downtown areas. To determine eligibility of a city, contact TDA. Eligible applicants are no entitlement general purpose units of local government including cities and counties that are not participating or designated as eligible to participate in the entitlement portion of the federal Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG).

Keywords: municipal, county, revitalization, infrastructure, downtown, grant

Economic Development and Diversification In-State Tuition for Employees

Website: [College for All Texans](#)

<http://www.collegeforalltexans.com/apps/financialaid/tofa2.cfm?ID=567>

Phone Number: 512-936-0101

Description: The Economic Development and Diversification In-state Tuition Incentive may be offered by the Economic Development & Tourism division of the Office of the Governor to qualified that are in the decision-making process to relocate or expand their operations into Texas. The incentive allows



employees and family members of the qualified businesses to pay the Texas resident tuition rate at a Texas public institution of higher education without first establishing residency if the business became established as part of the state's Economic Development and Diversification Program not earlier than five years before the relevant enrollment date.

Keywords: public institution in-state rate, business relocation benefit

Freeport and Goods-In Transit Exemptions

Website: [State Comptroller's Office](#)

<https://www.comptroller.texas.gov/economy/local/transit-exemptions/>

Phone Number: 512-463-4679

Descriptions: Freeport exemptions can be offered by a school district, county, and municipality to exempt tangible personal property (except oil, gas or petroleum products or special inventories such as motor vehicles or boats in a dealer's retail inventory) from ad valorem taxation.

Keywords: freeport goods, tax relief

Governor's Small Business Forums

Website: [Texas Wide Open for Business](#)

<https://texaswideopenforbusiness.com/small-business/governors-small-business-forums>

Phone Number: 512-936-0100

Description: Governor's Small Business Forums, sponsored by the Texas Governor's Office, the Texas Workforce Commission, and local partners, are designed to give entrepreneurs and small businesses valuable tools, skills, and knowledge needed to thrive in today's fast-paced economy.

Keywords: education, networking

Historically Underutilized Business Certification Program (HUB)

Website: [State Comptroller's Office](#)

<https://www.comptroller.texas.gov/purchasing/vendor/hub/>

Phone Number: 512-463-0294

Description: The Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) program requires all Texas state agencies to make a good faith effort to use HUBs for purposes of contracting for construction services or commodity purchases. To qualify for HUB certification the business must be a for-profit entity that has not exceeded the size standard prescribed by [34 TAC §20.294](#), and has its principal place of business in Texas, and is at least 51 percent owned by an Asian Pacific American, Black American, Hispanic American, Native American, American woman and/or Service Disabled Veteran, who reside in Texas and actively participate in the control, operations and management of the entity's affairs.

Keywords: state procurement, minority owned business



Industrial Revenue Bonds

Website: [Texas Wide Open for Business](https://texaswideopenforbusiness.com)

<https://texaswideopenforbusiness.com/services/financing>

Phone Number: 512-936-0100

Description: The State of Texas Industrial Revenue Bond Program (IRB) is designed to provide tax-exempt or taxable financing for eligible industrial or manufacturing projects as defined in the Development Corporation Act of 1979. The Act allows cities, counties, and conservation and reclamation districts to form non-profit industrial development corporations (IDCs) or authorities on their behalf to provide bond financing for projects within their jurisdictions. The IDC issues bonds to finance the capital costs for an industrial or manufacturing business.

Keywords: industrial development corporation, manufacturing, industrial, rural, county

Interest Rate Reduction Program

Website: [Texas Department of Agriculture](https://www.texasagriculture.gov)

<https://www.texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/TexasAgriculturalFinanceAuthority/InterestRateReduction.aspx>

Phone Number: 512-936-8163

Description: Reduces the loan interest rate for people starting or expanding agricultural businesses in Texas. The IRR program can be used to lower the interest rate of loans that are \$500,000 or less.

Keywords: agriculture, interest rate, loan

International Trade and Recruitment Program

Website: [Texas Wide Open for Business](https://texaswideopenforbusiness.com)

<https://texaswideopenforbusiness.com/international/services>

Phone Number: 512-936-0100

Description: The state's International Business and Recruitment Division (IBR) works with a variety of entities to ensure that Texas companies are represented abroad. It helps Texas companies expand into foreign markets.

Keywords: international trade, exports, expansion



Manufacturing Tax Incentives

Website: [State Comptroller's Office](#)

<https://www.comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/publications/94-124.php>

Phone Number: 800-252-5555

Description: State sales and use tax exemptions are available to taxpayers who manufacture, fabricate or process tangible personal property for sale. Texas sales and use tax exempts tangible personal property that becomes an ingredient or component of an item manufactured for sale, as well as taxable services performed on a manufactured product to make it more marketable.

