Business Resource Guide





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Introduction

Thank you for considering Raleigh for opening, operating, and expanding your business. Like other municipalities in North Carolina, Raleigh enjoys an abundance of diverse talent, serving as an educational center for the region which offers opportunities to equip you and your team with the right skills to be successful. We also have a diverse economy thriving on innovation and small business entrepreneurship. But Raleigh isn't like everywhere else. Our downtown has a mosaic of residents and businesses supported by numerous events, activities, hospitality centers, and even a Sip n' Stroll Social District. Across the entire city, there is a constellation of full-service coworking and maker spaces, business alliances, and entrepreneurial support organizations. This fiercely collaborative small business and entrepreneurial support ecosystem sets us apart and creates the heart and soul of Raleigh, making us Uniquely Raleigh.

This Business Resource Guide has been created to help you better find the support beneficial for your business. We understand that starting and/or expanding a business is one of the most challenging yet rewarding endeavors in life. We strive to ensure that an array of resources are available to meet your diverse needs and advance equity in the business community. We are committed to establishing and advancing an equitable community for all. Thanks to people like you there is a Raleigh for everyone.

Think of this Business Resource Guide as a "one stop shop" that can connect you to leaders, organizations, capital, tools, training, information, and other resources. Visit the City's website, <u>raleighnc.gov</u>, and search Small Business Support to find additional resources, interactive tools, and the most current information.

Finally, a quick word about how the City supports our overall business community. Different types of businesses have different interests and needs. That is why the City of Raleigh has created three specialized teams, to help entrepreneurs, business owners, and support organizations to quickly get to the answers they need.

Small Business Development

Small Business Development and Entrepreneurship

<u>raleighnc.gov</u> Search: Small Business Support | 919-996-4330 421 Fayetteville Street, Ste 1200 Raleigh, NC 27601

Strategy and Innovation

Innovation, Technology, High Growth and Investor Entrepreneurs

raleighnc.gov Search: Innovation | 919-996-3070 One Exchange Plaza, 7th Floor Ste 727 Raleigh, NC 27601

Raleigh Economic Development

Corporate Headquarters, Businesses Relocating to the City of Raleigh raleighecondev.org | 919-664-7038 800 S. Salisbury Street

Raleigh, NC 27601

Thank you for doing business with the City of Raleigh!

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. When looking to start a new business, consider the steps below:

Step 1: Create a Business Plan

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

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.

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 (<u>raleigh.score.org</u>), a Small Business Development Center (SBDC) or a Women's Business Center (WBC) (<u>sba.gov/local-assistance</u>).

Step 2: Decide on your business structure and register your business name

Before selecting a business structure, consult your attorney and/or accountant as each structure carries with it unique legal and tax consequences.

Your business must be registered. It's a good idea to perform a name search online or in office to determine if the proposed business name has already been filed. If you've organized as an LLC register with the N.C. Secretary of State. Corporations also register with North Carolina as well.

Step 3: Get license requirements

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. You'll find more information under <u>Doing Business in Raleigh</u>.

Step 4: Obtain the necessary tax information.

You'll need an EIN (Employee Identification Number) if you will be hiring employees, forming a partnership, or corporation. Read more about EINs at <u>irs.gov</u> search: EIN and apply online for yours with the IRS.

To collect sales and use taxes, you'll need to register with the N.C. Department of Revenue. You will receive information from the Department of Revenue on sales and use tax reporting and remittance requirements.

Step 5: Identify sources of financing

Small business owners in North Carolina have financial resources available at the federal level and right here in North Carolina.

Step 6: Learn about employer reporting requirements and responsibilities.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS:

- Consult with an accountant for bookkeeping and tax purposes.
- Obtain insurance.
- Review contracts with legal counsel.
- Review applicable regulations (OSHA, EPA, Labor, etc.).
- Register trademarks or patents.
- Develop policy and employee handbook.
- Join trade associations, chambers of commerce, or other professional organizations and connectors.

Doing Business in Raleigh Licenses & Permit

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 EDPNC Small Business Advisors at 800-228-8443.

Any business that sells Beer or Wine within the Raleigh City limits must obtain a Beer/Wine License (Schedule V in Business License application) 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 Planning and Development Department at 919-996-2495 or email ds.help@raleighnc.gov to assure that the sale of alcoholic beverages is allowed at your business location. You can also find additional information online at raleighnc.gov Search: Business License.

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

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

Hospitality Program Permits

The Office of Emergency Management and Special Events oversees the permitting process for private use of public spaces, outdoor seating, is a liaison to the nightlife industry to ensure a more vibrant and safe community and manages projects of high consequence and public significance requiring coordination with internal and external stakeholders.

