



**South Carolina**  
Department of Commerce

# SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES FAQ

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## **CONTRACTING:** *How do I find contracting opportunities?*

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- **SC APEX Accelerators** (formerly PTAC SC)  
<https://scaccelerator.org/>  
Contact: Tenell Felder (803-545-4172 or [felder.apex@sc.edu](mailto:felder.apex@sc.edu))
- **South Carolina Division of Procurement Services**  
<https://procurement.sc.gov/doing-biz>

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## **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:** *Where can I find financial assistance?*

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- **Business Development Corporation (BDC)**  
<https://www.businessdevelopment.org/index.html>
- **CLIMB Fund**  
<https://climbfund.org/>
- **Community Works**  
<https://communityworkscarolina.org/>
- **South Carolina Community Loan Fund**  
<https://sccommunityloanfund.org/>
- **U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)**  
<https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs>  
Contacts:  
Angela Brewer, Business Opportunity Specialist and Women-Owned Business Representative  
(202-845-4155 or [angela.brewer@sba.gov](mailto:angela.brewer@sba.gov))  
Frank Anderson, Lenders Relations Specialist and Veteran Representative (202-845-4154  
or [frank.anderson@sba.gov](mailto:frank.anderson@sba.gov))

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## **GRANTS:** *What grants are available?*

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- **Bank of America Institute for Women's Entrepreneurship at Cornell**  
<https://bofainstitute.cornell.edu/>
- **Grants.gov**  
<https://www.grants.gov/>
- **HelloAlice**  
<https://helloalice.com/funding/>
- **South Carolina State Library**  
<https://www.statelibrary.sc.gov/>  
Contact: [GrantsPublic@statelibrary.sc.gov](mailto:GrantsPublic@statelibrary.sc.gov)
- **U.S. Chamber of Commerce**  
<https://www.uschamber.com/co/run/business-financing/small-business-grants-and-programs>



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- **Webinar: "How to Find Grant Opportunities for Your Small Business"**  
[https://www.score.org/event/how-find-grant-opportunities-your-small-business?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=ctct&utm\\_campaign=top10](https://www.score.org/event/how-find-grant-opportunities-your-small-business?utm_medium=email&utm_source=ctct&utm_campaign=top10)

## **INNOVATION:** *Who can help me develop my product?*

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- **S.C. Commerce Innovation Team**  
<https://www.sccommerce.com/why-sc/innovation>  
Contact: Nancy Conwell, Innovation Ecosystem Manager (803-636-5070 or [nconwell@sccommerce.com](mailto:nconwell@sccommerce.com))
- **The Hill Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship**  
<https://www.furman.edu/innovation-entrepreneurship/>  
Contact: [innovation@Furman.edu](mailto:innovation@Furman.edu)

## **RELOCATION:** *How do I relocate my business to South Carolina?*

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- **South Carolina Business One Stop (SCBOS)**  
<https://scbos.sc.gov/home>  
Contact: 803-898-5690 or [scboshelp@scbos.sc.gov](mailto:scboshelp@scbos.sc.gov)

## **SMALL BUSINESS CERTIFICATION:** *How do I certify my small business?*

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- **Certified South Carolina Grown**  
<https://certifiedsc.com/>  
Applications are available here: <https://certifiedsc.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/CSCApplication2022.pdf>
- **South Carolina Division of Small and Minority Business Contracting and Certification**  
<https://smbcc.sc.gov/contact.html>
- **South Carolina Unified Certification Program (UCP)**  
<https://www.scdot.org/business/bus-development-dbe-certification.aspx>
- **U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)**  
<https://www.transportation.gov/osdbu/small-business-administration-sba-certifications>

## **SMALL BUSINESS LICENSING:** *How do I get my small business license?*

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- **South Carolina Business One Stop (SCBOS)**  
<https://scbos.sc.gov/home>  
Contact: 803-898-5690 or [scboshelp@scbos.sc.gov](mailto:scboshelp@scbos.sc.gov)
- **South Carolina Secretary of State**  
<https://sos.sc.gov/online-filings/business-entities>



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## **STARTUP and DEVELOPMENT: *Who can help me start my small business?***