Keywords: tax relief, manufacturing

Pollution Control Equipment

Website: [Texas Commission on Environmental Quality](#)

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/taxrelief>

Phone Number: 512-239-1000

Description: A Texas constitutional amendment providing an exemption from property taxation for pollution control equipment was approved in 1993. Applicants that receive a positive use determination from the TCEQ may then apply to the local property tax appraisal district for a property tax exemption.

Keywords: tax relief, pollution, environmental

Property Tax Rule 9.105

Website: [State Comptroller's Office](#)

<https://www.comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax/contact.php>

Phone Number: 512-305-9999

Description: The Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts offers a refund of state franchise and sales/use taxes paid by companies owning certain abated property. Reference our website to determine if your company is eligible for a refund.

Keywords: tax refund, school tax relief, reinvestment zone, tax abatement

Renewable Energy Incentives

Website: [State Energy Conservation Office \(SECO\)](#)

<http://seco.cpa.state.tx.us/re/incentives-taxcode-statutes.php>

Phone Number: 512-974-7827

Description: State directory for renewable energy and associated incentives.

Keywords: tax relief, solar, wind, energy, tax exemption



Research & Development Tax Exemptions

Website: [State Comptroller's Office](https://www.comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/qualified-research/)

<https://www.comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/qualified-research/>

Phone Number: 800-252-1383

Description: The Research & Development tax credit provides companies (registered with the Comptroller's office) the option of selecting either a sales tax exemption on property purchased by persons engaged in qualified research activities or franchise tax credit, but not both.

Keywords: tax relief, research, personal property

Self-Sufficiency Fund

Website: [Texas Workforce Commission](http://www.twc.state.tx.us/programs/self-sufficiency-fund-program-overview)

<http://www.twc.state.tx.us/programs/self-sufficiency-fund-program-overview>

Phone Number: 512-463-8844

Description: The Self-Sufficiency Fund program assists businesses and trade unions by financing the development and implementation of customized job-training projects for new and current workers within the Governor's six targeted industry clusters: Advanced Technologies and Manufacturing, Aerospace and Defense, Biotechnology and Life Science, Information and Computer Technology, Petroleum Refining and Chemical Products and Energy

Keywords: grant, workforce development, SNAP benefits, education, training incentives

Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE)

Website: [SCORE](https://www.score.org/about-score)

<https://www.score.org/about-score>

Phone Number: 1-800-634-0245

Description: SCORE is a nonprofit association dedicated to helping small businesses get off the ground, grow, and achieve their goals through education and mentorship. SCORE has a variety of resources available to small businesses.

Keywords: business mentoring, education, workshops



Skills Development Fund

Website: [Texas Workforce Commission](http://www.twc.state.tx.us/partners/skills-development-fund)

<http://www.twc.state.tx.us/partners/skills-development-fund>

Phone Number: 877-463-1777

Description: The Skills Development Fund is Texas' premier job–training program providing training dollars for Texas businesses and workers. Administered by the Texas Workforce Commission, success is achieved through collaboration among businesses, public Community and Technical colleges, Local Workforce Development Boards and economic development partners. All training must be provided by a public community or technical college, or the Texas Engineering Extension Service.

Keywords: new employee training, education, less than 100 employees

Southwest Trade Adjustment Assistance Center

Website: [Southwest Trade Adjustment Assistance Center](http://www.swtaac.org/)

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

Phone Number: 210-485-2490

Description: If your company is experiencing a decline in sales and a decline in employment levels due to the adverse effects of foreign competition, you might qualify for assistance in marketing, manufacturing, engineering, finance, employee training, information management or new product development from SWTAAC.

Keywords: consulting, manufacturing, technical assistance

State Infrastructure Bank (SIB)

Website: [Texas Department of Transportation](https://www.txdot.gov/government/programs/sib.html)

<https://www.txdot.gov/government/programs/sib.html>

Phone Number: 512-463-7667

Description: State Infrastructure Banks (SIB) were authorized in 1995 as a part of the National Highway Designation Act (NHS) to help accelerate needed mobility improvements through a variety of financial assistance options made to local entities through state transportation departments. The SIB program allows borrowers to access capital funds at or lower-than-market interest rates.