City of Raleigh: Office of Emergency Management and Special Events

Raleigh Municipal Building 222 W Hargett Street, Suite 307 Raleigh, NC 27601 919-996-2200

hospitality.programs@raleighnc.gov

- Outdoor Seating: Outdoor seating allows activation of public streets, sidewalks and plazas by providing pedestrian amenities, supporting local businesses and fostering community interactions. Any business interested in seating on the public right-of-way must obtain a Sidewalk Seating Permit and/or a Streetery Permit. raleighnc.gov Search: Outdoor Seating
- Amplified Entertainment: Amplified entertainment means any type of music or other entertainment played through and by an electronic system above ambient noise levels. Restaurants, bars, nightclubs, music venues and other performance spaces who play any type of amplified music or entertainment (live performances, musicians, DJs, and more) must obtain an Amplified Entertainment Permit or Hospitality District Entertainment Permit (location specific). raleighnc.gov Search: Amplified Entertainment

- Pushcart Vending: A Pushcart Vending Permit allows the operation of a mobile vending unit on City sidewalks. In order to sell, serve or give away food and/ or beverage on a pushcart in the public right-of-way, this permit must be obtained. <u>raleighnc.gov</u> Search: Pushcart
- Street Performers: Street performers are defined as any person or small group who conduct performances, such as playing live music, for entertainment purposes or voluntary donations on City sidewalks. Such use of the public right-of-way requires performers to obtain a Street Performer Permit. raleighnc.gov Search: Street Performer
- Newsrack: A newsrack is defined as a self-service container used for the distribution of printed material. To place a publication's standalone newsrack on City sidewalk or use a cubby in the Fayetteville Street modular kiosks, a Newsrack Permit must be obtained. raleighnc.gov Search: Newsrack
- **Sip n' Stroll:** Sip n' Stroll is Raleigh's social district, a designated area where alcoholic beverages can be purchased from a licensed ABC permittee and consumed outdoors. Currently, Sip n' Stroll Downtown is the City's only social district. If you are a business in this area, visit the Sip n Stroll website to opt-in or opt-out. raleighnc.gov Search: Social District

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

Permitted Business Uses by Zoning District

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 Planning and Development at 919-996-2682. Additional information about the rezoning process and associated cost are available online at: raleighnc.gov Search: Rezoning

Businesses in Residential Zones

The City permits you to run a business out of your home as either a Home Occupation or Live-Work accessory use.

A Home Occupation does not allow non-resident employees or customers to visit the premises. There can also be no change to the outward appearance of the home, including signage, and the use may occupy no more than 25% of the dwelling. While no permit is needed to establish a Home Occupation, you are required to adhered to all rules as set forth in Section 6.7.3.D. of the Unified Development Ordinance.

By contrast, Live Work permits up to two (2) non-resident employees and up to five (5) customers to be on the premises at any one time. In addition, changes to the exterior of the home and limited signage are allowed. A Miscellaneous Zoning Permit is needed to establish a Live Work accessory use. More information, including a list of allowable uses, can be found in Section 6.7.3.F. of the Unified Development Ordinance.

Businesses in Mixed-Use and Non-Residential Zones

raleighnc.gov Search: Zoning and Rezoning | 919-996-2682

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

Site & Building Selection

The following resources are provided to help you with site and building selection for your business. We highly recommend consulting a Real Estate broker, but additional help might be available if you fall within a <u>Business Alliance</u> District.

Raleigh Economic Development

800 S. Salisbury Street Raleigh, NC 27601 919-664-7038

raleighecondev.org

City of Raleigh

Small Business Development
One City Plaza, 12th Floor Suite 1200
421 Fayetteville St.
Raleigh, NC 27601
919-996-4330

raleighnc.gov Search: Site Selection

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

Community & Small Business Development

raleighnc.gov Search: Small Business Support | 919-996-4330

Provides professional and timely services to promote business activity and enhance the quality of life in Raleigh.

Building Up-Fit Grant

The City of Raleigh's Building Up-fit Grant encourages growth and development by assisting property owners who want to activate their vacant or underutilized commercial building space in Raleigh to create new business use or new jobs.

City of Raleigh - Small Business Development

One City Plaza, 12th Floor Suite 1200 421 Fayetteville St. Raleigh, NC 27601 919-996-6959 carl.brooksii@raleighnc.gov

Facade Grant Program

The City of Raleigh's Facade 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 - Small Business Development

One City Plaza, 12th Floor Suite 1200 421 Fayetteville St. Raleigh, NC 27601 919-996-3137 hannah.hemphill@raleighnc.gov

Office Of Strategy & Innovation

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 which provides funding to innovation ecosystem partners – including startups, non-profits, social enterprises, and universities – for bold new initiatives to enhance the lives of others.

