

Quick Links for Women Entrepreneurs

Getting Started

The Oakland County Business Center

<http://www.misbtdc.net/center.aspx?center=39094&subloc=0>

-Provides a monthly series of free and low-cost business start-up workshops.

Michigan Business One Stop

<http://www.michigan.gov/business>

-Provides a wide array of information from the general (writing a business plan) to the detailed (applying for an employee identification number; finding employees, tax issues, etc.). The “Business One Stop Simulator” lets you plug in different business scenarios to see how requirements, costs and time frames will differ.

Small Business Administration

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

-Offers a small business planner and local resource guide as well as addressing specific issues affecting women entrepreneurs.

Developing Your Product or Service

-Finding Mentors or “Business Incubators”

The Oakland County Business Center

<http://www.misbtdc.net/center.aspx?center=39094&subloc=0>

-Offers one-on-one counseling for businesses in traditional and emerging sectors as well as an online “Readiness Assessment Tool”.

SCORE

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

-Volunteers with business experience offer free business consulting and inexpensive workshops.

Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center

http://www.oakgov.com/globaloakland/business_services/incentives_mmtc.html

-Offers direct technical assistance to small and medium-sized manufacturers to provide best practices and technology.

Center for Empowerment and Economic Development

<http://www.miceed.org/index.php>

-Trains women and minorities in business development, supplier certification, and business-to-business networking.

Michigan Women's Business Council

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

-Online women's business marketplace designed to help bring women business owners on-line.

Tech Town

<http://techtownwsu.org/>

-Offers a complete business incubator under one roof with services ranging from office space to mentor guidance in the areas of product development, funding, marketing, and operations.

SPARK

<http://www.annarborusa.org/business-accelerator>

-Offers free and low-cost resources designed to accelerate the growth of small businesses through attraction of capital, customers, or other resources.

Developing Your Product or Service

-Information and Resources

The Oakland County Business Center

<http://www.misbtcd.net/center.aspx?center=39094&subloc=0>

-Provides customized market research as well as extensive on-line resources for everything from patents to designated growth zones.

Small Business Administration

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

-Provides an online library for market research, statistics, and laws and regulations; also guides small businesses through the process of procuring government contracts.

Oakland County Businesses and Associations

<http://www.sembusinessdirectory.org/regions/oakland-county/>

-Extensive list of organizations in Oakland County; allows user to filter by associations, chambers of commerce, etc.

Your Local Library

http://lists.webjunction.org/libweb/Public_MI.html

-Your local librarian can be a valuable research partner on a variety of issues.

Financing

Michigan Business One Stop

<http://www.michigan.gov/business>

-Explains the various ways a small business can obtain financing and provides relevant links.

SCORE

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

-Offers online startup costs calculator.

Small Business Administration

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

-Provides information about and applications for various loan programs, including a section on microloans.

Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center

http://www.oakgov.com/globaloakland/business_services/incentives_mmtc.html

-Provides information on financial services including the Microloan Program and the Michigan Pre-Seed Capital Fund.

Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center

<http://www.gvsu.edu/misbt/dc/>

-Offers quick links and training seminars for capital grants and loans targeting technology fields such as biotech, advanced manufacturing, homeland security and alternative energy.

Center for Empowerment and Economic Development

<http://www.miceed.org/index.php>

-Trains women and minorities to access capital assistance programs.

Resources for Established Businesses

The Oakland County Business Center

<http://www.misbt/dc.net/center.aspx?center=39094&subloc=0>

-Offers one-on-one counseling for established (3+ years) businesses.