Keywords: infrastructure, roads, transportation



West Texas District Export Council

Website: [West Texas District Export Council](http://www.exporttexas.com/westtexas)

<http://www.exporttexas.com/westtexas>

Phone Number: 432-367-1188

Description: The District Export Councils contribute leadership and international trade expertise to complement the U.S. Commercial Service's export promotion efforts through counseling businesses on the exporting process and conducting trade education and community outreach.

Keywords: international trade, exports, expansion

Texas Capital Access Program

Website: [Texas Wide Open for Business](https://texaswideopenforbusiness.com/sites/default/files/capitalaccessprogram_1.pdf)

https://texaswideopenforbusiness.com/sites/default/files/capitalaccessprogram_1.pdf

Phone Number: 512-936-0100

Description: The Texas Capital Access Program was established to increase the availability of financing for businesses and non-profit organizations that face barriers in accessing capital. It encourages financial institutions to support businesses that do not meet the requirements of conventional loans, lack sufficient collateral to qualify for conventional financing, or do not meet other business requirements.

Texas Capital Fund Infrastructure Program

Website: [Texas Department of Agriculture](https://www.texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant(CDBG)/CDBGResources/Applications/INFRARE.aspx)

[https://www.texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant\(CDBG\)/CDBGResources/Applications/INFRARE.aspx](https://www.texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant(CDBG)/CDBGResources/Applications/INFRARE.aspx)

Phone Number: 512-936-8163

Description: Provides grants for Infrastructure Development to create or retain permanent jobs in primarily rural communities and counties.

- Awards from \$50,000 to \$1,500,000
- Funds for public/private infrastructure
- Encourages new business development and expansion
- Based on the actual allocated amount and available program income, a minimum of \$1,000,000 will be made available for each monthly round in Program Year 2015 for the Infrastructure/Real Estate Program

Keywords: infrastructure, grant, rural, county



Texas Capital Fund Real Estate Development Program

Website: [Texas Department of Agriculture](http://www.texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/TexasCapitalFund/RealEstateDevelopment.aspx)

<http://www.texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/TexasCapitalFund/RealEstateDevelopment.aspx>

Phone Number: 512- 936-8163

Description: Provides a zero-interest loan to Non-Entitlement city or county governments to fund real estate acquisition or improvements to create or retain permanent jobs in primarily rural communities and counties.

Keywords: real estate, jobs, rural, non-entitlement city/county

Texas Economic Development Act

Website: [Texas Taxpayers and Research Association](http://www.ttara.org/files/document/file-4e36c23951e81.pdf)

<http://www.ttara.org/files/document/file-4e36c23951e81.pdf>

Phone Number: 512-472-8838

Description: Chapter 313 incentives give school districts the authority to enter an agreement with a corporation or limited liability company that limits the appraised value of property for the maintenance and operations portion of school district property tax. This incentive also allows recipients to earn tax credits.

Keywords: manufacturing, research, low emission technology, nuclear energy, tax relief

Texas Governors University Research Institute

Website: [Office of the Governor](http://gov.texas.gov/ecodev/guri/home)

<http://gov.texas.gov/ecodev/guri/home>

Phone Number: 512-463-2000

Description: This program is a matching grant program to assist eligible institutions of higher education in recruiting distinguished researchers.

Keywords: university, research, grant

Texas Emissions Reduction Plan (TERP)

Website: [Texas Commission on Environmental Quality](https://www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/terp)

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/terp>

Phone Number: 512-239-4950

Description: The TERP program is comprised of eight different grant programs that provides financial incentives to eligible individuals, businesses, or local governments to reduce emissions from polluting vehicles and equipment. Each program has its own specific eligibility requirements and may accept applications at different time periods of the year.



Keywords: grant, machinery, heavy equipment

Texas Enterprise Fund

Website: [Texas Wide Open for Business](https://texaswideopenforbusiness.com)

<https://texaswideopenforbusiness.com/services/texas-enterprise-fund>

Phone Number: 512-936-0100

Description: The Texas Enterprise Fund was established in 2003 to allow the state to respond quickly and aggressively to opportunities to bring jobs and employers to Texas. The funds are used primarily to attract new business to the state or assist with the substantial expansion of an existing business as part of a competitive recruitment situation.

Keywords: grant, job creation, out of state enterprise

Texas Enterprise Zone Program

Website: [Texas Wide Open for Business](https://texaswideopenforbusiness.com)

<https://texaswideopenforbusiness.com/services/tax-incentives>

Phone Number: 512-478-9383

Description: The Texas Enterprise Zone Program is an economic development tool for local communities to partner with the State of Texas to promote job creation and significant private investment that will assist economically distressed areas of the state. Approved projects are eligible to apply for state sales and use tax refunds on qualified expenditures.