City of Raleigh - Office of Strategy and Innovation

One Exchange Plaza, 7th Floor Suite 727 Raleigh, NC 27601

Cristina.Leos@raleighnc.gov

Climate Action, Equity, And Transit Considerations:

Commute Smart Raleigh

<u>raleighnc.gov</u> Search: Commute Smart | 919-996-3030

Commute Smart Raleigh offers easy solutions to alleviate traffic congestion and employee stress, by moving more people in fewer vehicles. Commute Smart Consultants provide advice and assistance on how to increase the use of transportation options such as walking, biking, transit, carpooling, vanpooling, teleworking, creative work schedules, and parking cash-out. Implementing a Commute Smart Program can:

- Increase employee satisfaction
- Reduce the demand for parking
- Reduce tardiness and absenteeism
- Reduce employee stress
- Enhance recruitment and retention
- Enhance your public image

Minority And Women-Owned Business Enterprises

raleighnc.gov Search: MWBE | 919-996-4330

The Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) Program advocates actions, which increases opportunities for historically underutilized businesses and promotes diversity and inclusion in City of Raleigh contracting.

Sustainable Business Toolkit

<u>raleighnc.gov</u> Search: Sustainable Toolkit | 919-996-4256

The Raleigh Sustainable Business Toolkit is a compact collection of resources and support programs to help Raleigh businesses:

- Reach or set new sustainability goals and help our city met the goals in the Community Climate Action Plan
- Save money
- Become more efficient
- Be recognized as a sustainable business by your staff and customers

The Toolkit includes a range of resources, from solar panel installation to employee commute options for businesses small or large.

Access To Capital

After planning your business, you will need to find a way to fund your business expenses. There are a variety of sources for raising money, including grants, loans, family & friends, venture capital, crowdfunding, and military retirement benefits. North Carolina is home to several Community Development Financial Institutions, also known as CDFIs. CDFIs serve to help empower underserved communities and help people who traditionally do not have access to financing.

Capital sources include:

- Commercial Banks
- Public Agencies
- Non-bank financing sources
- Venture capital, angel investors, and other equity financing options are available. Networks are available that offer access to the various options in equity financing. For a more detailed list of venture funds, angel investors, and equity financing, visit the Office of Strategy & Innovation's website at raleighnc.gov Search: Innovation.
- Incentives
- Technical assistance organizations

ORGANIZATION	REFERRALS	LOANS	COACHING/ ADVISING	TECH ASSIST	SMALL BUSINESS	MWBE	VETERAN	GRANTS	CDFI
CAROLINA COMMUNITY		x	x		x	х			x
CAROLINA SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT FUND		x	x	x	x	x	х	x	x
CORNER SQUARE COMMUNITY CAPITAL	x	x			x	x			
INSTITUTE CAPITAL		x			х	x			х
LAUNCH RALEIGH	X	x	х	х	х	х			
NC RURAL CENTER	х	x			х	х			
OPERATION HOPE	X	x	х		х	х			
SELF-HELP CREDIT UNION		x			х	х			x
US SMALL BUSINESS ADMIN. (SBA)	x	x			x	x	x		
THREAD CAPITAL		X	x		x	x			x

For more information about grants and financial incentive programs available through the City of Raleigh, Wake County, and the State of North Carolina, refer to the section on <u>Grant & Other Financial Programs</u>.

For more information on capital opportunities, check out the "How to Fund Your Business" guide provided by the SBTDC.

The Small Business & Technology Development Center (SBTDC) publishes the Capital Opportunities for Small Businesses Guide. This comprehensive financing resource describes 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.

sbtdc.org Search: Capital Opportunities | 919-715-7272 (Main) 919-513-1500 (Wake County)

Business Alliances

raleighnc.gov Search: Business Alliances | 919-996-4330

The City partners with several leading organizations across Raleigh to foster entrepreneurship and innovation while contributing to Raleigh's vibrant business community. Our business alliances allow businesses to connect and engage with an ecosystem of other businesses to help fuel growth.

Business Alliances are organizations who focus on the success of small business owners. No two are alike, but all have a passion for local independent businesses. Common services offered by Business Alliance Organizations include:

- Vendor event and listings in directories
- Promotion, marketing and advertising
- Networking, partnership and training opportunities
- Research, planning and advocacy

These alliances are grouped by three general types:

- **District-Based:** These organizations support a defined territory inside the City of Raleigh. Examples include Downtown Raleigh Alliance, Hillsborough Street Community Service Corp, and Glenwood South Neighborhood Collective.
- **City-Wide Support:** These organizations cater to businesses across the City of Raleigh. Examples include the Black Dollar, Harmony, Raleigh Chamber of Commerce, Shop Local Raleigh, etc.