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- **Bank of America Institute for Women's Entrepreneurship at Cornell**  
<https://bofainstitute.cornell.edu/>
- **Benedict College Women's Business Center**  
<https://bcwbc.org/>  
Contact: Shauna Cooper, Director ([scooper@bcwbc.org](mailto:scooper@bcwbc.org))
- **Community Works Women's Business Center (CWWBC)**  
<https://communityworkscarolina.org/>  
Contact: Sara Carter, CWWBC Coordinator (864-235-6331)
- **IHOPE Women's Business Center of the Lowcountry**  
<https://increasinghope.org/womens-business-center/>  
Contact: Kedyky (KK) Sherrill, Program Director (843-408-0343 or [ksherrill@increasinghope.org](mailto:ksherrill@increasinghope.org))
- **Lowcountry Local First (LLF) Good Enterprises Program**  
<http://goodenterprises.org/>  
Contact: Raquel Padgett, Program Director (843-212-6298 or [raquel@lowcountrylocalfirst.org](mailto:raquel@lowcountrylocalfirst.org))
- **Richland Library Entrepreneur-in-Residence (EiR) Program**  
<https://www.richlandlibrary.com/entrepreneurs>  
[Click here to schedule](#) a free entrepreneur-in-residence appointment.  
Contact: Diane Luccy (803-929-3464 or [dluccy@richlandlibrary.com](mailto:dluccy@richlandlibrary.com))
- **SCORE**  
<https://www.score.org/>
- **South Carolina Business One Stop (SCBOS)**  
<https://scbos.sc.gov/home>  
Contact: 803-898-5690 or [scboshelp@scbos.sc.gov](mailto:scboshelp@scbos.sc.gov)
- **The South Carolina Community Navigator Program**  
Contact: Cheryl Salley (803-476-2165 or [csalley@sc.edu](mailto:csalley@sc.edu))
- **The South Carolina Small Business Development Center**  
<https://www.scsbdc.com/>
- **The South Carolina Small Business Development Center – Veterans Business Program (VBP)**  
<https://www.scsbdc.com/vets>  
Contact: Earl Gregorich (803-777-1020 or [earlg@sc.edu](mailto:earlg@sc.edu))



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- **The U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Programs**  
<https://www.rd.usda.gov/>
- **TogetherSC**  
<https://www.togethersc.org/>
- **Veteran Entrepreneur Portal (VEP)**  
<https://www.va.gov/osdbu/entrepreneur/>

### **WORKFORCE and TRAINING: *Who can help with my workforce needs?***

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- **Apprenticeship Carolina**  
<https://www.apprenticeshipcarolina.com/index.html>  
Contact: Kathy Dickson, Apprenticeship Consultant (864-592-4394) or [send a message through Apprenticeship Carolina's contact form](#)
- **Regional Workforce Advisors (RWAs)**  
<https://www.sccommerce.com/why-sc/workforce-development>  
Contact: Robert Davis, Workforce Development Coordinator (803-737-3864 or [rdavis@sccommerce.com](mailto:rdavis@sccommerce.com))
- **South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce (SCDEW)**  
<https://dew.sc.gov/>
- **South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department**  
<https://scvrd.net/>  
Contact: Karen Hill Gordon, Business Development Specialist (803-782-4239 or [kgordon@scvrd.net](mailto:kgordon@scvrd.net))
- **The Babcock Center**  
<https://www.babcockcenter.org/>  
Contact: Jennifer Brooks, Director of Community Supports (803-799-1970 ext. 179 or [jbrooks@babcockcenter.org](mailto:jbrooks@babcockcenter.org))
- **The Federal Bonding Program**  
<https://www.dew.sc.gov/federal-bonding-program>  
Contact: Amy Hill, Work Opportunity Tax Credit & Federal Bonding Program Manager (803-737-3228 or [ahill@dew.sc.gov](mailto:ahill@dew.sc.gov))



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## **SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE BUSINESS TOOLS**

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- [\*\*BizFeed Newsletter\*\*](#)  
is a monthly newsletter designed to help South Carolina's business community stay up-to-date with economic development and agency news, business development or educational programming, and more.
- [\*\*LocateSC\*\*](#)  
has flexible search criteria to analyze available sites, buildings and office space, and provides additional demographic, business and community data tools.
- [\*\*SizeUpSC\*\*](#)  
is S.C. Commerce's free business intelligence tool that provides key demographic data to help companies make better decisions around competitive benchmarking, customers, suppliers, marketing and advertising, and more.
- [\*\*SourceSC\*\*](#)  
is a free statewide industry directory that matches specific company capabilities and their supply chain needs. Companies looking to be listed in SourceSC must have a physical presence in South Carolina.
- [\*\*The South Carolina Recycling Directory\*\*](#)  
has over 300 S.C. recycling businesses that can recycle industrial paper, metals, plastics and more.
- [\*\*The South Carolina Material Exchange\*\*](#)  
is a free service designed to help businesses, industries and other organizations find markets for materials they have traditionally discarded. Registered users can post both wanted and available listings, similar to a classified ad section.

## **SUGGESTED NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS**

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- [\*\*Hello Alice Newsletter\*\*](#)
- [\*\*SBA Newsletter\*\*](#)
- [\*\*SCORE Newsletter\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Small Business Development Center Newsletter\*\*](#)
- [\*\*TogetherSC Newsletter\*\*](#)
- [\*\*U.S. Chamber of Commerce Newsletter\*\*](#)