Keywords: tax refund, job creation, distressed county

Texas Leverage Fund (TLF)

Website: [Texas Wide Open for Business](https://texaswideopenforbusiness.com)

<https://texaswideopenforbusiness.com/services/financing>

Phone Number: 512-936-0100

Description: The Texas Leverage Fund (TLF) provides a source of financing to communities that have adopted an economic development sales tax. Communities may leverage future sales tax revenues to expand economic development through business expansions, business recruitment, and exporting.

Keywords: economic development corporation, loan, real estate, equipment, machinery



Texas Main Street Program – Texas Historical Commission

Website: [Texas Main Street Program](http://www.thc.texas.gov/preserve/projects-and-programs/texas-main-street/about-texas-main-street-program)

<http://www.thc.texas.gov/preserve/projects-and-programs/texas-main-street/about-texas-main-street-program>

Phone Number: 512-463-5758

Description: Through the Anice Read Fund provides small grants to downtowns across the state and has leveraged considerable downtown investment.

Keywords: downtown, revitalization, grant

Texas Military Value Revolving Loan Fund

Website: [Texas Military Preparedness Commission](http://gov.texas.gov/military/grants)

<http://gov.texas.gov/military/grants>

Phone Number: 512-936-0100

Description: Financing provided to defense communities for job creation and infrastructure projects. Additionally, funds can be awarded to Public Junior Colleges or Texas State Technical College System for the purchase or leasing of capital equipment for (re)training displaced defense workers. Grants awarded may range from \$50,000 to \$5 million per project.

Keywords: training, infrastructure, education, military

Texas Moving Image Industry Incentive Program (TMIIP)

Website: [Texas Film Commission](http://gov.texas.gov/film/incentives/miip)

<http://gov.texas.gov/film/incentives/miip>

Phone Number: 512-463-9200

Description: The Texas Moving Image Industry Incentive Program (TMIIP) is designed to build the economy through the moving image industry and create jobs in Texas. TMIIP provides qualifying film, television, commercial, visual effects and video game productions the opportunity to receive a cash grant based on a percentage of a project's eligible Texas expenditures, including eligible wages paid to Texas residents.

Keywords: grant, film, television, commercials, video game, reality TV



Texas Product Development and Small Business Incubator Fund

Website: [Texas Wide Open for Business](https://texaswideopenforbusiness.com)

<https://texaswideopenforbusiness.com/services/financing>

Phone Number: 512.936.0100

Description: The Texas Product/Business Fund provides financing to aid in the development, production and commercialization of new or improved products within the state. The Fund is available to businesses looking for asset-based financing at rates below conventional borrowing. To be eligible, applicants must have at least 3 years of operating history and have unencumbered assets available for collateral. Preference for funding is given to the state's defined industry clusters including, but not limited to: nanotechnology, biotechnology, biomedicine, renewable energy, agriculture and aerospace.

Keywords: loan, job creation, secured collateral

Young Farmer Grant

Website: [Texas Department of Agriculture](http://www.texasagriculture.gov)

[http://www.texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/TexasAgriculturalFinance Authority/YoungFarmerGrant.aspx](http://www.texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/TexasAgriculturalFinanceAuthority/YoungFarmerGrant.aspx)

Phone Number: 512-463-6908

Description: Provides grants to young agricultural producers who are starting or expanding agricultural businesses in Texas. Grant awards range from \$5,000 to \$20,000. Grant funds may not be used toward capital purchases (Personal property or other capital items with a unit cost of more than \$5,000). Applicant must be able to make dollar-for-dollar matching expenditures Grant funds are paid to grant recipients on a reimbursement basis.

Keywords: agriculture, grant

Young Farmer Interest Rate Reduction Program

Website: [Texas Department of Agriculture](http://www.texasagriculture.gov)

[http://www.texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/TexasAgriculturalFinance Authority/YoungFarmerInterestRateReductionProgram.aspx](http://www.texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/TexasAgriculturalFinanceAuthority/YoungFarmerInterestRateReductionProgram.aspx)

Phone Number: 512-463-6908

Description: Reduces the loan interest rate for young farmers or ranchers who are starting or expanding agricultural businesses in Texas.