ORGANIZATION	BUSINESS INFO	SMALL BUSI- NESS	MWBE	START-UP ASSISTANCE	NETWORKING ACTIVITIES	EDUCATION/
BLACK DOLLAR	x	x	x	x	x	
BLUE RIDGE CORRIDOR ALLIANCE	x	x			x	х
DOWNTOWN RALEIGH ALLIANCE	x	x	x	x	x	
FIVE POINTS BUSINESS DISTRICT		x				
GLENWOOD SOUTH NEIGHBORHOOD COLLABORATIVE	x	x			x	
GREAT RALEIGH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	x	x	х	x	x	х
GREATER RALEIGH CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU	x					
HARMONY NC LGBT+ ALLIED CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	x	x			x	x
HILLSBOROUGH STREET COMMUNITY SERVICE CORPORATION	x	x			x	

ORGANIZATION	BUSINESS INFO	SMALL BUSI- NESS	MWBE	START-UP ASSISTANCE	NETWORKING ACTIVITIES	EDUCATION/
MIDTOWN RALEIGH ALLIANCE	x	x		x	x	
PROSPERA	x	x	X			X
SHOP LOCAL RALEIGH	X	x		x	x	x
TRIANGLE ARTWORKS	x	x				x
VILLAGE DISTRICT MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION	x	x			x	

Entrepreneurial Innovation Program

The City believes in the power of innovation and collaboration and looks forward to working with you to catalyze Raleigh's inclusive and innovative community. The Office of Strategy and Innovation boldly reshapes strategy and supports ongoing cycles of continuous improvement for greater service delivery by collecting and connecting talent to spark new ideas.

The Office leads city strategy and transformative projects like Bloomberg Challenges, Big Ideas, and Smart Cities initiatives. It also performs legislative and policy analysis and maps the organization's vision and values in a way that creates innovative solutions.

Impact Partners

raleighnc.gov Search: Impact Partner Grant

An Impact Partner is a critical stakeholder within the community that ensures and contributes to the success of a healthy, sustainable, and vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem. These organizations have received funding from the Impact Partner Grant to execute programs and resources that help underrepresented innovators, entrepreneurs, and small businesses to start, stay, and grow in Raleigh.

ORGANIZATION	INCUBATOR	ACCELERATOR	OFFICE/ COWORKING SPACE	START -UP	IMPACT PARTNERS	VETERAN	MWBE	BUSINESS CONNECTIVITY
THE AMALGATION					x		x	х
ANDREWS LAUNCH ACCELERATOR (NC STATE)		x						
BLDG CO.			x					
BUNKER LABS		x				x		
DISTRICT C					х			
GRO (BY COUNCIL OF ENTRE. DEVELOPMENT)		х						
EGAMES				x				
FIRST FLIGHT VENTERS	х	x	x					
FIRST WAVE			x		x			x
FYSO ACCELERATOR		х						
HARMONY NC LGBT+ ALLIED CHAMBER OF COMMERCE			x					
INDUSTRIOUS RALEIGH			x					
INNOVATE RALEIGH			13		x			х

ORGANIZATION	INCUBATOR	ACCELERATOR	OFFICE/ COWORKING SPACE	START -UP	IMPACT PARTNERS	VETERAN	MWBE	BUSINESS CONNECTIVITY
INTELLIGENT OFFICE								
LAUNCH RALEIGH		x						
LOADING DOCK RALEIGH			x					
THE LOCALITY			x					
NC BIOTECH CENTER				х				
NC CENTER OF INNOVATION NETWORK								х
NC IDEA				x			х	
NEST RALEIGH			x					
OFFICE EVOLUTION			х					
OFFICES.NET			x					
PINKUBATOR			х		X			
PROSPERA					x		x	x
RALEIGH FOUNDED			х					
RIOT LABS			x		x			
SHAW INNOVATION & ENTRE. CENTER							x	х
SPACES			х					
TECH TALENT SOUTH					x			х
TRIANGLE ARTWORKS					х			x
WAKE COUNTY SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC VITALITY					x			
WE WORK			x					
WRIGHT VILLAGE			Х					

Grants & Other Financial Programs City of Raleigh

Building Up-fit Grant

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City of Raleigh - Small Business Development

One City Plaza, 12th Floor Suite 1200 421 Fayetteville Street Raleigh, NC 27601 919-996-6959

Carl.brooksii@raleighnc.gov

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City of Raleigh - Small Business Development

One City Plaza, 12th Floor Suite 1200 421 Fayetteville Street Raleigh, NC 27601 919-996-3137

hannah.hemphill@raleighnc.gov

Impact Partner Grant

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City of Raleigh - Office of Strategy and Innovation

One Exchange Plaza, 7th Floor Suite 727 Raleigh, NC 27601

Cristina.Leos@raleighnc.gov

Downtown Raleigh Alliance Storefront Upfit Grant

The goal of this program is to incentivize and attract new retail, restaurant, and service businesses, aid in the expansion of existing retail businesses, direct support to strategic areas, accommodate pop-up uses that may convert to long-term tenants, better support Minority-and Women-owned businesses, and ultimately drive a healthy and strong storefront economy in Downtown Raleigh.

Downtown Raleigh Alliance

333 Fayetteville Street, Suite 1150 Raleigh, NC 27601 919-821-6988

willgaskins@downtownraleigh.org

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

301 North Wilmington Street Raleigh, North Carolina 27601 cfc@nccommerce.com

One North Carolina 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

301 North Wilmington Street Raleigh, North Carolina 27601 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

301 North Wilmington Street Raleigh, North Carolina 27601 cfc@nccommerce.com

Wake County Business Development 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

Professional Organizations

Each of these organizations seek to advance a particular trade sector, profession, the interests of individuals engaged in that profession, and ultimately impact businesses by providing access and engagement that can grow your business.