Federal Resources and Incentives

Business Energy Tax Credit

Website: [Database of State Incentives for Renewables & Efficiency](http://www.dsireusa.org/)

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

Phone Number: 800.829.1040

Description: The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 allows taxpayers eligible for the federal renewable electricity production tax credit (PTC) to take the federal business energy investment tax credit (ITC) instead of taking the PTC for new installations.

Keywords: energy, grant, tax relief

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance

Website: [Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance](https://www.cfda.gov/)

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

Phone Number: 866.606.8220

Description: Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) provides a full listing of all Federal programs available to State and local governments (including the District of Columbia); federally-recognized Indian tribal governments; Territories (and possessions) of the United States; domestic public, quasi- public, and private profit and nonprofit organizations and institutions; specialized groups; and individuals.

Keywords: listing of federal services, grants

Community Advantage 7(a) Loan Initiatives

Website: [Small Business Administration](https://www.sba.gov/loans-grants/see-what-sba-offers/sba-loan-programs/general-small-business-loans-7a/special-types-7a-loans/advantage-loans)

<https://www.sba.gov/loans-grants/see-what-sba-offers/sba-loan-programs/general-small-business-loans-7a/special-types-7a-loans/advantage-loans>

Phone Number: 800.659.2955

Description: Community Advantage is a pilot initiative aimed at increasing the number of Small Business Administration (SBA) 7(a) lenders who reach underserved communities, targeting community-based, mission-focused financial institutions which were previously not able to offer SBA loans.

Keywords: start-up, small business loan, lender



Energy-Efficient Appliance Manufacturing Tax Credit Deduction

Website: [Internal Revenue Service](#)

<https://www.irs.gov/businesses/corporations/manufacturers-energy-efficient-appliance-credit>

Phone Number: 512.499.5127

Description: The Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2010 modifies and extends the energy efficient appliance credit for certain dishwashers, clothes washers, and refrigerators manufactured after December 31, 2010. Under Code §45M(a)(1), the credit may be claimed as part of the Code §38 general business credit for each type of qualified energy efficient appliance produced by the taxpayer during the 2011 calendar year ending with or within the taxpayer's taxable year.

Keywords: energy, manufacturing, tax relief

Foreign Trade Zone Boards

Website: [Foreign Trade Zones Board](#)

<http://enforcement.trade.gov/ftzpage/>

Phone Number: 202.462.2350

Description: A foreign-trade zone is a designated location in the United States where companies can use special procedures that help encourage U.S. activity and value added- in competition with foreign alternatives- by allowing delayed or reduced duty payments on foreign merchandise, as well as other savings.

Keywords: foreign competition, trade, export

FEDERAL 26 Indian Incentive

Website: [Indian Incentive Program](#)

<http://www.acq.osd.mil/osbp/sb/programs/iip/>

Phone Number: 571.372.6191

Description: The Indian Incentive Program (IIP) is a congressionally sponsored program that provides a 5% rebate back to the prime contractor on the total amount subcontracted to an Indian Owned Economic Enterprise or Indian Organization.

Keywords: Indian owned business, rebate

Modified Acceleration Cost-Recovery Systems

Website: [Internal Revenue Service](#)

<https://www.irs.gov/publications/p946/ch04.html>

Phone Number: 800.829.4933

Description: Under the federal Modified Accelerated Cost Recovery System (MACRS), businesses may recover investments in certain property through depreciation deductions. The MACRS establishes a set of class lives for various types of property, ranging from three to 50 years, over which the property may be depreciated.

Keywords: real estate, tax relief, depreciation



Renewable Energy Investment/Production Tax Credit

Website: [U.S. Department of Energy](https://www.energy.gov)

<https://energy.gov/public-services/funding-financing>

Phone Number: 800.829.1040

Description: The Investment Tax Credit (ITC) reduces federal income taxes for qualified tax-paying owners based on capital investment in renewable energy projects (measured in dollars).

Keywords: energy, tax relief

Sales and Use Tax Exemptions

Website: [U.S. Department of State](https://www.state.gov)

<https://www.state.gov/ofm/tax/sales/index.htm>

Phone Number: 800.252.5555

Description: The Office of Foreign Missions (OFM) issues tax exemption cards to eligible foreign missions, mission personnel and their eligible family members consistent with international law, domestic statute, and the underlying principle of reciprocity.