ORGANIZATION	INFORMATION	EVENTS/ NETWORKING	TRAINING CERTIFICATIONS	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
GREATER RALEIGH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	Х	x		
GREEN RESTAURANT ASSOCATION	x		x	
HARMONY NC LGBT+ ALLIED CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	х	x	х	
MANUFACTURED NC	х			
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ASIAN AMERICAN PROFESSIONALS		x		
NC GREENTRAVEL	x		x	x
NC RESTAURANT AND LODGING ASSOCIATION	X	X	x	x
NC TEXTILE CONNECT	X			
RESEARCH TRIANGLE CLEANTECH CLUSTER		Х		
SCORE	X	x		x
TRIANGLE ARTWORKS	X	X	x	x

SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT

There is a wealth of resources available to Raleigh businesses to help with technical assistance via workshops, mentorships, classes, training sessions, counseling, and other forms of preparing you to do business in the City of Raleigh.

EDPNC Small Business Advisors

edpnc.com Search: Start a Business | 800-228-8443

Economic Development Partners of NC (EDPNC) Small Business Advisors is a free service for anyone seeking to start a small business in North Carolina. Working in partnership with the NC Department of Commerce, they offer one-on-one phone consultations to people interested in starting a business, small business owners in need of general support, and entrepreneurs interested in moving to North Carolina. They can answer questions and help you navigate topics like regulatory requirements, licensing stipulations, small-business training and more.

Small Business & Technology Development Center (SBTDC)

<u>sbtdc.org</u> | 919-715-7272 (Main) 919-513-1500 (Wake County)

The SBTDC is North Carolina's leading resource for growing and developing businesses. The SBTDC service center at NC State University, located in Raleigh, has an experienced business advisory team that offers confidential, in-depth business counseling to mid-sized company business owners and management staff.

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.

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

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)
- Entrepreneurial Development (Education, Information, Technical Assistance & Training)
- Government Contracting (Federal Procurement)
- Advocacy (Voice for Small Business)

StartUp At Wake Tech

waketech.edu Search: StartUp | 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.

ORGANIZATION	BUSINESS INFO	LEGAL	FINANCIAL	MARKETING	BUSINESS PLAN DEVELOPMENT	MENTORSHIP	SMALL BUSINESS	MWBE
COUNCIL FOR ENTRE. DEVELOPMENT	x		x			x		
EDPNC SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORS	x		х		x	x	х	
SHAW UNIVERSITY INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEUR CENTER	x		x				x	x
NC RURAL CENTER	x		x				х	
PROSPERA	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
SBTDC	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
SCORE	x			x	x	x	x	
STARTUP AT WAKE TECH (SBC)	x				x	x	х	
TRIANGLE ARTWORKS	х		х	х	x	x	х	
US SMALL BUSINESS ADMIN.	x	x	x	x			x	
WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER	x		x		x	x	x	x

WORKFORCE RECRUITMENT & TRAINING

We support workforce development programs and initiatives that help companies of all sizes to grow and be competitive in our market – including identifying talent needs. Recruiting, screening, training, and developing talent is key to the success of any business. There are several educational and workforce development agencies in the Raleigh area that help connect businesses with employers.

Capital Area Workforce Development Board

capitalareancworks.com

The mission of the Capital Area Workforce Development Board (CAWD) 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. CAWD offers a variety of services to businesses, including:

- Recruiting Assistance and Guidance
- Financial Incentive Information
- Rapid Response/Outplacement Assistance
- Seminars and Workshops for Businesses
- On the Job Employee Training
- Incumbent Worker Training
- Hiring Events

Through CAWD, the NCWorks Career Centers also allows employers to search for candidates, post job listings, find and review resumes, and access labor market trends, statistics, and economic and demographic data specific to your area and your industry.

College and University Career Planning and Placement Offices:

Looking to hire? Raleigh is home to several colleges and universities. Contact their career planning and placement offices for more information on posting to job boards, supporting internships, and more.

Meredith College | meredith.edu Search: Career Planning | 919-760-8343

North Carolina State University | ncsu.edu Search: Career Services | 919-515-2396

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

Shaw University | shawu.edu Search: Career Development | 919-278-2673

William Peace University | peace.edu Search: Career Services | 919-508-2008

Campbell University - Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law | law.campbell.edu Search: Career Center | 919-865-4650

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.

Raleigh Pathways Center

raleighnc.gov Search: Pathways | 919-996-5730

The Raleigh Pathways Center is a partnership between the City of Raleigh, Capital Area Workforce Development Board and Wake Tech Community College. The Center offers workforce development and programs that help young adults find a career and a clear pathway to success. These programs include:

- Raleigh Summer Youth Employment Program
- Partnership Raleigh
- Digital Inclusion
- IT Training
- Connect to Your Success

Wake County Public School System

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

WCPSS has a goal for every student to graduate globally competitive for work and postsecondary education and well prepared for life.