Keywords: tax exemption

Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program

Website: [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development](https://portal.hud.gov)

https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/comm_planning/communitydevelopment/programs/108

Phone Number: 800.955.2232

Description: The Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program is a source of financing allotted for the economic development, housing rehabilitation, public facilities rehab, construction or installation for the benefit of low- to moderate-income persons, or FEDERAL 27 to aid in the prevention of slums.

Keywords: loan guarantee, housing, low- to moderate-income, individuals

Small Business Administration 504 Loan

Website: [Small Business Administration](https://www.sba.gov)

<https://www.sba.gov/loans-grants/see-what-sba-offers/sba-loan-programs/real-estate-equipment-loans-cdc-504>

Phone Number: 210.403.5900

Description: A 504 loan can be used for: The purchase of land, including existing buildings The purchase of improvements, including grading, street improvements, utilities, parking lots and landscaping The construction of new facilities or modernizing, renovating or converting existing facilities The purchase of long-term machinery and equipment A 504 loan cannot be used for: Working capital or inventory Consolidating, repaying or refinancing debt Speculation or investment in rental real estate

Keywords: real estate, loan



Small Business Administration 7(a) Loan

Website: [Small Business Administration](#)

<https://www.sba.gov/loans-grants/see-what-sba-offers/sba-loan-programs/general-small-business-loans-7a>

Phone Number: 210.403.5900

Description: The 7(a) Loan Program, Small Business Administration's (SBA) most common loan program, includes financial help for businesses with special requirements. Basic uses for 7(a) loan proceeds include: To provide long-term working capital to use to pay operational expenses, accounts payable and/or to purchase inventory Short-term working capital needs, including seasonal financing, contract performance, construction financing and exporting Revolving funds based on the value of existing inventory and receivables, under special conditions To purchase equipment, machinery, furniture, fixtures, supplies or materials To purchase real estate, including land and buildings To construct a new building or renovate an existing building To establish a new business or assist in the acquisition, operation or expansion of an existing business To refinance existing business debt, under certain conditions

Keywords: loan guarantee, small business, real estate, equipment, expansion, start-up

Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)

Website: [Small Business Innovation Research](#)

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

Phone Number: 202.205.7343 FEDERAL 28

Description: The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program is a highly competitive program that encourages domestic small businesses to engage in Federal Research/Research and Development (R/R&D) that has the potential for commercialization.

Keywords: research, grant, small business

Small Business Investment Company (SBIC) Program

Website: [Small Business Investment Company](#)

<https://www.sba.gov/sbic/applying-be-sbic>

Phone Number: 202.205.6510

Description: The SBIC Program is one of many financial assistance programs available through the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). The structure of the program is unique in that SBICs are privately owned and managed investment funds, licensed and regulated by SBA, that use their own capital plus funds borrowed with an SBA guarantee to make equity and debt investments in qualifying small businesses.

Keywords: lender, loan



Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR)

Website: [Small Business Technology Transfer](#)

<https://www.sbir.gov/about/about-sttr>

Phone Number: 202.205.7343

Description: Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) is another program that expands funding opportunities in the federal innovation research and development (R&D) arena. Central to the program is expansion of the public/private sector partnership to include the joint venture opportunities for small businesses and nonprofit research institutions.

Keywords: joint venture, grant, research, non-profit, small business

Small Loan Advantage

Website: [Small Business Administration](#)

<https://www.sba.gov/offices/headquarters/oca/resources/14835>

Phone Number: 210.403.5900

Description: One of the initiatives SBA rolled out aimed at increasing the number of lower-dollar loans in the underserved communities.

Keywords: lender, guarantee, loan

Tax Incentives in Renewal Communities and Empowerment Zones

Website: [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development](#)

<https://hud.gov/offices/cpd/economicdevelopment/news/taxincentives2003.pdf>

Phone Number: 202.708.1112

Description: Provides substantial tax incentives for businesses that hire residents, upgrade their equipment needs, and build or rehabilitate commercial property, in designated Renewal Communities (RCs) and Empowerment Zones (EZs).

Keywords: small business, new hire, tax relief

Work Opportunity Tax Credit

Website: [Work Opportunity Tax Credit](#)

<https://www.doleta.gov/business/incentives/opptax/>

Phone Number: 877.872.5627

Description: The Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) is a Federal tax credit incentive that the Congress provides to private-sector businesses for hiring individuals from twelve target groups who have consistently faced significant barriers to employment. The main objective of this program is to enable the targeted employees to gradually move from economic dependency into self-sufficiency as they earn a steady income and become contributing taxpayers, while the participating employers are compensated by being able to reduce their federal income tax liability

Keywords: new hire, tax relief