As part of this goal, the Career and Technical Education (CTE) program 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. High schools offer introductory courses that are available at grades 9 and 10, with advanced and specialized instruction in 11 and 12. There are agriculture, business and information technology, career development, health occupations, family and consumer sciences, marketing, technology, and trade and industry.

Wake Technical Community College

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. Their 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. Wake Tech also works with those who need to learn English as a second language and those individuals whose education stopped short of high school graduation.

WakeWorks Apprenticeship | waketech.edu Search: Wake Works | 919-335-1225

Companies know that skilled workers are critical to their success. WakeWorks® Apprenticeship helps local industry meet their staffing needs. Build your future workforce by developing the talent you need at your place of business. Registered apprentices learn skills from your most seasoned employees, creating a company culture that reduces turnover and fosters loyalty for years to come.

Wake Tech's Customized Training Program | waketech.edu Search: Customized Training | ctp@waketech.edu

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.

Wake Tech Propel | waketech.edu Search: Propel | wceresources@waketech.edu

Propel is a new training initiative to assist residents with job transition and economic recovery. Funded by the Governor's Emergency Education Relief program, Propel offers scholarship awards of up to \$750 for accelerated non-degree Workforce Continuing Education courses leading to industry-recognized or state credentials for high-demand jobs in five career fields. Most of the courses can be completed in 3 to 6 months.

ORGANIZATION	INFORMATION/ CONNECTION	TRAINING	RECRUITING	CERTIFICATIONS	SMALL BUSINESS	EDUCATION/
CAMPBELL UNIVERSITY – SCHOOL OF LAW			x			
CAPITAL AREA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	x	x	x	х	x	X
CUSTOMIZED TRAINING PROGRAM (NC COMMUNITY COLLEGES)	X	x	x		x	
MEREDITH COLLEGE			x			
NC CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY CENTER		x		х		
RALEIGH PATHWAYS CENTER	x	х		x	x	
SAINT AUGUSTINE'S UNIVERSITY			x			
SHAW UNIVERSITY			x			
SKEMA BUSINESS SCHOOL		х		x		
WAKE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS		x	x			
WAKE TECH	x	х	х		x	
WILLIAM PEACE UNIVERSITY			x	X		

A

The Amalgamation

Website: the-amalgamation.com

Andrews Launch Accelerator (NC State)

1017 Main Campus Drive, Ste 1650

Raleigh, NC 27606 **Tel:** 919-513-3676

Email: entrepreneurship@ncsu.edu **Website:** entrepreneurship.ncsu.edu

Search: Accelerator

B

Black Dollar

Tel: 919-283-9630

Website: blackdollar.ninja

BLDG Co.

706 Mountford Avenue Raleigh, NC 27603

Email: info@bldg-co.com
Website: bldg-co.com

Blue Ridge Corridor Alliance

2416 Hillsborough Street Raleigh, NC 27607 **Tel:** 919-800-0135

Website: brcalliance.org

Bunker Labs

Email: raleigh.durham@bunkerlabs.org

Website:

bunkerlabs.org/raleigh-durham

C

Campbell University

Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law 225 Hillsborough Street Raleigh, NC 27603

Tel: 919-865-4650

Website: <u>law.campbell.edu</u>
Search: Career Center

Capital Area Workforce Development Board

5942 Six Forks Road Raleigh, NC 27609 **Tel:** 919-856-6040

Website: capitalareancworks.com

Carolina Community Impact

3700 Barrett Drive Raleigh, NC 276069 **Tel:** 919-785-0718 **Website:** ccifund.org

Carolina Small Business Development Fund

Headquarters Office 3128 Highwoods Blvd, Suite 170

Raleigh, NC 27604 **Tel:** 919-803-1437

Website: carolinasmallbusiness.org

CornerSquare Community Capital

4021 Carya Drive Raleigh, NC 27610 **Tel:** 919-250-4314

Website: cornersquare.org

Council For Entrepreneurial

Development

600 Park Offices Drive, Suite 100 Research Triangle, NC 27709

Tel: 919-549-7500 **Website:** <u>cednc.org</u>

D

District C

Website: districtc.co

Downtown Raleigh Alliance

333 Fayetteville Street, STE 1150 Raleigh, NC 27601

Tel: 919-832-1231

Website: downtownraleigh.org

Ε

Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina (EDPNC)

150 Fayetteville Street, Ste 1200 Raleigh, NC 27601

Tel: Main- 919-447-7777
Small Business Advisors:

800-228-8443 **Website:** <u>edpnc.com</u>

EGames

NC State Entrepreneurship 1017 Main Campus Dr., STE 1650

Raleigh, NC 27606 **Tel:** 919-513-3676

Website:

entrepreneurship.ncsu.edu/events/
egames

F

Five Points Business District

Tel: 404-661-9000

Email:

davidc.fivepointsbda@gmail.com

First Flight Ventures

2 Davis Drive PO Box 13169

Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

Tel: 919-473-9420
Website: ffvcnc.org

First Wave

2121 Atlantic Avenue, Ste 100 Raleigh, NC 27604 **Tel:** 919-694-0974

Website: sinnovatek.com

FYSO Accelerator

Website: fyso.co

G

Glenwood South Neighborhood Collaborative

Website: gsncraleigh.com

Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau (Visit Raleigh)

421 Fayetteville St., Ste. 1505 Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 800-849-8499

Website: visitraleigh.com

Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce

800 S Salisbury Street Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-664-7000

Website: raleighchamber.org

Green Restaurant Association

6 Liberty Square, Suite 6077 Boston, MA 02109

Tel: 617-737-4422

Website: dinegreen.com

Н

Harmony (NC LGBTQ+ Allied Chamber of Commerce)

8480 Honeycutt Road, Suite 200

Raleigh NC 27615

Website: harmonync.org

Hillsborough Street Community Service Corporation (HSCSC)

2416 Hillsborough Street Raleigh, NC 27607 **Tel:** 919-800-0135

Website: hillsboroughstreet.org

Industrious Raleigh

Charter Square 555 Fayetteville Street Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-390-3000

Wells Fargo Capitol Center

150 Fayetteville Street Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-502-1300

Website:

industriousoffice.com/m/raleigh

Innovate Raleigh

Tel: 919-664-7030

Website: innovateraleigh.com

Institute Capital

114 West Parrish Street Durham, NC 27701 **Tel:** 919-956-8889

Website: theinstitutenc.org

Intelligent Office

555 Fayetteville Street, Ste 201

Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-351-6441

Website: intelligentoffice.com

L

LaunchRALEIGH

Website: launchraleigh.org

Loading Dock Raleigh

Tel: 919-999-0252

Website: theloadingdock.com

The Locality

Website: emilygreyco.com/the-locality

M

Manufactured in North Carolina

Website: manufacturednc.com

Midtown Raleigh Alliance

7413 Six Forks Road, #259 Raleigh, NC 27615 **Tel:** 919-241-3221

Website: midtownraleighalliance.org

Meredith College

219 Park Center 3800 Hillsborough Street Raleigh, NC 27607 **Tel:** 919-760-8343

Website: meredith.edu
Search: Career Planning

N

National Association of Asian American Professionals

Email: hellonc@naaap.org
Website: nc.naaap.org

NC Biotech Center

15 TW Alexander Drive PO Box 13547

Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

Tel: 919-541-9366 **Website:** ncbiotech.org

NC Center of Innovation Network (NC COIN)

Email: contact@nccoin.org

Tel: 910-626-8525 Website: nccoin.org

NC Clean Energy Technology Center

North Carolina State University 1575 Varsity Drive Raleigh, NC 27606

Email: nccleantech@ncsu.edu
Website: nccleantech.ncsu.edu

NC Community Colleges Customized Training

200 West Jones Street Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

Tel: 919-807-7100

Website: nccommunitycolleges.edu
Search: Customized Training

NC Department of Commerce

NC Commerce Finance Center 301 North Wilmington Street

Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-814-4600

Email: cfc@nccommerce.com
Website: commerce.nc.gov

NC Green Travel North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality

217 West Jones Street Raleigh, NC 27603 **Tel:** 877-623-6748

Email: ncgreentravel@ncdenr.gov

Website: <u>deq.nc.gov</u>
Search: NC Green Travel

NC IDEA

411 W. Chapel Hill Street, Suite C2

Durham, NC 27701 **Tel:** 919-941-5600 **Website:** ncidea.org

NC Restaurant and Lodging Association (NCRLA)

222 North Person Street, Suite 210

Raleigh, NC 27601

Tel: 919-844-0098

Email: info@ncrla.org

Website: ncrla.org

NC Rural Center

4021 Carya Drive Raleigh, NC 27610 **Tel:** 919-250-4314

Website: ncruralcenter.org

NC State University

2100 Pullen Hall 201 Dan Allen Drive Campus Box 7303 Raleigh, NC 27695 **Tel:** 919-515-2396 **Website:** ncsu.edu

Search: Career Services

NC Textile Connect

Website: textileconnect.com

Nest Raleigh

414 Fayetteville Street Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-617-6378

Website: nestraleigh.com

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Office Evolution

4801 Glenwood Avenue, Ste 200

Raleigh, NC 27612 **Tel:** 919-296-3602

Website: officeevolution.com

Offices.net

Tel: 972-913-2742

Website: offices.net/nc/raleigh

Operation Hope Headquarters

191 Peachtree Street NE, Suite 3840 Atlanta, GA 30303

Raleigh Locations inside First Horizon

Bank & Truist **Tel:** 1-888-388-4673

Website: operationhope.org

P

Pinkubator

4350 Lassiter at North Hills Ave #260

Raleigh, NC 27609

Email: info@thepinkceiling.com
Website: thepinkceiling.com

Prospera

4021 Carya Drive #160 Raleigh, NC 27610 **Tel:** 980-729-8273

Website: prosperausa.org
Search: North Carolina

R

Raleigh Chamber of Commerce

800 S. Salisbury Street Raleigh, NC 27601 Tel: 919-664-7000

Website: raleighchamber.org

Raleigh Economic Development

800 S. Salisbury Street Raleigh, NC 27601

Email:

ktouchstone@raleighchamber.org

Tel: 919-664-7038

Website: raleighecondev.org

Raleigh Founded

Website: raleighfounded.com

Raleigh Pathways Center

900 South Wilmington Street Raleigh, NC 27601

Tel: 919-996-5730 Website: raleighnc.gov Search: Pathways

Research Triangle Cleantech Cluster

PO Box 33615 Raleigh, NC 27636 Tel: 919-334-4076

Website:

researchtrianglecleantech.org

Riot Labs

310 S Harrington Street Raleigh, NC 27601

Website: riot.org

S

Saint Augustine's University

1315 Oakwood Avenue Raleigh, NC 27610 Tel: 919-516-4000 Website: st-aug.edu

Search: Professional Development

SCORE

P.O. Box 97413 Raleigh, NC 27624 Tel: 919-869-4151

Website: raleigh.score.org

Self-Help Credit Union

7029 Harps Mill Road Raleigh, NC 27615 Tel: 984-233-7838 Website: self-help.org

Shaw University

Yancey Building Suite 222 118 E. South Street Raleigh, NC 27601 Tel: 919-278-2673 Website: shawu.edu Workforce Recruitment: Search: Career Development

Technical Assistance: Search: Innovation

Innovation & Entrepreneurship

Center: Search: IEC

Shop Local Raleigh

4001 Hillsborough Street Raleigh, NC 27606 Tel: 919-755-9235

Website: shoplocalraleigh.org

SKEMA Business School

920 Main Campus Drive Raleigh, NC 27606 Tel: 919-535-5700

Website: skema.edu

Small Business & Technology **Development Center** (SBTDC)

1021 Main Campus Drive, Ste 200

CB# 7019

Raleigh, NC 27606 **Tel:** Main - 919-7115-7272 Tel: Raleigh - 919-513-1500

Website: sbtdc.org

Spaces

The Dillon 223 S. West Street, Ste 900 & 1000

Raleigh, NC 27603 Crabtree Terrace

4509 Creedmoor Rd, Ste 201

Raleigh, NC 27612 Tel: 888-793-0331

Website: spacesworks.com

StartUp at Wake Tech

Western Wake Campus 3434 Kildaire Farm Rd. #207

Cary, NC 27616 Tel: 919-866-5000 Website: waketech.edu Search: StartUp

Т

Tech Talent South

310 S. Harrington Street Raleigh, NC 27601 Tel: 888-909-1542

Website: techtalentsouth.com

Thread Capital

4021 Carya Drive Raleigh, NC 27610 Tel: 919-212-4950

Website: threadcap.org

Triangle Artworks

Mailing Address:

3119 Birnamwood Road Raleigh, NC 27607

Office Location: The Frontier 800 Park Offices Drive Research Triangle, NC 27709 Email: hello@triangleartworks.org

Website: triangleartworks.org

U

U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

6600 Louisburg Road, Room 351

Raleigh, NC 27616

Tel: Main – 800-827-5722 **Tel:** Raleigh - 919-532-5525

Website: sba.gov

V

Village District Merchants' Association

2034 Cameron Street Raleigh, NC 27605 **Tel:** 919-821-1350

Website: <u>shopcameronvillage.com</u> **Search:** Merchants Association

W

Wake County Economic Development

800 S Salisbury Street Raleigh, NC 27601 **Tel:** 919-664-7000

Website: raleigh-wake.org

Wake County Public School System

5625 Dillard Drive Cary, NC 27518 **Tel:** 919-413-7400 **Website:** wcpss.net

Search: Career and Technical Education OR Career Preparation

Wake County Social and Economic Vitality

Tel: 919-857-9243 **Website:** <u>wakegov.com</u>

Search: Social and Economic Vitality

Wake Technical Community College

Tel: 919-866-5000
Website: waketech.edu
Search: Workforce Continuin

Search: Workforce Continuing

Education

WeWork

1 Glenwood Avenue Raleigh, NC 27603 **Tel:** 646-389-3922 **Website:** wework.com

William Peace University

Second Floor of Finch Library

Harp Street Raleigh, NC 27604 **Tel:** 919-508-2008 **Website:** peace.edu

Search: Career Services

Women's Business Center North Carolina

114 West Parrish Street Durham, NC 27701 **Tel:** 919-956-8889

Email: wbcadmin@theinstitutenc.org

Website: theinstitutenc.org

Wright Village

420 Hubert Street, Ste 2 Raleigh, NC 27603 **Tel:** 919-822-1937

Website: thewrightvillage.com



